

PRESS RELEASE – 5th October 2016

Jessica Craig launches her own international literary agency

Jessica Craig has founded her own agency, Craig Literary. She will remain based primarily in Barcelona, well-placed to visit London as well as publishers and literary festivals across Europe, and she will also spend a few months a year in the US. Craig's career in international publishing spans twenty years: from New York (1994-2005) to the United Kingdom (2005-2014) and Barcelona (2014-2016). At United Agents, London, where she worked for seven years, she was a founding agent and the first foreign rights director. Craig won an international reputation for securing multiple translations for the agency's wide range of fiction and non-fiction authors, such as Eleanor Catton, Erin Kelly, Jane Casey, and Ben Goldacre in the decisive early stages of their writing careers. She also expanded the international reach of bestselling British writers such as Alan Bennett, Alain de Botton, Danny Wallace and Christopher Brookmyre. In 2014 Craig joined the Pontas Agency in Barcelona (<u>http://www.thebookseller.com/news/craig-moves-barcelonas-pontas</u>) to grow as a primary agent representing international novelists as well as handling UK/US deals for Pontas authors including Milena Busquets and Eka Kurniawan.

Among Craig's first clients are Nigerian Chigozie Obioma whose debut *The Fishermen* was a 2015 Man Booker Finalist and has translation rights sold in twenty-six languages; and Chinese-American Jack Cheng whose novel *See You In the Cosmos, Carl Sagan* will be a lead middle-grade debut in 2017 for Puffin in the UK and Dial Books for Young Readers in the USA, and translation rights are sold in twenty languages.

Craig says "I've learned something valuable from every author, every book, every submission, and every negotiation no matter how big or small, and I am grateful to each author, agent, editor, and scout who has encouraged me along my journey, and especially to those who have inspired me to now set up my own agency. As an agent with a presence in both Europe and in the US, I am solidly positioned to be a reliable champion for authors in a changing world, and to expertly represent authors whose writing excites readers across countries and cultures."

More information about Craig Literary and submission guidelines can be found on the agency's website: <u>www.craigliterary.com</u>

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