

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

Francesc Parcerisas



Who I Am and Why I Write

Francesc Parcerisas' poetry is mainly collected in the volume *Triomf del present* (Triumph of the Present: Poems (1965-1983)), which represents one of the most

wide-ranging and yet consistent contributions of his generation to the panorama of contemporary Catalan literature. His poetry, with its clear affinities with the Anglo-Saxon tradition, started out as being linked with the realism that was dominant in a good part of the poetic scene of the 1960s, for example *Vint poemes civils* (Twenty Civil Poems) and *Homes que es banyen* (Men Bathing). Later, after testing the experimentalism of the 1970s with the work *Latitud dels cavalls* (Latitudes of Horses), he would start writing a more intimate kind of poetry with sober echoes of the classics and revealing deep moral concerns.

I am a product of the 1940s middle-class bourgeoisie in Catalonia, with the bitter contradictions that entails and the subtle richness that tends to go hand in hand with the contradictions. I was born in Begues, a small town in the coastal range but I consider that my education is urban, if Barcelona at the end of the 1940s with flocks of sheep blocking the tramlines, rubbish carts and the smell of boiled cabbage was really a city in the sense we give the word nowadays.

Country and city were connected and blended together despite the toll-houses, in an interaction that is very different from what we have at present, and having gone from home to school catching lizards or breaking up processions of bilious green caterpillars in the environs of the fence of the monastery garden -a monastery full of cloistered monks who, at the midday mass on Sundays, sang spectrally from behind operatically dramatic bars- does not prevent me from mythologizing in equal parts my memories of nature and my bedazzlement before the enormous multihued cardboard toys hanging from the columns and ceilings of the city's only department stores, or the enchantment produced by the penetrating smell of burning wax -not oil- of the silver-plated racing cars that trained for the *Penya Rhin* race, stridently and speedily crossing in front of the esplanade with the fountain where we went for the Ash Wednesday ceremony of burying the sardine.

We were "city folk" when we went to the country, but our city was still half rural, and more so, I think now, than most present-day medium-sized towns. We had chickens on the roof terrace, killed rabbits with a blow from the mortar to the back of the neck and spread the skins out to dry in the sun; crickets and glow-worms were put into a little cage constructed *ad hoc*, and all of that mingled with the first discoveries of, and changes in the world -of the remote world and the close-to-hand one- changes that brought into being, with blatant delay, the shift from the nineteenth to the twentieth century.

At times it still surprises me that someone can evoke periods or events without being worried about the exactness of the memory, the exactness of the context in which memory moves, and I am even more flummoxed when somebody believes that looking back to the past is pure nostalgia. Discussion then becomes difficult for me because I feel we are not talking about the same matter and that my hypothetical interlocutor has not understood a single thing. The same thing happens to me when, if we are talking about love and passion, somebody thinks we are making some kind of witless list of

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

occasional adventures that are -and were- perforce trivial matters, and not analysing the stages of our essential shaping as human beings.

When all is said and done, these two components of memory and passion constitute, as I understand it, one of the mainstays of life -and evidently of literature. I leapt from reading Jules Verne in the Cadete Collection to reading Muñoz Pabón in the school library, Pío Baroja in the Caro Raggio editions and Hemingway in the maladroito Spanish editions. And, only a few years later, but now considerably shaken up, I was reading Sartre, Malraux and the *nouveau roman* in the Livre de Poche or 10/18 editions. Of all these books what I remember is a "climate" that still endures and this atmosphere is certainly the setting for my passion for books: for reading, for writers, for the very objects that books are because, as an excellent poet from León has remarked, books are "among those places where life is safe from the successive smash-ups".

Even now, rediscovering the volume of *Precisamente así* -the title given to the Spanish translation of Kipling's *Just So Stories* by [Marià Manent](#)- is always an occasion of pleasure and of reaffirmation of adult life because this book was a wonderful magic lantern from which issued a gigantic, unpredictable and mysterious genie reeling off stories that made one live many lives. Now, holding this book in my hands, I am reconstructing the memories of someone who is not exactly me but who has been my germinal seed. The universe as I know it and the universe that I have made for myself are somehow *in nuce* there in the distant voices of my parents whom I hear reading the heroic deeds of the intrepid sailor Mister Henry Albert Bivvens. And this feeling has endured in a wide range of different texts: Kierkegaard, Anouilh, Casona, and García Lorca are inseparable from the white-covered Argentine editions, produced in what seemed to be blotting paper, from the adolescent who, capricious and full of himself, once revelled in them. And the orange or greenish tint of the thick paper of the French paperback editions is inseparable from a particular smell and certain concepts: without those editions, *La Nausée* wouldn't have been the same, just as *Bonjour tristesse* had, perforce, to have a visual female lead who was none other than Jean Seberg.

