

More or Less Me

Miquel Duran

Andreu Martín,
writer

“This book annihilates the notion that every story has already been told. Each one of Miquel Duran’s comments could be the basis for a novel by an author with greater pretensions, greater experience and far less ability.”

El Periódico

“A new author, young but with the wisdom of the ancients, who becomes legendary through to his new way of reading the old masters, from García Márquez to Salinger.

Iolanda Batallé,
writer and
publisher

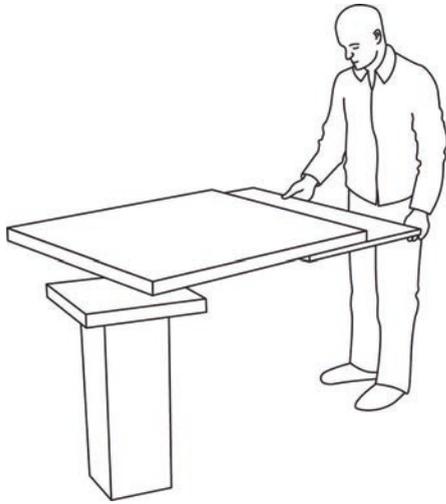
“I had never read anything like his work from any of my writing-class students. That was five years ago. Now it is an honour for me to be his publisher. Right from the start I knew this day would come. Long live Miquel Duran the writer, with his unique voice and curious gaze.”

El Periódico

“*More or Less Me* has all the characteristics that we demand of a good book: original without straying too far from tradition, so unpredictable that it is hard to ascribe a genre to it, mature and personal.”

Bearn Culture
Magazine

“A singular, honest book, destined to make an impression on the reader.”



Publication:
November 2014
Hardcover
Pages: 168
Size: 12.5 x 21.5 cm

WATCH THE TRAILER



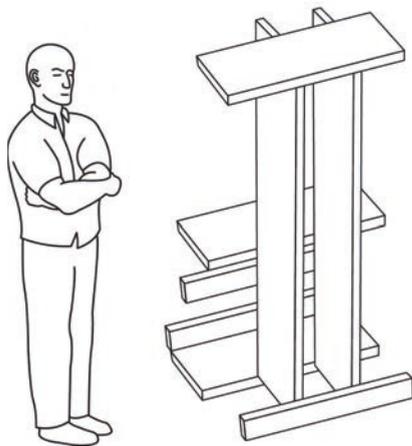
MÁS O MENOS YO

MIGUEL DURAN



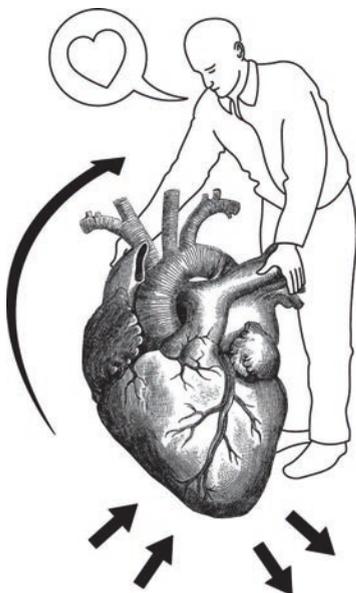
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English text available



Every so often, new literary talents emerge with a voice of their own, wholly oblivious to any fashionable trend; their clarity and originality are their greatest virtues. This is the case with *More or Less Me*, a book that is the result of years of work by the author, newcomer Miquel Duran.

Written as an extended monologue, this novel tells the story of the everyday alienation felt by its main character, who is unable to involve himself emotionally with the world around him, or reconnect with his childhood. It is a feeling that all readers will have experienced at one time or another. In his world, moreover, reality tends to get tangled up with metaphor, until eventually it is impossible to tell one from the other.



Miquel Duran

Has worked at MIT and is now a researcher at Tel Aviv University. *More or Less Me* is his astonishing literary debut.

