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# MOCKING DESIRE

DRAGO JANČAR

Translated from the German by Michael Higgins

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# Mocking Desire Writings From An Unbound Europe

**Bogdan Suceava**



## **Mocking Desire Writings From An Unbound Europe:**

*Mocking Desire* Drago Jančar, 1998 A novel on New Orleans through the eyes of Gregor Gradnik a visiting Slovenian professor of creative writing at a university He leads a split life respectable academic during the day bar crawler at night

Drago Jančar. *Mocking desire*. Trans. Michael Biggins. *Writings from an unbound Europe*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern university press, 1998. 288 pp., \$44.95 (cloth), \$14.95 (paper) Helga Glušič, 2000

**Border State** Emil Tode, 2000-05 At home in neither his native land nor his adopted contry the unnamed narrator writes from a border state that transcends national boundaries his letter this novel is a precise description of that state of a consciousness forged by poverty and oppression Driven by the need to confess the narrator recounts the circumstances surrounding his murder of his wealth lover His confession serves as a painfully sharp rendering of what it means to straddle the lines between East and West rich and poor and light and dark From publisher description

**City of Ash** Eugenijus Ališanka, 2000 Although the title of this sensitive collection refers to Vilnius the capital of Lithuania City of Ash serves as a universal geography of the contemporary soul in an urban context Through his poetry Eugenijus Alisanka searches for personal and historical meaning within the framework of time recognizing both the demands of the self and the impossibility of avoiding what came before whether human or cultural

**The Apology and the Last Days** Borislav Pekic, 2012-07-03 Originally published in 1975 The Apology and the Last Days is the final volume in a trilogy of novels also including The Rise and Fall of Icarus Gubelkian and How to Quiet a Vampire about the aftermath of World War II by Borislav Peki one of the former Yugoslavia s most important postwar writers The narrator tells his story from prison where he is serving time for the murder of a former Nazi official As the novel unfolds we learn that the victim was the same person whom the narrator while a lifeguard during the war saved from drowning thus making him vulnerable to charges of collaboration In this tragicomic tale Peki explores eternal questions of fate and individual responsibility

**Materada** Fulvio Tomizza, Russell Scott Valentino, 2000 Francesco Koslovic even his name straddles two cultures And during the spring of 1955 in the village of Materada on the Istrian Peninsula his two worlds are coming apart Materada the first volume of Fulvio Tomizza s celebrated Istrian Trilogy depicts the Istrian exodus of the hundreds of thousands who had once thrived in a rich ethnic mixture of Italians and Slavs Complicating Koslovic s own departure is his attempt to keep the land that he and his brother have worked all their lives A picture of a disappearing way of life a tale of feud and displacement and imbued with the tastes tales and songs of his native Istria Koslovic s story is a testament to the intertwined ethnic roots of Balkan history

*The Fortress* Meša Selimović, 1999 The Fortress is one of the most significant and fascinating novels to come out of the former Yugoslavia Ahmet Shabo returns home to eighteenth century Sarajevo from the war in Russia numbed by the death in battle or suicide of nearly his entire military unit In time he overcomes the anguish of war only to find that he has emerged a reflective and contemplative man in a society that does not value and will not tolerate the subversive implications of these qualities

**Bait** David Albahari, 2001-06-20 David Albahari is

one of the most prominent writers to emerge from the former Yugoslavia in the last twenty years His serious understated explorations of the self have influenced many writers of his native land s younger generation The narrator of Bait has just exiled himself to Canada after the collapse of Yugoslavia and the death of his mother As he listens to a series of audio tapes recorded by the mother years before the narrator ponders her life and their relationship while simultaneously trying to come to terms with a new life of his own one of exile and the confusion of a new language and culture Bait is an exquisitely crafted novel that exhibits the wit and raw honesty Albahari s readers have long admired The Last Journey of Ago Ymeri Bashkim Shehu,2007-04-17 In a remote Albanian village a place of banishment a stranger appears claiming to be Viktor Dragoti and looking for his long lost love That Viktor Dragoti has been dead for nine years killed by the Albanian coast guard while trying to swim to freedom only adds to the stranger s mystery and to the suspense of this curiously real and yet otherworldly work by one of Albania s most distinguished writers With echoes of The Return of Martin Guerre and Kafka s The Trial with allusions to The Odyssey and the Albanian folktale of Ago Ymeri a legendary hero released from the underworld for one day Shehu s novel blends the autobiographical and the historical the personal and the political into a powerful tale a story that conveys the terrors small and large of a totalitarian state while capturing all that is surreal and even lyrical in life in such a deeply distorted world **The Silk, the Shears and Marina; Or, About Biography** Irena Vrkljan,1999-02-17 Winner of the Ksaver andor Gjalski Prize These are the first two volumes of the Croatian poet and novelist Irena Vrkljan s lyrical autobiography Although each novel illuminates the other they also stand alone as original and independent works of art In The Silk the Shears Vrkljan traces the symbolic and moral significance of her life and her vision of the fate of women in her mother s time and in her own Marina continues the intense analysis of the poetic self using the life of Marina Tsvetaeva to meditate on the processes behind biography *Conversation with Spinoza* Goce Smilevski,2006-05-12 Prizing ideas above all else radical thinker Baruch Spinoza left little behind in the way of personal facts and furnishings But what of the tug of necessity the urgings of the flesh to which this genius philosopher and grinder of lenses might have been no more immune than the next man or the next character as Baruch Spinoza becomes in this intriguing novel by the remarkable young Macedonian author Goce Smilevski Smilevski s novel brings the thinker Spinoza and his inner life into conversation with the outer all too real facts of his life and his day from his connection to the Jewish community of Amsterdam his excommunication in 1656 and the emergence of his philosophical system to his troubling feelings for his fourteen year old Latin teacher Clara Maria van den Enden and later his disciple Johannes Casearius From this conversation there emerges a compelling and complex portrait of the life of an idea and of a man who tries to live that idea *The Second Book* Muharem Bazdulj,2005 A collection of linked stories featuring historical and fictional characters **The Ninth** Ferenc Barnas,2009-04-10 The narrator is the ninth child of a family distinguished by its size poverty faith and abundance of physical and psychological disabilities His confusion is exacerbated by the strict secretive Catholic household his parents keep in the face of a

