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LONDON BOOK FAIR RIGHTS HOTLIST LITERARY AGENTS CENTRE TABLE 18E

NEWS

We are delighted to welcome Judith Murdoch's clients to our list. We will be representing the subsidiary rights for all her clients, many of whom are award winning writers. If you do not see an author's work here but believe we represent them, please contact us for further information.

Non Fiction

The Life Codes by Patty Harpenau

One book. Three world religions. Seven life-changing codes.

After millennia of a hidden existence in the best known religious writings, the age old secrets are now revealed by seven life teachers. These are the seven codes that contain the secret to life. *The Life Codes* are drawn from Judaism, Christianity and Islam and they are the key to creativity, abundance, healing and love. The story they tell will empower everybody to achieve what they were put on this earth to do: to show the best and finest aspects of themselves. *The Life Codes* prove that after thousands of years these life lessons are still essential to discovering one's true self. The Codes show how to discover these keys in one's own life and how to apply them to make the most momentous discovery of all: the code of one's existence. Patty Harpenau is a life coach and was one of the first people in the Netherlands to be involved in *The Secret*. She trained with Deepak Chopra and is now the Director of the Dutch Chopra Centre, as well as the director of the Dutch Life Foundation. First published by **Kosmos in the Netherlands** in December 2008, we are proud to be representing the English and foreign language rights in this groundbreaking work.

Sold: UK and Commonwealth – Transworld Publishers
US and Canada – Tarcher imprint at Penguin Inc
Germany – Random House
Italy – Newton and Compton
China

Love Affair: A Story of Obsession, Tragedy and Grace by Leslie Kenton

Britain's leading health and beauty guru Leslie Kenton reveals for the first time the dark secret of her childhood. Leslie was the daughter of the legendary jazz musician, Stanley Kenton. Growing up in 1950s America, often travelling alone with her dad, Leslie's relationship with him is set out here in compelling and unflinching detail. From the dance halls and jazz haunts of New York to the cool isolation of hotels and boarding houses, what started as a deeply trusting

relationship ended in heartbreak and destruction. Leslie Kenton has written over thirty books on spirituality, health and beauty. She developed the Origins brand for Estee Lauder, has worked for the European Parliament, and was the first Chair of the Natural Medicine Society in Britain.

UK and Commonwealth: Vermilion (Random House)

Sold: US and Canada to St Martins Press

All other rights: Luxton Harris

Pregnancy for Men: The Full Nine Months by Mark Woods

Mark Woods is a television scriptwriter – currently as Chief Writer for Comic Relief - and father of one. In this first title in a series on parenting, Mark sets out to demystify pregnancy and, most importantly, shows readers how to avoid the emotional rollercoaster that greets every man the moment the test result comes back positive. Packed with tips on how to impress your girlfriend with your knowledge on everything from morning sickness to baby's first words, this is a humorous and practical guide that is guaranteed to save many relationships and help men be the very best fathers.

UK and Commonwealth: Crimson Publishers, May 2010

US and all other rights: Luxton Harris

Coming Down Fast by Simon Wells

On August 9th 1969, the actress Sharon Tate, wife of Roman Polanski, was found murdered in her Los Angeles home along with four others. She was eight months pregnant. In total, seven people were found shot, stabbed and bludgeoned to death that night. Two years later, the nation watched in fascinated horror as Charles Manson and three of his followers were tried and convicted. But the real questions went unanswered. How did Manson make his "family" kill for him? How could these young men and women kill again and again without remorse? And did the murders go on even after Manson was in jail? Not since Vincent Bugliosi's *Helter Skelter* was published in 1999 have the events that led to the most famous mass murder case in history been examined in such close detail. Now, to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the most famous mass murder case in history, journalist Simon Wells has uncovered a wealth of new evidence.