SERRA D'OR
LITERARY PRIZE
2015



Vida

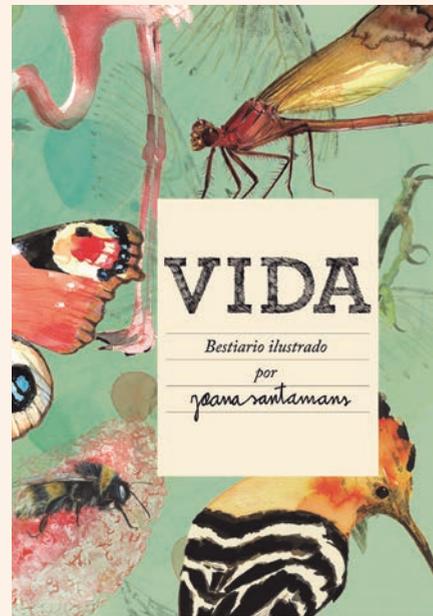
(*Life*) Illustrated bestiary
by Joana Santamans



A book that shows the extent to which art imitates nature.



Publication: November 2016
Pages: 240
Size: 20 x 25 cm
Hardcover



A stunningly beautiful catalogue of nature and a tribute to life.

VIDA is a comprehensive book and an ideal gift. Over two hundred pages long, it is divided into sections on birds, butterflies, other insects and fish. Santamans' hyper-realistic, clear style perfectly transmits the combination of precision and fascination we find so captivating in natural history treatises.

Accompanying Santamans' illustrations are comments by her father, a farmer who lives a life that is perfectly integrated into nature rather than being fascinated by it. His texts are personal and scientifically valid.

VIDA is a genuine yet accessible art book that will delight anyone who loves nature or art and illustration.

Joana Santamans

(Barcelona, 1977) has moved between the rural landscapes she knows and city life in Barcelona, London, New York and San Francisco – a cosmopolitan nature lover whose attitude shows in her work. She is a restless, creative observer who has made art her way of life, and a seeker of essences and feelings who likes beauty and simplicity.

/joana_santamans
www.joanasantamans.net



Interview with Joana Santamans illustrator of *Vida*

«Animals can teach us how to live.»

Por Pilar Maurell



How would you define *VIDA*?

I look at it as a kind of poetic, artistic animal encyclopaedia.

Your life and work has always been full of animals, hasn't it?

Animals have always been my source of inspiration. I love drawing and painting them, and once I got started I always feel the urge to do a complete collection. My first love was birds, so I imagined having a bird collection, and that was where I got the idea for *VIDA* from. I also wanted every drawing to have some kind of romantic but interesting text with it which would relate animal observations to questions on the human condition. I also selected my animals on the basis of visual criteria; I wanted the book to have that kind of romantic air like a summer palace, or a mixture of prints. We tend to rack our brains for artistic solutions, but then you can find them in a butterfly or a beetle, or by studying how fractals repeat their geometry in nature – they're amazing.



It can't have been easy to put together.

I had to limit the number of animals in the book, so I looked for specialist scientists for each species, told them about my project and met up with them. Then I made lists of twenty or thirty animals from each group: birds, butterflies, insects and fish, ones that lived in the Mediterranean and were beautiful and commonly seen.

This type of book is popular in the English-speaking world.

Yes, and I think we miss out on that here. I really wanted to make it and had a great time, too. It looks good, and as well as that, I think it's a really interesting choice for libraries, schools and families.

We don't know much about nature.

I miss it. I grew up in the countryside and am sensitive towards nature, so I feel bad that city life makes you lose contact with the culture everyone in the rural world has. I thought it would be good to gather it together in this book, and it was a fascinating project for me. I think you lose out on important things if you don't know about the living things that are all around us; and if you don't understand that, and shut yourself off from it in your rational lifestyle, you can lose sight of reality.

How do you work?

I almost always work from photographs. I use lots of them and take something from each one. I draw the contour in pencil, then use watercolour on top of that, and scan them into the computer to finish off.

Were any of the animals particularly difficult to draw?

The dragonflies. They're really transparent but have a lot of detail in them. Every animal needs its own technique: point for

insects, and working really close up, almost like meditation; birds need looseness and transparency.

There are passages of text to go with each animal. Who wrote them, and how?

