



Sean McDonald to Head New Imprint at FSG

Farrar, Straus and Giroux announces the creation of MCD/FSG, a new imprint at FSG spearheaded by Sean McDonald, who has been appointed Publisher.

The goal of MCD/FSG is to create a space to publish work and experiment with publishing styles, forms, and genres that are at the edges of FSG's traditions and/or are new enough to have no tradition-publishing in new formats and exploring new perspectives on literary publishing. "When Jonathan suggested this-to create what he called a kind of lab in which we could find new ways to grow our business, and to grow the range of how and what FSG publishes-it felt like a dream come true: to get to build a team and try something new, but still work with my colleagues here, who I already know to be scary smart, impassioned, and inspiring. I can't imagine a better set-up," says McDonald.

Joining him as Executive Editor, MCD/FSG, is Daphne Durham. Durham spent fifteen years diving into all aspects of the book business at Amazon.com, including buying, merchandising, editorial, acquisitions, and publishing. During her tenure as Editorial Director in Books, her team developed and curated the Best Books programs and launched the blog *Omnivoracious*. In her roles as Editor-in-Chief and Publisher for Amazon Publishing, she launched and managed acquisitions and created Amazon's first digital literary journal, *Day One*. According to McDonald, "Daphne has long been one of my favorite people in publishing. Our sensibilities are similar but our experiences and points of view are so different-complementary, I think, in a way that will be energizing and productive." Durham will work from Seattle.

"I'm also excited to dig deeper into my collaborations with all my colleagues at FSG, and especially with FSG's Creative Director, Rodrigo Corral-I often think of my career as a long collaboration with Rodrigo, beginning fifteen years ago now at Doubleday. MCD comes from my name, but I like to imagine that Corral is the 'C' and Durham the 'D' and that this whole endeavor is going to be about creative teamwork."

McDonald will remain Vice President and Director of Digital and Paperback Publishing at FSG and will continue as Publisher of FSG Originals, the paperback original publishing line he and Emily Bell launched in 2011. Bell, now Senior Editor, FSG, will take on the additional role of Director, FSG Originals.

In his six years at FSG as VP and Executive Editor, McDonald has edited such bestselling and acclaimed books as Sloane Crosley's *The Clasp*, John Darnielle's *Wolf in White Van*, Nicola Griffith's *Hild*, Aleksandar Hemon's *Book of My Lives* and *The Making of Zombie Wars*, Richard Lloyd Parry's *People Who Eat Darkness*, Robin Sloan's *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*, John Jeremiah Sullivan's *Pulphhead*, Héctor Tobar's *Barbarian Nurseries* and *Deep Down Dark*, Ellen Ullman's *By Blood*, and Jeff VanderMeer's *Annihilation*, *Acceptance*, and *Authority*. Prior to FSG, McDonald was VP, Executive Editor, and Online Creative Director at Riverhead Books, where he worked with authors such as Junot Díaz, Nuruddin Farah, James Frey, Gorillaz, John Hodgman, Marlon James, Steven Johnson, Walter Mosley, Tyler Perry, The RZA, and George Saunders, along with many of the writers

he continues to work with at FSG. Before Riverhead, McDonald spent formative spells at Nan A. Talese/Doubleday and Arcade Publishing.

Jonathan Galassi, FSG's President and Publisher, called McDonald "one of the most inventive, intuitive, and adventurous publishers of his generation" and said, "I expect MCD/FSG will bring a fresh spirit and a new kind of creativity to the house."

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