

NO 'TIME FOR BOOKS?



FOREIGN RIGHTS CATALOGUE 2023

MONOKEL



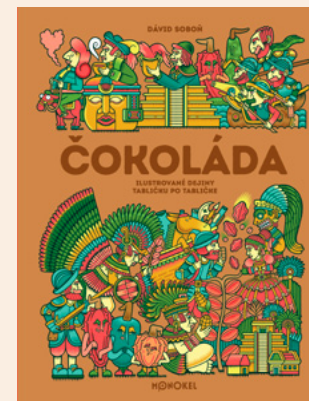
COFFEE – – AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY, SIP BY SIP

Did you know that the first coffee lovers probably lived in the prehistoric era? That Sufi monks used the stimulating effects of coffee for demanding religious rites? That some people tried to ban coffee when it arrived in Europe and the Pope even called it the “devil’s bitter invention”? And that its popularity in the United States started, paradoxically, with tea? Welcome to the fascinating world of coffee – a drink without which many people today would be unable to get out of bed. A cup of the black liquid is the obvious start to the day for many of us. And yet, before this well-loved drink reached our breakfast tables, it had to take an incredible journey across continents, and indeed history. Illustrator Dávid Soboň has mapped this fascinating and convoluted journey and created a picture book that is the ideal (and funny) companion to a cup of the hot beverage. Because every sip of coffee is fuller-bodied and more delicious when you know its story!



DÁVID SOBOŇ

studied visual communication and illustration at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava. In the “Illustrated history” series, featuring chocolate, coffee and sushi, he has combined his two passions – picture books and gastronomy. In addition to books, his distinctive visual style can also be seen in magazines and computer games.



Chocolate – an illustrated history, bar by bar (autumn 2023)



Sushi – an illustrated history, bite by bite (2024)



A YEAR OF GOOD NEWS

We've got good news for you! Who wouldn't like to hear this, especially at times when it feels as if reasons to be happy are becoming quite rare? Even though it may seem that way, good news has not actually disappeared from the media, you just need to try a bit harder to find it. The illustrator and animated filmmaker Martin Smatana has saved you the trouble, collecting a second helping of 52 good news stories from around the globe. And to reinforce their positive message, he has crafted cheerful pictures out of used textiles to go with the stories. We hope that these real stories will now also appeal to you, inspire you and cheer you up.