I wanted to write them myself, but it would have taken me far too long to write the book, so I decided to ask my dad, because I got my love of nature from him. He's a keen reader, too, and loves animal documentaries – a born scientist. He used his own knowledge and what he learnt from the interviews with biologists that I gave him, and then wrote his own reflection from all of it. He completely understood what I wanted – we are father and daughter, after all! My dad's way of thinking is more poetical than a biologist's, though.

It's charming.

We get on really well. He taught me to see things like this. I always wanted to be a painter or a biologist, and daydreamed about drawing plants and animals – and here I am.

What do you find so fascinating about nature?

I like to focus my artwork on it because it's a kind of mirror of the human condition, a way to see and understand ourselves. I'd like the book to get this across subtly. Animals can teach us how to live.

There's a feeling of peace when you read the book.

That's probably because it makes you feel connected to things we're all disconnected from. City life is so effervescent; there's always lots going on, but we lose our calm, and forget the real rhythms and reasons for things. We need to teach our children to

stop, look around, learn and get bored, watching ants, for instance – to learn to search for beauty in everything. I'd like the book to be a gateway, like a taste of nature for the city dweller, a way into the beauty of the animal world.

It's a lot like a nineteenth-century natural history book.

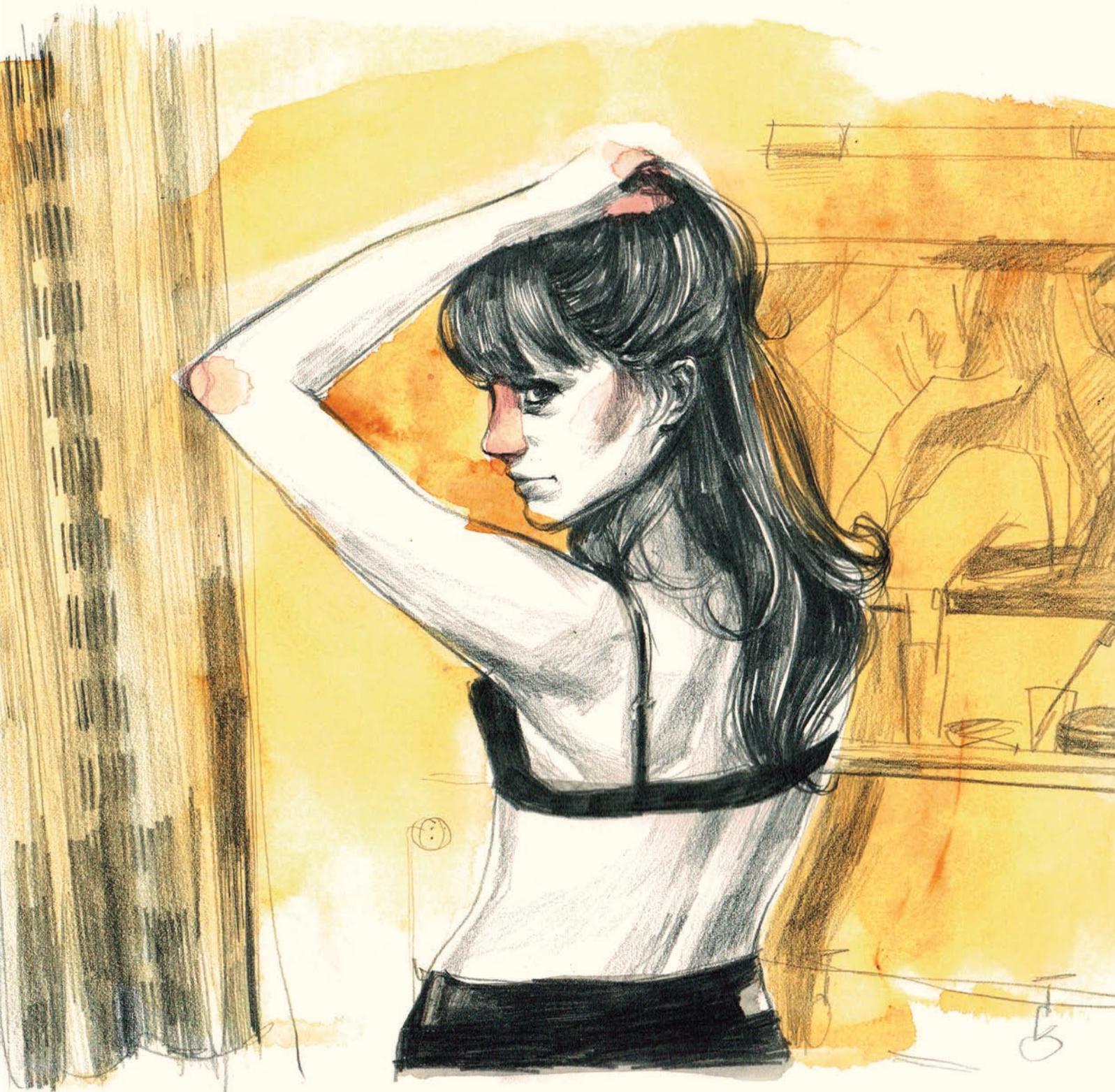
Yes – some of the great natural historians were good painters and wrote lovely, beautifully crafted books. I'd like to revive the spirit of those works. I've often been told I'm like a natural historian, because what I like doing most after drawing is observing. I love a sort of meditative drawing, where you start looking at things close up and see a landscape in the fur of an animal. It's like zooming in and seeing a whole world open up...



