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Literary news about Carme Riera on Lletra, the UOC's virtual space devoted to Catalan literature

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/carme-riera> >

Carme Riera



Who I am and why I write

Carme Riera

Carme Riera (Palma de Mallorca, 1948) is a lecturer in Spanish literature at the Universitat Autònoma (Autonomous University) in Barcelona. Her work has been translated into many languages. Some outstanding titles are *Dins el darrer blau* (In the Last Blue) (1994) and *Cap el cel obert* (Towards the Open Sky), which are both historical novels about Conversos (Converted Jews) in Mallorca. *La meitat de l'ànima* (Half the Soul) was awarded the distinguished Sant Jordi (Saint George) Prize for the novel in 2003.

There is an image which, with obsessive clarity, always superimposes itself on the reasons that motivate me to write, the image of a girl (a *neneta*, or little girl, as they say in Barcelona Catalan) with plaits and sad eyes, looking at the distant sea from the window of a big, empty house in the old quarter of Palma de Mallorca. The image of this little girl, who fled terrified from mirrors because she was not beautiful like her mother, but ugly like her father, once again filled my eyes: she does not play, she watches her brothers and sisters playing in the garden of the house from the balcony of her grandmother's room, the distinguished grandmother, whom she listened to almost all day long as she recounted the old stories of the family's past, rancid and shattered. Love stories with uncontrollable excesses and passions, kidnappings even, stories that unlock the little girl's fantasy and encourage her to dream up similar tales. The sad little girl who rejects mirrors because she's afraid of seeing herself reflected with the moustache worn by her father, started writing variations of the stories that her grandmother had told her when she was eight or nine and, in order to avoid direct confrontation with the man in black who every week carried out interrogations from behind the tiny grilles of the odious confessional, she even tried to make her confessions in writing. Only this way, by making her presence vanish, does she feel able to conquer her infinite shyness and, even, to dilute the possible blame amid the lines of her writing. Let's just say that the blank sheet of paper was like a mirror for her, the mirror from which she fled, because in the blank sheet of paper she felt flattered and even indulged.

I cannot deny that I feel a great tenderness, much more than when we were that way, for the girl that I once was, whose experiences go part of the way to explaining the reasons that lead me to write. I now know why I began writing, and that it was because of my grandmother, first of all, spurred on by her ability to tell stories, and second, because writing helped me to banish my ghosts and, above all, to understand the world, to get to know the reality that surrounded me and to clarify it. Subsequently, other reasons have been added to these fundamental ones; I write, undoubtedly, because I cannot help it, I cannot take away the need to weave tales, to imagine alternatives to reality, to the environment, to everything I have within my grasp.

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A selection of texts

Text



WEB: Carme Riera

Two prose fragments in Catalan, English and German.

http://www.escriptors.cat/autors/rierac/pagina.php?id_sec=1379



WEB: Riera a EPdLP

Nota biogràfica en castellà amb un fragment de *Temps d'una espera* a El Poder de la Palabra.

<http://www.epdip.com/escritor.php?id=2208>

Bio-bibliography

Biography



WEB: A la Hiperenciclopèdia

http://www.enciclopedia.cat/fitxa_v2.jsp?NDCHEC=0055618



WEB: Fitxa al "Qui és qui a les lletres catalanes"

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/peq/fitxaAutors.asp?nom1=rie&nom2=&cerca=Cerca&quiform=form1&NRegistre=1&idregistre=6075>



WEB: The author in the Catalan Encyclopaedia

<http://www.grec.cat/cgi-bin/heclangcl2.pgm?&USUARI=&SESSIO=&NDCHEC=0055618&PGMORI=E>



WEB: Carme Riera a l'Institut Ramon Llull

Nota biobibliogràfica dins l'espai dedicat a la Fira Internacional del Llibre de Guadalajara 2004.

http://fil04.llull.cat/cat/02protagonistes/riera_carme.shtm



WEB: The author in the Who's Who of Catalan Literature

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/peq/fitxaAutorsuk.asp?nom1=Riera&cercauk2=Search&quiform=form1&NRegistre=1&idregistre=6075>



WEB: Carme Riera in the Ramon Llull Institute

Biobibliographical note on this author on a page devoted to the Guadalajara International Book Fair.

http://fil04.llull.cat/eng/02protagonistes/riera_carme.shtm

Bibliography



WEB: Què hi ha a la Biblioteca de Catalunya

http://cataleg.bnc.cat/search*cat/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Riera+Carme+1948&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D

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WEB: Què hi ha a les biblioteques universitàries catalanes (CCUC)

http://ccuc.cbuc.cat/search*cat/a?SEARCH=Riera+Carme+1948&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=23



WEB: Què hi ha a les biblioteques públiques

<http://argus.biblioteques.gencat.cat/iii/encore/search/C|SRiera+Carme|Orightresult|U1?lang=cat&suite=pearl>



WEB: Per comprar-ne llibres

<http://www.llibres.cat/ca/detall-autor/riera-i-guilera-carme>



WEB: Articles de l'autora (Traces)