Simon Wells is the co- author of "Your Face Here- British Cult Movies Since the 1960' which was published in 2001 by Fourth Estate/Harper-Collins and is the author of the hugely successful "The Beatles: 365 Days" published by Abrams/Time Warner; "The Beatles in Japan , and "The Rolling Stones: 365 Days" published in November 2006.

UK and Commonwealth: **Hodder**/All other rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

Boy Racer by Mark Cavendish

British cyclist Mark Cavendish rides for the UCI ProTeam Team Columbia-High Road. In this his first book he steps behind the scenes of the Tour de France. To unmask the exotic, contradictory, hysterical and brutal world of professional cycling from the compellingly candid viewpoint of someone right in the thick of it. Written off as 'fat' and 'useless' in his youth, Mark Cavendish is now the cycling's brightest star. His extraordinary, quadruple stage-win at last year's Tour proved him as one of the world's best ever cyclists. Some have called him cocky, but to

anyone who doesn't like his style, Mark will simply shrug his shoulders and reply, 'I know I'm good. There's no point lying about it'. Peers say that they have never seen anyone with Cavendish's hunger for success and while this fearlessness - both in the saddle and on the record - has at times led to controversy, it has also earned him the respect of ever more fans. In "Boy Racer", we follow him through the mayhem of the Tour de France in a page-turning journey of pure exhilaration. Published by **Ebury**, June 2009. All rights available.

Blue Jeans by Barbara Smit

This book will tell the rich and entertaining story behind blue jeans: how a piece of workwear, worn by slaves and labourers, turned into a near-universal attribute of cool. Filled with extraordinary characters and anecdotes, **Blue Jeans** will provide a lively account of the business adventures and the cultural upheavals that made the extraordinary appeal of blue jeans.

Barbara Smit is the author of **Pitch Invasion** (Penguin), the story behind the rivalry between Adidas and Puma, which has been sold around the world and is currently in pre production for a feature film.

All rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

The World in Fifteen Minutes by George Myerson

This book shows how numbers can light up everyday life, revealing things we never noticed and showing us who and where we are. Conventional information tends to use its many numbers to create an abstract fog, huge or remote figures that seem to have no connection to real life. But here by a simple twist, the statistical fog is melted away, and the true illuminating power of numbered knowledge shines onto a day in the life of the world. The trick is no vast calculation or theorem: it is simply to see everything in terms of fifteen minutes time, shifting measures until they make sense in that human span. From ecology and demography, cosmology and geology, physiology and botany to economics and finance, this is a journey around an amazing human scale world, measurable but far from soulless or mechanical as people often assume.

Within the numbered scope of fifteen minutes, is a myriad of astonishing connections. We begin with the dawn, the first fifteen minutes of daylight that hold such a strange power, and we follow the course of the day, the everyday, around the globe: the vast gurgle of breakfast coffee per fifteen minutes, the flows of money and rain, the ways we work and pause, care and play, eat and relax, travel and talk. Always with a personal focus, the perspective keeps broadening outwards to make a day in the life of the world, from dawn to night, and from Britain to Burundi, New York to the Arctic tundra, The Czech Republic to Chad. Alongside the everyday life we lead, there is the movement of the continents and the growth of trees, the melting of ice and the birth of stars.

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BETWEEN THE SHEETS: The Untold Story of the Bed and What it Says About Us by Monica Janssens

From the Stone Age to the Industrial Revolution, the Romans to the Renaissance, few things have mirrored society or been affected by its upheavals as much as the beds we sleep in. In an age of gadgetry and convenience, where beds come with built-in televisions, computers and iPods, historian Monica Janssens' book is

the first to explore the 9,500-year history of the bed, uncovering its intriguing, puzzling, often quirky features and the central role it has played in our development. Monica Janssens worked for seven years designing and painting beds, walls and ceilings in a variety of styles. She spent a further ten years researching them and giving lectures at V&A, literary organisations and museums. This is a book that will transform the way we think about our most personal possession.