« I love a sort of meditative drawing, where you start looking at things close up and see a landscape in the fur of an animal. It's like zooming in and seeing a whole world open up...»

813. Truffaut

By Paula Bonet





BRIDGE

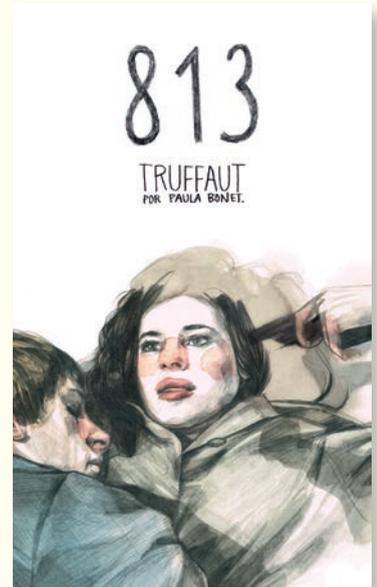
Publication: February 2015

Hardcover

Pages: 184

Size: 17.5 x 28.6 cm

WATCH THE TRAILER



One of Europe's best-known illustrators tackles the mythical director of *Jules et Jim* and looks at Truffaut's concept of love.

François Truffaut, one of the greatest exponents of France's Nouvelle Vague, is of course one of the greatest film directors of all time. And Paula Bonet, one of today's most acclaimed European illustrators, is a huge fan.

This book is her heartfelt homage to the creator of *Jules et Jim*, *Les quatre cents coups*, *La peau douce*, *La nuit américaine*...

Paula Bonet

Is one of the most acclaimed illustrators in Spain and Europe as a whole, and undoubtedly also one of the most personal. Her unique style has featured in major magazines and advertising campaigns for Nike, Doctors Without Borders and Absolut, among others. She also creates posters, designs stage sets and paints murals. However, like other talents of our age, it is the social networks that have garnered her worldwide renown and a legion of fans. Bonet is truly a 2.0 artist.

Paula-Bonet-Illustration

🐦 @paulabonet

📷 /paulabonet



Mirabilia

Milena Nonó / Conrad Roset (Illustrator)



BRIDGE

Publication: November 2014
Hardcover with jacket
Pages: 96
Size: 27 x 31 cm

WATCH THE TRAILER



Who makes you think of your significant other at the very same time that (s)he's thinking of you?

Who puts the dewdrops on the flowers before the sun comes up?

Who visits us at night and ruffles our hair while we sleep?

A beautiful bestiary of magical characters like nothing you've ever seen before. And that is the whole point: no one has ever seen them, even though they are involved in the most commonplace events of your life. The delicate illustrations, the reinvented universe and the poetic sensibility of the text make this book a perfect gift for readers of all ages.

Conrad Roset

Drawing is his passion and has been a constant feature of his life. He has worked for companies such as Zara, Adidas, Coca-Cola... And he has exhibited in galleries and museums in the USA, London, Madrid and Barcelona.

