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THE LITERARY & TALENT AGENCY

David Szalay

Writer - Fiction

David Szalay was born in Montreal in 1974, moved to the UK the following year and has lived here ever since. He went to Oxford University and has written a number of radio dramas for the BBC. He won the Betty Trask Prize for his first novel LONDON AND THE SOUTH-EAST (2008, Jonathan Cape), along with the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize. His second and third novels, THE INNOCENT (2009) and SPRING (2011) were also published by Jonathan Cape. He was recently named one of the *Telegraph*'s 'Top 20 British Writers under 40', a *Granta* Best of Young British Novelist in 2013, and in early 2016 he won the Plimpton Prize for Fiction, awarded by the *Paris Review* for an outstanding contribution to the magazine.

His most recent novel, ALL THAT MAN IS, was published by Jonathan Cape in April 2016. It was shortlisted for the 2016 Man Booker Prize and won the 2016 Gordon Burn Prize, and the novel was selected as a Book of the Year by the *Guardian, Telegraph, New Statesman, TLS, Financial Times, The New York Times, The Paris Review, Harper's Bazaar, NPR* and *BBC Culture,* among others. In late 2016, David was awarded a Travel Scholarship from the Society of Authors.

His new book of stories, TURBULENCE, will be published by Jonathan Cape in December 2018

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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes

TURBULENCE 2018 Jonathan Cape	Twelve people on the move around planet Earth, twelve individual lives, each in turmoil, and each in some way touching the next. In this nuanced and deeply moving sequence, David Szalay's diverse protagonists circumnavigate the world in twelve plane journeys, from London to Madrid, from Dakar to Sao Paulo, to Toronto, to Delhi, to Doha, en route to see lovers and parents, children and siblings, or nobody at all. Along the way, Szalay deftly depicts the ripple effect that, knowingly or otherwise, a person's actions have on those around them, and invites us to consider our own place in the vast and delicately balanced network of human relationships that is the world we live in today.
ALL THAT MAN IS 2016 Jonathan Cape	Nine men. Each of them at a different stage of life, each of them away from home, and each of them striving – in the suburbs of Prague, beside a Belgian motorway, in a cheap Cypriot hotel – to understand just what it means to be alive, here and now. Tracing an arc from the spring of youth to the winter of old age, All That Man Is brings these separate lives together to show us men as they are – ludicrous and inarticulate, shocking and despicable; vital, pitiable, hilarious, and full of heartfelt longing. As the men get older, the stakes become bewilderingly high in this piercing portrayal of 21st-century manhood.
SPRING 2011 Jonathan Cape	James and Katherine meet at a wedding in London. It is January 2006, towards the end of the money-for-nothing years, and James is a man with a varied past – entrepreneur, estate agent, film producer, horse-racing tipster, former dot com millionaire – now living alone in a flat in Bloomsbury. Separated from her husband, a successful paparazzo, Katherine is working at an interim job in a luxury hotel. Taken with each other, they exchange phone numbers at the wedding, but from then on not much goes according to the script. Narrated from several different perspectives, Spring is a kaleidoscopic and complex portrait of a relationship, of contemporary England, and of the ebb and flow of money. Instantly recognisable and unbearably real, it is a love story unlike any you will have read.
THE INNOCENT 2009 Jonathan Cape	Aleksandr, a major in the MGB – forerunner of the KGB, is sent to an isolated psychiatric clinic in the Ural mountains to investigate a severely incapacitated veteran of the Second World War. THE INNOCENT takes us on a journey into Communist Russia, bringing alive the intensely personal consequences of a regime, and showing the power of institutions and ideologies to define a life.
LONDON AND THE SOUTH-EAST 2008 Jonathan Cape	This bleakly funny debut novel introduces us to Paul and his tragicomic commuter life between a dead-end telesales job and the grey monotony of suburbia. Winner of the Betty Trask Prize (2008).