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FICTION

Chocolate Wishes by Trisha Ashley

Life is sweet for chocolate maker Chloe Lyon. In the picture-perfect village of Sticklepond, Confectioner Chloe dispenses inspirational sweet treats containing a prediction for each customer. If only her own life was as easy to forecast - perhaps Chloe could have foreseen being jilted at the altar! But when a new pastor arrives in the village, the rumour mill goes into overdrive. Not only is Raffy Sinclair the charismatic ex-front man of rock band 'Mortal Ruin', he's also the Chloe's first love and the man who broke her heart. Try as she might, Chloe can't ignore this blast from her past. Could now be the time for her to make a wish - and dare to believe it can come true? A charming novel for chocoholics everywhere, perfect for fans of Katie Fforde, Jill Mansell and Carole Matthews. Published by HarperCollins.

All rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

Sold Goldmann, Germany.

Pegasus Yayincilik, Turkey (via Akali)

Wedding Tiers by Trisha Ashley

Shortlisted for the Melissa Nathan Award for Comedy Romance

'Trisha Ashley writes with remarkable wit and originality - one of the best writers around!' Katie Fforde

The path of true love never runs smooth. But for some, it's one seriously bumpy ride! A heartwarming romantic comedy from the bestselling author of A WINTER'S TALE. Growing up in the beautiful Lancashire village of Neatslake, Josie Gray and her childhood sweetheart, Ben Richards, always dreamt of living a life of rural bliss. And when Josie inherits her beloved Grandmother's cottage, it seems they might just have got what they wished for. Josie throws herself into her wedding cake business, whilst Ben gains increasing acclaim as an artist. But the tranquil village turns into a hive of activity when Josie's childhood friend, Libby Martin - now a wealthy widow - returns to the village, planning a lavish wedding to rival any celeb bash. The day goes with a bang, and soon Libby and Josie are hard at work at their fledgling wedding business, hiring out Libby's beautiful Elizabethan home for ceremonies, with Josie creating all manner of wonderful cakes. But amidst all this romance, Josie's fairytale relationship with Ben turns into a nightmare, and she quickly becomes Love's number one cynic - until charming wedding photographer Noah Sephton arrives in Neatslake with a very different outlook on love! Can this hopeless romantic persuade pessimistic Josie to give romance another try? Or will it be a case of always the cake maker, never the bride!? A charming, witty and feelgood novel, ideal for fans of Katie Fforde.

UK and Commonwealth: Avon/HarperCollins July 2009
All other rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

A Reluctant Cinderella by Alison Bond

Meet Samantha Sharp. She's a sparkling star in a tough, male-dominated world. She makes heroes out of schoolboys and millions out of heroes and she's having a fabulous time. Samantha doesn't need friends or lovers, and she's learnt the hard way that love can only bring unhappiness. So when she meets someone who sends shivers down her spine, someone who might just be a little bit dangerous, is there anyone to tell her what a terrible mistake she's making. And, if her carefully hidden past makes a comeback, will her fairy-tale coach turn back into a pumpkin>

UK and Commonwealth: Penguin (July 2010)
All other rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

Hungry Ghosts by Anne Berry

SHORTLISTED FOR THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH WRITERS' PRIZE and THE DESMOND ELLIOTT PRIZE

Anne Berry's debut novel was acquired by Patrick Janson-Smith for his inaugural list at Blue Door, the new HarperCollins imprint. This is a novel for those who loved *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*, *The Poisonwood Bible* and *The Lovely Bones*. Raped then murdered in Japanese-occupied Hong Kong in 1942, Lin Shui's 'Hungry Ghost' clings tenaciously to life. Holing up in a hospital morgue, which is destined to become a school, just in time she finds a host off whom to feed. It is twelve-year-old Alice Safford, the deeply-troubled daughter of a leading figure in government. The parasitic ghost follows her to her home on the Peak. There, the lethal mix of the two, embroiled in the family's web of dark secrets and desperate lies, unleashes chaos. All this unfolds against a background of colonial unrest, riots, extremes of weather and the countdown to the return of the colony to China. As successive tragedies engulf Alice, her ghostly entourage swells alarmingly. She flees to England, then France, in a bid to escape the past, only to find her portable 'Hungry Ghosts' have accompanied her. It seems the peace she longs for is to prove far more elusive than she could ever have imagined. 'The Hungry Ghosts' is a remarkable tour de force of the imagination, full of instantly memorable characters whose lives intermesh and boil over in a cauldron of domestic mayhem, unleashing unworldly spirits into the troubled air.