In this regard, I had the good luck to discover, in the library at home and under the rough, dusty and yellowed paper of some pre-war Catalan editions, fruits that seemed vaguely deliquescent, whether it was Longus' *Daphnis and Chloe* or the nebulous and hygienic eroticism of the stories of Pierre Louys. At the very least, however, these books demonstrated the existence of a tradition that was not entirely impossible.

Pondering this a little more, I would say that one of the great virtues of the imaginative world that the books were opening up was that they made it possible to construct a hideaway. By this, I do not mean the hideaway of a cowardly or miserly retreat from life: life was very rich and caressable and, as one changed with life, it was worth doing much more, even abandoning forevermore books and all kinds of literature, perhaps. But, fortunately, the dilemma didn't work like that at all and the shelter that books offered was immediate, intimate and, where necessary, concealable. It thus came about that, in order to dwell in that powerful and fantastic secret of literature, one only had to "make" books: write them, scribble them, cobble them together, construct them, publish them? Even now I don't trust those writers who have never been tempted to "make" books. In fact, this is how one begins to write: in single handwritten copies, in runs of two with carbon paper in the typewriter, producing objects that enable us, as authors, to take some distance and to see how the texts get on with it, independent, incriminating, stimulating, eternal.

In doing thus we engage in an act of creation and of shamelessness that brings us close to the small gods of ancient mythologies who dreamed, constructed and fixed things in their little universes. And it

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

is precisely in this dazzling and distant mirror that the writer -god amongst gods- controls where we readers find the images that enable us to bear better our other more magic condition, that of men amongst men. This would seem no small thing.

Francesc Parcerisas

Copyright text © 1994 Francesc Parcerisas/ILC

On the Writer ...The truth is that, from beneath a poetry of combat, there began to appear a *civic* formulation that was very often the only way to include a bashfully lyrical note. I believe that I can say this without immodesty because the titles of my early books - *Vint poemes civils* (Twenty Civil Poems - 1967), *Homes que es banyen* (Men Bathing - 1970) and *Discurs sobre les matèries terrestre* (Discourse on Terrestrial Matter - 1971) - seem to say it quite eloquently. I would say that, starting out from that milieu, the young poets that had embarked upon a very typical personal journey with more readings of politics than poetry began to note some kind of compensation of the imbalance after the personal disillusionment, the trips abroad and exploration of those winds of fraternal and idealistic liberty that were blowing at the end of the sixties (Che, May '68, Dylan, the Beatles ?). The few who kept writing did so frequently giving primacy to personal experience, with a critical view of the country and essentially concerned to find stable moral values. This ethical-civic-political process has been, and still is, a phenomenon of internalisation and analysis: hence the abundant writing aiming to reflect personal relationships and basically the erotic one. We therefore have titles such as *Papers privats* (Private Papers) by [Narcís Comadira](#), *Vida privada* (Private Life) by Marta Pessarrodona, *Marees del desig* (Tides of Desire) by Salvador Oliva and *Ideari a la recerca de la fruita tendra* (Ideology in Search of Tender Fruit) by Josep Elias.

F. Parcerisas, "A l'entorn de la jove poesia al Principat" (About Young Poetry in the Principality), *Serra d'Or*, XXI, pp. 269-272 (1979)

L'edat d'or (The Golden Age - 1983) represents an abandonment of experimentalism and a reencounter with his basic voice, the voice that furnished his lyrical discourse induced by his gaining in experience: existential and literary. This book contains some of Parcerisas' most remarkable poems, good examples of the poetry of exposition of moral life. Conditioned by three constants, reading and translations, the evocation of love, and evidence of the passing of stages, with *L'edat d'or* the poet seems to have found a -the- definitive voice. The poems exude a treasure: wisdom.

