

Araña editorial – Spain- presents in bilingual edition English - Spanish

CUENTOS ROJOS -RED TALES

SUSANA MEDINA

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 *eight magnificent stories for wicked readers*

'A shockingly beautiful innovative voice in which the sublime and laughter are perfectly matched' Andrew Gallix, *The Guardian*

In the year of Pussy Riot, *Vagina* and Femen and in tune with the current spirit of sedition, *Red Tales* reads out like a subversive prayer intoned by a master stylist with similar grrrl power concerns. A blend of narrative and the fragment, praised for its sexiness, risk-taking, beauty, humour, innovation and poignancy, deeply voyeuristic *Red Tales* is full of wonderful heresies set in a recognisable London demi-monde.

Reading its visually mesmerising pages, you will come across an unforgettable ironic grey hair, the beautiful carnal process of falling in love as seen by a homeless couple, a kitsch porcelain siren whose whispered secret is a gloss on Kafka's 'The Silence of the Sirens', a hilarious and complicit parody on conceptual art, the riddle of an obsession, an homage to the poetry of objects that fit in the handbag of a kleptomaniac ...

Written mostly in the mid to late 1990s, before being struck by a long illness which left Medina profoundly deaf and subsequently fitted out with a cochlear implant which allows her to introduce herself as a 'bionic woman', *Red Tales* has now been rescued to immerse you in seven perfectly wrought stories in a refreshing translation.

One of the stories in *Red Tales*, 'Where Butterflies Flutter Creating Chemical Turbulence' was awarded the prestigious Max Aub International Short Story Prize VIII (€6000 at present) --- Rosie Marteau and the author were awarded the Farrago Zoo Award 2011 (Best performance Working in English and Another language) for their reading of *Red Tales*

Araña Editorial is an independent publisher known for publishing edgy fiction. Its fantastic initiative to publish its first English-Spanish bilingual edition *Red Tales Cuentos Rojos* by Susana Medina, presents a unique opportunity to be enjoyed independently across borders by both Hispanic and English readers, as well as providing a fantastic resource for bilingual readers and those aiming for proficiency in either language. *Red Tales Cuentos Rojos* will be available in bookshops from the 1st of December

London-based maverick writer **Susana Medina** writes both in Spanish, her native language, and English. She is the author of *Red Tales Cuentos Rojos* (bilingual edition, 2012, Araña Editorial, co-translated with Rosie Marteau) and *Philosophical Toys* (Dalkey Archive, 2013), her first novel in English – offspring of which are the highly praised short films *Buñuel's Philosophical Toys* and *Leather-bound Stories* (co-directed with Derek Ogbourne). Her other books are the acclaimed poetry and aphorisms collection *Souvenirs from the Accident* and *Borgesland, A voyage through the infinite, imaginary places, labyrinths, Buenos Aires and other psychogeographies and figments of space* which explores imaginary spaces in the oeuvre of Jorge Luis Borges. She has been awarded several international literary prizes and is the recipient of a writing grant from the Arts Council of England, for her novel *Spinning Days of Night*. Medina has published a number of essays on literature, art, cinema and photography, curated various international art shows, written art catalogues, exhibited at Tate Modern and collaborated with artists. Her mixed media work can be found scattered on the internet.
www.susanamedina.net

Praise for *Red Tales*

‘A prose both spare and lush, a commendable tension about the enterprise’ [Will Self](#)

‘This collection will come as a total shock to mummy porn fans – E. L. James meets J. G. Ballard! Makes both writing and BDSM dangerous once again. Eat your heart out *literary establishment*’ [Stewart Home](#)

‘Medina writes unglorious fables of strangeness and curiosity in those penumbral regions of the earth visited between memory and conjecture. The sharp and cunning constructions are like the relics out of Borges’s library, bones of unborn stories that honour fate and run beyond prediction. Each is a perfectly wrought performance, presenting not so much strange sights or unknown spectacles but instead elegant mementos of sensual moments we too often pass over either in impertinent silence or baffled fear. Medina unearths the small beauties that we like to rebury. Her stories are exquisite reminders of our weird informal freedoms and the zealotry of an inflamed, sexy imagination. This is a book of wonders’

[Richard Marshall](#), *3: AM Magazine*

‘The everyday worlds of these stories are glamorous & disturbing, compelling & reckless; they are neural maps of consumer surfaces & psychological uncertainties, their inner landscapes demand our attention’

[Steve Finbow](#)

‘Medina's writing is both intriguing and involving, probing the margins of narrative as it does, yet still carrying a strong emotional charge. Her subject matter lies in London's demi-monde, and is compelling and often dramatic. This collection will stay with me’

[Peter Carty](#), reviewer for *The Independent*

‘Her personal profile reveals a writer but most of all a writing. A singular writing, a unique voice that leads us through a labyrinth that is dark and yet under a luminous sky’

[J. A. Masoliver Ródenas](#), *La Vanguardia*

‘A tremendously restless vision which relentlessly traverses genres and styles’

[Ruben H y Mónica Bergos](#), *Qué Magazine*

‘A cult and thoroughbred writer’ [Marisol Oviaño](#), *Proscritos*