Published by Harper Collins 2009

Sold: Wanrong Books (China) via Grayhawk Agency

All translation rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

The Last Kestrel by Jill McGivering

"Jill McGivering has produced a deeply compassionate and thoughtful novel, written with the humanity that is a trademark of her reporting." FERGAL KEANE

Two strong women. Two cultures. One unifying cause: survival. Ellen Thomas, experienced war correspondent, returns to Afghanistan's dangerous Helmand Province on assignment, keen to find the murderer of her friend and translator, Jalil. In her search for justice in a land ravaged by death and destruction, she uncovers disturbing truths. Hasina, forced by tradition into the role of wife and mother, lives in a village which is taken by British Forces. Her only son, Aref, is

part of a network of underground fighters and she is determined to protect him, whatever the cost. Ellen and Hasina are thrown together - one fighting for survival, the other searching for truth - with devastating consequences for them both. The Last Kestrel is a deeply moving and lyrical story of disparate lives - innocent and not-so-innocent - caught up in the horrors of war. It is a book which will resonate with fans of The Kite Runner and The Bookseller of Kabul.

HarperCollins (World English Language rights): August 2010

All other rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

The Camp by Jill Mcgivering
India, refugees, set on border with Pakistan

Dying in the Wool by Frances Brody: A Kate Shackleton Mystery

"If you like Ann Granger, you'll love Frances Brody".

Take one quiet country village, add a measure of mystery, a sprinkling of scandal and Kate Shackleton - amateur detective extraordinaire! Bridgestead is a quiet village, pretty and remote, nothing exceptional happens, except for the day when Joshua Braithwaite, goes missing in dramatic circumstances, never to be heard of again. When Joshua's daughter calls on Kate Shackleton for help, she can't resist the challenge - she's always loved solving puzzles. So who better to get to the bottom of Joshua's mysterious disappearance? But as Kate taps into the lives of the Bridgestead dwellers, she opens cracks that some would kill to keep closed ...

A sequel to **Dying in the Wool** entitled **A Medal for Murder** is scheduled for publication in October 2010.

Frances Brody is a pseudonym for Frances McNeil, scriptwriter, playwright, author of four novels and winner of the Elizabeth Elgin Award for best new saga of the millennium. Her stage plays have been toured by several theatre companies with *Jehad* nominated for a Time Out Award.

UK and Commonwealth: Piatkus

All other rights: Luxton Harris

December by James Steel

Review

'If you like TV series like Spooks and 24, you'll love this!' Closer

Product Description

A new Cold War has hit Europe...In the coldest winter in living memory, Russia turns off the gas to Britain. Embittered mercenary Alex Devereux has the fate of Europe in his hands. Under secret instructions from the British government, Alex finds himself at the heart of a plot to overthrow a new Russian dictator, Viktor Krymov. Alex must attack the Siberian prison camp where former Russian football captain Roman Raskolnikov is being held. Roman is the solitary hope of bringing down the regime. But only if Alex gets to him in time! Working with an unstable Russian oligarch and his former lover, Lara, Alex races against the clock towards a violent showdown in Moscow - with the highest imaginable stakes. Combining action, history and political intrigue, Steel creates a truly epic modern thriller. For anyone who's a fan of Robert Harris, Frederick Forsyth or Alistair MacLean, December is a must read.