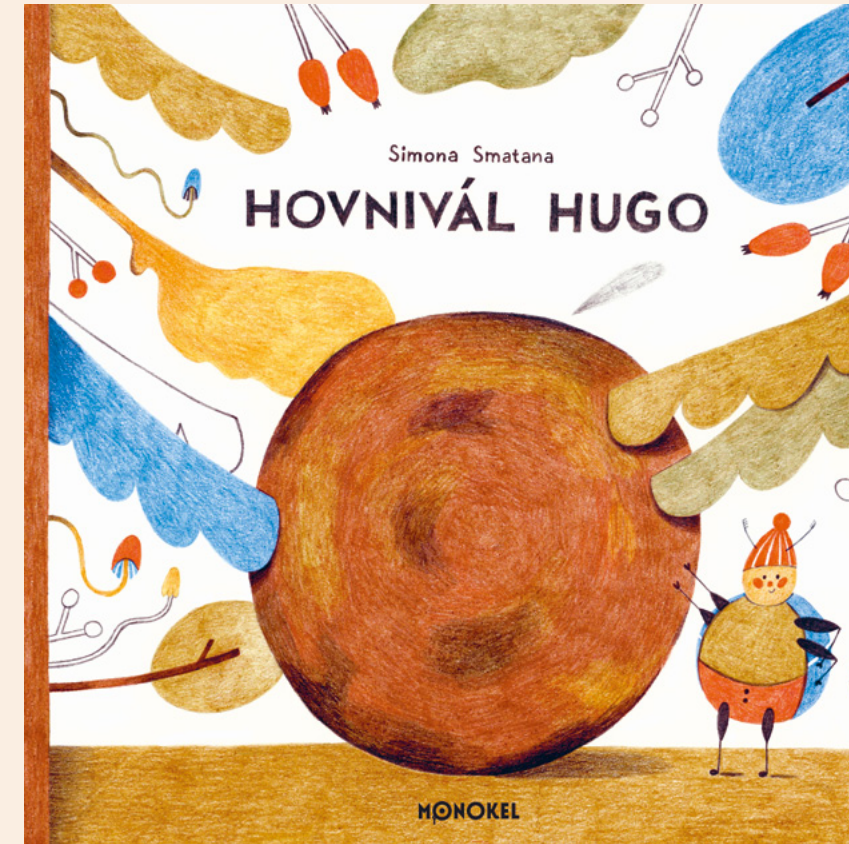


MARTIN SMATANA

is graduated in Animation from the FAMU Film School in Prague. His most recent animated short movie, *The Kite*, premiered at Berlinale in 2019, has won 65 international awards so far, and was selected for the semi-finals of the Student Oscar Academy Awards. The film was also included in MoMA's Film Collection. When illustrating books, especially in the *A Year of Good News* series, Martin likes to work with recycled textiles, as he does in film.



A Year of Good News (2021)



HUGO THE DUNG-BEETLE

What do you know about dung-beetles? They are the beetles that push along a ball made from the poo of other animals. But one dung-ball isn't enough for Hugo the dung-beetle – he wants as many as possible! He stores them all around the forest and doesn't talk to anyone. But what happens when all his treasures dissolve in a few seconds right before his eyes? Hugo the dung-beetle is a story about greed, the strength of friendship and what actually makes us happy, even when everything else is crap!



SIMONA SMAT'ANA

is an illustrator, picture-book maker and beekeeper based in Trnava, Slovakia. She studied advertising design at University of Bedfordshire in England and international marketing at Edinburgh Napier University in Scotland. Books from Simona's beloved animal stories series, including titles such as Joey the Beekeeper and Frankie from the Compost Heap, have been translated into 12 languages so far.



Joey the Beekeeper (2019)



Frankie from the Compost Heap (2020)



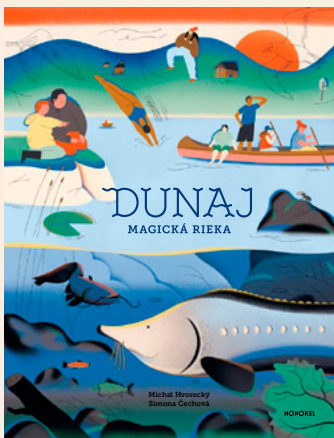
Elise is Not a Monster (2021)



THE JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF THE DRAGON

Patrik Orišek, illustrated by Han Donau

Experience an incredible adventure from the time when the world was an unknown, magical place. The story of explorer Marco Polo and his expedition to the distant lands of the Orient has fascinated and inspired us for more than seven centuries, and it needs to be told over and over again.



DANUBE - THE MAGIC RIVER

Michal Hvorecký, illustrated by Simona Smatana

Let's dive into a magic river filled with stories! Let's swim down the Danube, from the Black Forest to the Black Sea with the legendary beluga sturgeon, the largest fish in the river as our guide. She will tell us everything she knows. Let's get to know the Danube and protect it so that it doesn't remain just a fairytale.



BENO

Terézia Lomnická

What would your dog look like if you could dream it up? Would it be as big as your child's room? Or small enough to fit in the palm of your hand? And what if it was so fluffy that all your friends could hide inside it? Spark your imagination and dream up a dog that's almost as perfect as the one you have at home.



Monokel is an independent publisher of illustrated books and comics based in Bratislava, Slovakia. We have been creating tools for developing creativity, the imagination, and interest in the world around us since 2018.

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