# Penguin reissues '60s classic

**Benedicte Page** 

Penguin Classics is to reissue a novel from the 1960s that was fêted by Michael Frayn and Margaret Drabble, but has been out of print for 20 years following a rights dispute.

*In Praise of Older Women* by Hungarian emigré Stephen Vizinczey has a highly unusual publishing history.

The début novel—a coming-of-age tale about a young man's sexual education following his departure from

Hungary in 1956—was originally self-published in 1965 when the author was a writer and producer working for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. It went on to become the first and only self-published novel to top the bestseller lists in Canadian literary history.

The book was subsequently published in the US and in the UK, where Pan brought out a paperback in 1968. Around 600,000 copies were sold, with rave reviews coming from the likes of Drabble and Frayn.

But Vizinczey's relationship with his US publisher Ian Ballantine, who had acquired world rights, turned sour. Vizinczey's second novel



the 1960s

An Innocent Millionaire, described by Victoria Glendenning as "a crescendo of treachery and exploitation", features a rapacious New York agent named Vallantine.

The author regained the rights more than 15 years later, and became wary of selling them again. *In Praise of Older Women* went out of print in the UK, even though Vizinczey has lived in London since 1966.

In 2001, the book received its first French publication, getting excellent

reviews and staying on the bestseller lists for 72 weeks. It has now sold more than five million copies worldwide, according to Penguin, as well as being filmed twice; one version starred Faye Dunaway, and a Canadian version starred Tom Berenger.

Penguin Classics publisher Adam Freudenheim said he had acquired rights to the novel directly from Vizinczey. Publication in March 2011 will be accompanied by an advertising campaign.

"It is such a famous title, people have heard of it, but a lot of younger people haven't read it. It has the potential to run and run," he said.



Rings of fire: Pictures of the world's most dramatic volcanic landscapes have been collected in a new book by Phaidon. *Earth on Fire* by aerial photographer Bernhard Edmaier will be published in hardback in October, priced £35. The book looks at how volcanoes shaped the world that we live in and collects 200 of Edmaier's photos. Pictured is Mt Nyamuragira in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The 10,000ft-high volcano last erupted in 2006.

# Poet Laureate gets festive with new collection

Poet Laureate Carol Anne Duffy has teamed up with Candlestick Press to bring seasonal poems to readers across the country this Christmas. Duffy has selected 12 poems to feature in *The Twelve Poems of Christmas*, the latest in the publisher's range of "Instead of a Card" poetry pamphlets.

Candlestick Press will publish the pamphlet, complete with a match-

ing envelope and bookmark "left blank for your message" in September, priced £4.95, as an alternative to Christmas cards.

The pamphlet will contain an introduction from Duffy and 12 Christmas-themed poems, one for each day of the festive period. American poet Langston Hughes is one of the poets featured with "Carol of the Brown King", along with the 19th-century English poet Leigh Hunt



with "Christmas". The Poet Laureate has described it as "an innovative and fabulous way to deliver poetry."

Jenny Swann, publisher at Candlestick Press, said: "Instead of giving each other yet another tasteful but throwaway card, we want to encourage people to give each other poetry pamphlets. We want to bring poetry back into everyday life, and we think Carol Anne Duffy's selections will certainly

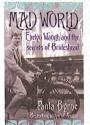
do that.

"The pamphlet can be slipped in the post, given to friends and family or left to poke enticingly out of a Christmas stocking," she added.

Candlestick Press was set up in 2008 with the hope of increasing the popularity of poetry. Earlier this year, it published the *Ten Poems About Bicycles* poetry pamphlet, which was the UK's first collection of poems dedicated to bicycles.

## Coming next week

#### THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST



Paula Byrne

Mad World: Evelyn Waugh and the Secrets of Brideshead HarperPress, £20, hb, 9780007243761

**Publicity:** 

 Author PR: Edinburgh International Book Festiva (27th Aug), Cotswold

House Hotel Literary Lunch, Chipping Campden (24th Sept), Brendon Books, Taunton (25th Sept

- Excerpt: Sunday Times News Review
  (9th Aug)
  Author feature: Sunday Telegraph Stella
- Author feature: Sunday Telegraph Stella magazine
  Producest interview BBC Bodio 4 "Operation of the sunday Interview BBC Bodio 4"Operation of the sunday
- Broadcast interview: BBC Radio 4 "Open Book" (23rd and 27th Aug)



### Max Pemberton

Where Does It Hurt? Hodder, £12.99, tpb, 9780340919927

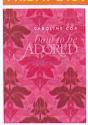
**Publicity:** 

- Serialisation: 1st serial national Sunday paper (9th Aug), 2nd serial Telegraph (17th Aug)
- Broadcast interviews: BBC1 "Breakfast" (1st

Aug), BBC Radio 4 "Today" (1st Aug), BBC1 "The Andrew Marr Show" (16th Aug), BBC Radio 5 "Simon Mayo" (20th Aug), BBC Radio 4 "Broadcasting House" (30th Aug)

Author article: Evening Standard (18th Aug

#### **FRIDAY 21ST AUGUST**



**Caroline Cox** 

How to be Adored Quadrille, £12.99, hb, 9781844007394

**Publicity:** 

- Serialisation: Mail on Sunday You magazine (16th Aug)
- Broadcast interviews: BBC Radio 4 "Woman's

Hour" (29th Jul), Talk Radio Europe (18th Sept BBC Radio Solent "Charlie Crocker Show" (10th Sept), BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester (10th Sept)

 Print interviews: Scotland on Sunday Spectrum magazine (Aug), Observer Woman magazine (Sept), She (Oct issue),

 Print reviews: Sun, NoW Fabulous, Glamou Sainsbury's magazine

 Print competition: win a copy in Woman magazine (18th Aug)

Marketing:

Online: www.waterstones.com loyalty card holder competition to win Vidal Sasson haircut and colour (28th Jul to 31st Aug), ww borders.co.uk competition to win Topshop voucher worth £200 (17th Aug to 30th Sept)

#### Out this week

For comprehensive details of the thousands of new titles released this week, go to www.thebookseller.com/pow