Communist system      **Northern Lights** Drago Jančar, 2001 Josef Erdman arrives in Maribor Slovenia on the eve of World War II Though claiming to be a salesman it soon becomes apparent that Josef has no purpose in the town and that a newcomer can expect nothing but distrust from the townspeople Maribor is full of tensions that are played out in pub brawls and in the rivalry between the Slovenes and Germans at the top of the social hierarchy Against this backdrop of ethnic hatred and personal descent Josef witnesses the fiery shimmer of the aurora borealis and imagines the town has been set aflame an omen of the coming of war      *The Prophecy and Other Stories* Drago Jancar, 2009-03-05 These newly collected short stories reveal a master at the top of his game Drago Jancar possesses an acute understanding of the human psyche enabling his stories to resonate beyond their particular milieu This collection features seven pieces drawn from four different collections that together present the struggle of individuals against powerful forces The characters try to make sense of a world of shifting borders and changing names that make the idea of a homeland either literal or figurative a dream rather than a reality      **Lodgers** Nenad Velickovic, 2005-09-06 Published as the siege of Sarajevo ended Lodgers is a hilarious unsentimental report from the front lines of the Balkan wars of the 1990s Detergent mixed with flour museum relics sold to UN peacekeepers the magic power of laminated accreditation all of the folly and the horror of that time are revealed in the sarcastic report of the novel's teenage would-be authoress      *Time Gifts* Zoran Zivkovic, 2000-08-22 Zoran Zivkovic weaves four mysterious encounters around philosophical questions at the core of human existence Provocative and original Time Gifts is a meditation on the nature of time and especially on the nature of those at its mercy      **Coming from an Off-Key Time** Bogdan Suceava, 2011-01-26 In the apocalyptic novel Coming from Key Time Bogdan Suceava satirizes events in his native Romania since the fateful end of the Ceausescu regime in 1989 Using three interrelated narratives to illustrate the destructive power of Romanian society's most powerful mythologies he depicts madness of all kinds but especially religious beliefs and their perversion by outrageous sects Here horror and humor reside impossibly in the same time and place and readers experience the vertigo of living in the middle of a violent historical upheaval      **Slavic and East European Journal**, 1998      **Ruta Tannenbaum** Miljenko Jergovic, 2011-05-06 The novel Ruta Tannenbaum is by prolific award-winning Croatian author Miljenko Jergovic First published in 2006 the story illuminates life and society in Yugoslavia between the world wars The title character was inspired by real-life figure Lea Deutsch the now forgotten Shirley Temple of Yugoslavia who was murdered in the Holocaust Using their shared Jewish heritage as a starting point Jergovic constructs a fictional family history populated by historical figures with the precocious Ruta at the center Stephen Dickey's translation masterfully captures Jergovic's colloquial yet deeply observed style which animates the tangled and troubled history of persecution and war in Croatia

## Unveiling the Energy of Verbal Artistry: An Psychological Sojourn through **Mocking Desire Writings From An Unbound Europe**

In a world inundated with monitors and the cacophony of quick communication, the profound energy and psychological resonance of verbal artistry frequently fade in to obscurity, eclipsed by the continuous onslaught of sound and distractions. Yet, set within the musical pages of **Mocking Desire Writings From An Unbound Europe**, a fascinating perform of fictional brilliance that impulses with fresh thoughts, lies an wonderful trip waiting to be embarked upon. Penned by way of a virtuoso wordsmith, that mesmerizing opus manuals readers on a psychological odyssey, lightly exposing the latent possible and profound affect embedded within the elaborate internet of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse of the evocative examination, we will embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is key themes, dissect its captivating writing type, and immerse ourselves in the indelible impression it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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