Published by Avon/HarperCollins November 2009
Sold Japan
All other rights: Luxton Harris on behalf of Judith Murdoch

Jail Bird by Jessie Keane

"Martina Cole fans will love her" CLOSER

Murder, loyalty and vengeance collide in Jessie Keane's gritty fourth novel. Blonde and beautiful Lily King is back on the scene - and not in a good way. Her family haven't missed her. Her husband, London villain Leo King, certainly hasn't, because he's dead. Lily killed him and did time for it. At least, that's the story. Everyone believes it. But Lily knows it's not true. She knows she was fitted up by someone close to her. Now, she's just hit thirty, she's out, and she doesn't do forgiveness. But in her absence, things have moved on, the old order has changed, and now she's ready to reclaim her position as head of the King family. Fuelled by vengeance and power, Lily King is back. London won't know what hit it.

Jessie Keane is the bestselling author of four titles published by HarperCollins: **Dirty Game** (September 2008), **Black Widow** (May 2009), **Scarlet Woman** (October 2009) and **Jail Bird** (June 2010).

UK and Commonwealth: HarperCollins UK
Sold to Payot France
All other rights: Luxton Harris Ltd

Sunshine State by James Miller

Set in a world ravaged by global warming and religious extremism, **SUNSHINE STATE** is an apocalyptic literary thriller by the acclaimed author of **LOST BOYS**.

Mark Burrows is an "invisible man", a British secret agent adept at moving undetected through the most hostile environments. Summoned for one last mission, he must make contact with Charlie Ashe, his fearsome former colleague and brother-in-law. Ten years ago the two men worked undercover in Iraq, sowing bloody mayhem with bombings and assassinations. As the new world order he worked for begins to disintegrate, Burrows now faces a terrible reckoning with his past.

Ashe, a master of guerrilla warfare, has reappeared with a new name and a terrifying new agenda in the Storm Zone, a mysterious region racked by devastating hurricanes and inhabited by dangerous cults, criminal gangs and insurgent armies. Haunted by memories of past missions, alone and unable to trust anyone, Burrows embarks on a terrifying journey into a new heart of darkness.

The mission will force Burrows to question his loyalties and understand that the greatest danger lies not with his target but with the forces that seek control of the world around him.

Brilliantly fusing elements of spy thriller, science fiction and mythical quest, **SUNSHINE STATE** is a visionary assault on the most pressing problems of our time by one of the most original new voices in fiction.

UK/Commonwealth: **Little Brown (pub August 2010)**

US and Translation: Luxton Harris Ltd

Venom by Joan Brady

Joan Brady's second novel for Simon and Schuster, *Venom*, is a page-turning thriller. Hugh Freyl, the scion of the richest and most influential family in Springfield, Illinois, is found beaten to death in the library of his own law firm. The suspect – one of Freyl own clients. David Marion is a convicted killer who Freyl always believed to be innocent and it was this belief that led to Marion's early release on parole. Was Freyl's belief misplaced? As Marion struggles to prove his innocence, the reader must guess at the truth in a world that Brady paints as dark and deceptive. A page turning read confirming Brady as one of our great thriller writers.

Brady was born in California and danced with New York City Ballet when she was in her twenties. Brady now lives in England where she is an author of short stories; articles; reviews; a highly acclaimed autobiography, *The Unmaking of a Dancer*, and a novel, *Theory of War*, for which she became the first woman (and first American) to win the Whitbread Book of the Year Award in 1993. She is also the author of the best-selling novel, *The Émigré*, and *Death Comes for Peter Pan*, a fictionalized account of an American medical scandal, both published in the U.K. In 2001, she represented England at the Centenary of the Nobel Peace Prize. Brady published her first book with Simon & Schuster in 2005, titled *Bleedout*.

UK and Commonwealth: Simon and Schuster March 2010, trade pb.
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