 /conradroset
www.conradroset.com

Who is Milena Nonó? Who is your favourite Mirabilia?

All of them! All of them! Phantasticus first of all, he taught me everything. But there are so many! Alethedhora drives me wild, she's so... and Colombat! Da Vinci... I couldn't choose one... People think that they're just made up. But all the proof is there, in the books!

How many fingers have you got? And wings?

(laughs) Fingers? You can count them (hides her hands under the table). And wings, well... you can't count them! (laughs again, as if she's said something impolite).

COMPLETE INTERVIEW AVAILABLE

No Panties in the Drawer

M^a. Isabel Sánchez Vegara
and Amaia Arrazola



Publication:
October 2016
Hardcover
Pages: 104
Size: 21 x 13 cm

The most intimate and shocking book of the season, from the author of the modern classics *YO, El libro de tu vida* and *Amor*, this is the first book to write with your partner.

The concept for this book is as original as it is unforgettable. Each page contains an illustration of lady parts with a passing thought, a short poem or a joke, together making up a precious yet hilarious portrait of modern femininity. No panties in the drawer will make you laugh, cry and say: Gosh, this is so me.

'Once upon a time, there was a man who was so stupid that he met the love of his life but mistook her for someone else.'

'Woman, sick of being happy, looks for man to lose her mind.'

M^a. Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Balances her work in advertising with various publishing projects. *YO, el libro de tu vida* (Alba, 2012) was her debut in the publishing world, followed by *AMOR* (published by Bridge, 2014), now in its third edition. After dedicating some time to the children's collection *Pequeña & GRANDE*, she is back with an adult project: *No panties in the drawer*.

Amaia Arrazola

is a breakout illustrator from the world of social media. She works in advertising internationally and is often involved collaboratively with printed media. She has published a number of projects, such as *Cosas que siempre recordarás de tu Erasmus* (Lunweg, 2014) and *Cuando el negro se hace rosa* (Lunweg, 2016), the latter in collaboration with artists Conrad Roset and Paula Bonet

Blessed is the Mother

La Quiles



Publication:
November 2015
Paperback with flaps
Pages: 160
Size: 17 x 27.5 cm



**A manual for surviving
motherhood, with everything
they never told you about.**

Pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, mothers in the park, the first child, the second... Everything that a mother (or father) needs to know, with plenty of humour and absolutely no lies whatsoever. A gift book by Cristina Quiles, in two-tone illustration. Ideal for current mothers or Mothers-to-be who will never get round to filling up the baby album they received. And also for other kinds of people who simply want to have a few laughs at the expense of their friends or family.

Cristina Quiles

Has published children's books with different publishing houses, as well as designing children's clothes and teaching a course on creative thinking through the arts. She is the author of a successful blog in which she illustrates her experiences as a mother, which eventually gave birth to this book.

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t @soylaquiles

g /soylaquiles

www.cristina-quiles.blogspot.com



Master Chof

Cook this Journal



(WORK IN PROGRESS COVER)



Publication:
November 2016
Paperback
Pages: 224
Size: 15 x 21,5 cm



Master Chof. Cook this journal is the only book that will help overcome your fear of the oven and rid you of that “Worst cook ever” label you’ve been carrying around ever since the last time you had friends over.

The recipes are easy but tasty, cool and sure to impress. So much so that you’ll flood your Instagram account with them. Discover your long-lost cooking creativity and share your results online to impress the one who matters the most, using the hashtag #lookmummy!

Leave behind the macaroni cheese and show the in-laws that you’re a culinary artist with sushi, curry and also aluminium foil sculpting.

Prove that you’re a true Renaissance man (or woman) in the kitchen who can paint with spices, make food jewellery and burn more than just chicken.

You are the author of this book.

“Every master starts with an egg”

Told-you-so, philosopher.



Love

A Book Written by Two

María Isabel Sánchez Vegara



Publication:
January 2014
Hardcover
Pages: 128
Age: 18+
Size: 17.5 x 22.1 cm

WATCH TRAILER



The greatest love story ever told: every reader's.

This is an untold love story.
The most fascinating, moving and unforgettable story. A story that grows page by page, answering the 60 questions asked. A love story that nobody else can tell: **every reader's.**