Enric Bou, "Mirada i compromís. La poesia de Francesc Parcerisas" ("Gaze and Commitment. The Poetry of Francesc Parcerisas") (ILC, 1994)

A selection of texts

Text



WEB: Diversos poemes de l'autor

"Matí al bar", "Un dia com aquest" (amb traducció a l'anglès) i "Retrat del poeta" (també en anglès), entre d'altres poemes.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/especials/folch/parceris.htm>



WEB: Magisteri Teatre-Mag Poesia

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

Un munt de poemes i traduccions.

<http://www.mallorcaweb.com/magpoesia/parcerisas/>



WEB: Al Daltabaix Poètic!

Dos poemes inèdits de l'autor en aquest web independent de poesia que acull poetes de tendències ben diferents.

<http://www.sant-cugat.net/daltabaix/parcer.htm>



WEB: Parcerisas a EPdLP

Nota biogràfica en castellà amb un poema a El Poder de la Palabra.

<http://www.epdlp.com/escritor.php?id=2119>



PDF: 'The shadow'

A poem of Francesc Parcerisas translated by Jordi Torres. In *Catalan International View*, n. 6.

http://international-view.cat/armari/internationalview:internationalview/2/civ06_23_poem.pdf



WEB: Poems by Francesc Parcerisas

"Matí al bar" (Morning in the Bar), "Un dia com aquest" ("On a Day Like This", translated into English) and "Retrat del poeta" ("Portrait of the Poet", translated into English), among other poems.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/especials/folch/parceris.htm>



WEB: Magisteri Teatre-Mag Poesia

A great number of poems and translations.

<http://www.mallorcaweb.com/magpoesia/parcerisas/>



WEB: Aula de Poesia (Poetry Room)

Page of the review of the Aula de Poesia at the University of Barcelona, offering several poems by Parcerisas.

http://www.ub.es/aulapoesiabarcelona/e-publish/Sumari/Sala_de_Lectura/De_Apodb_Revistes/Francesc_Parcerisas/francesc_parcerisas.html



WEB: Francesc Parcerisas in Daltabaix Poètic!

Two unpublished poems by Parcerisas on this independent poetry website that offers work by poets of widely differing tendencies.

<http://www.sant-cugat.net/daltabaix/parcer.htm>

Audio



AUDIO: L'autor recita i explica tres poemes

L'autor recita i explica tres poemes

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasfocs.html



AUDIO: Els poemes "Celler", "Els meus" i "El lladre bo"

Els poemes "Celler", "Els meus" i "El lladre bo"

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasnaturamorta.html

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >



AUDIO: Lectura i comentaris de Dos dies més de sud

Lectura i comentaris de *Dos dies més de sud*

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasdosdies.html



AUDIO: Sis poemes més de l'autor

Sis poemes més de l'autor

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisaspoemes.html



AUDIO: The author recites and discusses three poems

Francesc Parcerisas recites and discusses three poems

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasfocs.html



AUDIO: The poems "Celler", "Els meus" and "El lladre bo"

The poems "Celler" ("Cellar"), "Els meus" ("My People") and "El lladre bo" ("The Good Thief")

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasnaturamorta.html



AUDIO: Reading from and comments on Dos dies més de sud

Reading from and comments on *Dos dies més de sud* (Two More Days of South)

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisasdosdies.html



AUDIO: Six more poems by the author

Six more poems by Francesc Parcerisas

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisaspoemes.html

Manuscripts



WEB: "El poble del Vietnam"

El web *Viu la poesia* edita aquest poema amb l'autor.

http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_4.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=14&idpoema=207



WEB: Explicació de "El poble del Vietnam"

L'autor parla d'aquest poema al web *Viu la poesia*.

http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_8.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=14&idpoema=207



TXT: Virtual discussion with the author

A virtual discussion with Francesc Parcerisas

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/articles/parcerisas0204.html>



TXT: A manuscript poem

A manuscript poem

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poema.html



TXT: An unpublished poem

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

An unpublished poem

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poematext.html

Manuscripts



TXT: Col-loqui virtual amb l'autor

Col-loqui virtual amb l'autor

<http://lletra.uoc.edu/articulos/parcerisas0204.html>



TXT: Un poema manuscrit

Un poema manuscrit

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poema.html



TXT: Un poema inèdit

Un poema inèdit

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poematext.html



TXT: Virtual discussion with the author

A virtual discussion with Francesc Parcerisas

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/articulos/parcerisas0204.html>