<http://traces.uab.cat/search?f=author&p=Riera%20Carme&sc=1&ln=ca>



WEB: Articles sobre l'autora (Traces)

http://traces.uab.cat/search?ln=ca&p=Riera%2C+Carme&f=keyword&action_search=Cerca&c=Trace+s+%3A+base+de+dades+de+llengua+i+literatura+catalanes&sf=&so=d&rm=&rg=10&sc=1&of=hb



WEB: Works in the Biblioteca de Catalunya

http://cataleg.bnc.cat/search*eng/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Riera+Carme+1948&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D



WEB: The author in The European Library

<http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/en/search/%28%22creator%22+all+%22riera+carme%22%29.query>



WEB: The author in the Congress Library (US)

<http://catalog.loc.gov/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First>



WEB: The author in the COPAC Catalogue (UK)

<http://copac.ac.uk/search?&au=Carme+Riera>

Comments on the author

Criticism



WEB: Pàgina de l'AELC

Biografia, informació i publicacions.

<http://www.escriptors.cat/autors/rierac/>



WEB: L'autora al Corpus Literari Ciutat de Barcelona

Biografia, enllaços i transcripció d'articles sobre Riera.

http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=2401

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WEB: Riera a Veus de dona

Pàgina dedicada a l'autora dins la web d'Ainamar. Inclou biografia, tast de textos i una selecció d'enllaços.

<http://www.xtec.cat/~aribas4/literatura/dones/Riera/superiorRiera.htm>



WEB: Premi Lletra d'Or

Pàgina de Lletra dedicada al Premi Lletra d'Or que l'autora guanyà amb *Dins el darrer blau*.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/premis/premilletrador/>



WEB: Erotisme i literatura

Sobre *Epitelis tendríssims* de Carme Riera, a la pàgina de Lletra sobre narrativa eròtica catalana.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/tematica/erotismeilite/>



WEB: Carme Riera on the Lletra website in Catalan

Including more resources and reading suggestions.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/noms/criera/index.html>



WEB: Lletra d'Or Prize

Lletra page devoted to the Lletra d'Or Prize, which the author won for *Dins l'últim blau* (In the Last Blue).

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/premis/premilletrador/>



WEB: Eroticism and literature

The page on Catalan erotic prose includes information on *Epitelis tendríssims* (Tender Epitheliums) by Carme Riera.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/tematica/erotismeilite/>



WEB: Website of the AELC

Biography, information and works.

http://www.escriptors.cat/autors/riera/pagina.php?id_sec=1377



WEB: Carme Riera in the City of Barcelona Literary Corpus

Biography, links and transcription of articles on this author.

http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=2401

Miscellaneous



WEB: Carme Riera in HighBeam Research database

HighBeam Library Results of Carme Riera's search.

<http://www.highbeam.com/search.aspx?FN=DF&q=Riera%2C+Carme&submit.x=0&submit.y=0&submit=submit>

Comments

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WEB: Sobre La meitat de l'ànima

Entrevista a eitb.com (Euskal Irrati Telebista). En àudio.
http://www.eitb.com/pompas/lib_entrevistas.asp



WEB: Parlant amb Carme Riera

Entrevista de Nuri Verdú per a *Fusión* (abril 1999).
<http://www.revistafusion.com/catalunya/1999/abril/entrev67.htm>



WEB: "La ficció epistolar de Carme Riera"

Francesco Ardolino, de la Universitat de Barcelona, comenta el primer recull de contes de l'escriptora, al *Journal of Catalan Studies*.
<http://www.uoc.edu/jocs/3/articulos/ardolino4/>



WEB: Carme Riera i la crítica

Montserrat Lunati (Cardiff University) ressenya l'estudi crític *El mirall i la màscara*, editat per Lluïsa Cotoner. A la revista digital *Journal of Catalan Studies*.
<http://www.uoc.edu/jocs/ressenyas/riera/index.html>



WEB: On La meitat de l'ànima (Half the Soul)

Interview in eitb.com (Euskal Irrati Telebista). In audio.
http://www.eitb.com/pompas/lib_entrevistas.asp



WEB: Talking to Carme Riera

Interview by Nuri Verdú for *Fusión* (April 1999).
<http://www.revistafusion.com/catalunya/1999/abril/entrev67.htm>



WEB: "La ficció epistolar de Carme Riera"

Francesco Ardolino, from the University of Barcelona, discusses the first compilation of short stories by the writer, in the *Journal of Catalan Studies*.
<http://www.uoc.edu/jocs/3/articulos/ardolino4/>



WEB: Language, Culture and the Self in Carme Riera

Eamonn Rodgers writes about the writer, in the *Journal of Catalan Studies*.
<http://www.uoc.edu/jocs/6/articulos/rodgerst/index.html>



WEB: A Matter of Self-Esteem and Other Stories

Review of the novel in *World Literature Today* by Peter Cocozzella (Summer-Autumn 2002).
<http://www.findarticles.com/p/search?qt=riera+carme&tb=art&qf=all&x=20&y=7>



WEB: Carme Riera in Looksmart database

Selection of articles of the author.
<http://www.findarticles.com/p/search?qt=riera+carme&tb=art&qf=all&x=20&y=7>