TXT: A manuscript poem

A manuscript poem

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poema.html



TXT: An unpublished poem

An unpublished poem

http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/fparcerisas/html_especials/fparcerisas_poematext.html

Bio-bibliography

Biography



WEB: A la Hiperenciclopèdia

http://www.enciclopedia.cat/fitxa_v2.jsp?NDCHEC=0048977



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

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/qqq/FitxaAutors.asp?nom1=par&nom2=&cerca=Cerca&quinform=form1&NRegistre=4&idregistre=5554>



WEB: The author in the Catalan Encyclopaedia

<http://www.grec.cat/cgi-bin/hecangcl2.pgm?&USUARI=&SESSIO=&NDCHEC=0048977&PGMORI=E>



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

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/peq/fitxaAutorsuk.asp?nom1=parcerisas&cercauk2=Search&quinform=form1&NRegistre=1&idregistre=5554>

Bibliography



WEB: Què hi ha a la Biblioteca de Catalunya

http://catalag.bnc.cat/search*cat/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Parcerisas+Francesc&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D



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

http://ccuc.cbuc.cat/search*cat/a?SEARCH=Parcerisas+Francesc&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=23



WEB: Què hi ha a les biblioteques públiques

<http://argus.biblioteques.gencat.cat/iii/encore/search/C|SParcerisas+Francesc|Orighresult|U1?lang=cat&suite=pearl>



WEB: Per comprar-ne llibres

<http://www.llibres.cat/ca/detall-autor/parcerisas-i-vazquez-francesc>



WEB: Articles de l'autor (Traces)

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



WEB: Articles sobre l'autor (Traces)

http://traces.uab.cat/search?ln=ca&p=Parcerisas%2C+Francesc&f=keyword&action_search=Cerca&c=Traces+%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://catalag.bnc.cat/search*eng/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Parcerisas+Francesc&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+%22parcerisas+francesc%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=Francesc+Parcerisas>

Comments on the author

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >

Criticism



WEB: Pàgina de l'AELC

Biografia, publicacions, traduccions...

<http://www.escriptors.com/autors/parcerisasf/>



WEB: L'autor al Corpus Literari Ciutat de Barcelona

Biografia, enllaços i transcripció d'articles sobre Parcerisas.

http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=2186



WEB: Un dels "Dotze sentits"

Parcerisas és un dels dotze poetes antologats al CD-ROM *Dotze sentits. Poesia catalana d'avui*.

http://www.iua.upf.edu/dotze_sentits/entrada.html



WEB: Francesc Parcerisas on the Lletra website in Catalan

Including more resources and reading suggestions.

<http://www.lletra.cat/noms/fparcerisas/index.html>



WEB: AELC Website

Biography, publications, translations ...

http://www.escriptors.cat/autors/parcerisasf/pagina.php?id_sec=300



WEB: Francesc Parcerisas in the City of Barcelona Literary Corpus

Biography, links and a transcription of articles on this author.

http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=2186



WEB: One of the "Dotze Sentits? (Twelve Senses)

Parcerisas is one of the twelve poets appearing in the CD-ROM anthology *Dotze sentits. Poesia catalana d'avui* (Twelve Senses. Catalan Poetry Today).

http://www.iua.upf.es/dotze_sentits/entrada.html

Miscellaneous



PDF: "Tot poeta hauria de saber explicar els seus poemes"

Entrevista d'Eva Piquer al diari *Avui* (14/12/00), [pàg. 1](#), [pàg. 2](#) i [pàg. 3](#).

<http://www.traces.uab.es/tracesbd/avui/av00114a.pdf>



PDF: "Tot poeta hauria de saber explicar els seus poemes" (?Every Poet Should Be Able to Explain His Poems?)

Interview by Eva Piquer in the newspaper *Avui* (14 December, 2000).

<http://www.traces.uab.es/tracesbd/avui/av00114a.pdf>

If you want to cite this page...

Literary news about Francesc Parcerisas in Lletra, Catalan literature online at the Open University of Catalonia.

< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/francesc-parcerisas> >



WEB: Activitats per treballar “El poble del Vietnam”

Un poema amb propostes al web *Viu la poesia*.

http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_6.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=14&idpoema=207
