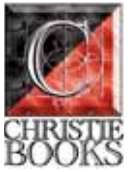




Las Crónicas de Farquhar McHarg



¡Pistoleros! 3: 1920-1924



Las *Crónicas* de Farquhar constituyen una historia popular que nos acerca a los cambios que sacudieron el panorama político y social de España (y del mundo) entre 1918 y 1977, enmarcada en la vida de un activista que vive estos años de forma especialmente intensa. Es una historia incómoda, pero fascinante, que explica el espíritu y la Idea que movieron a las abnegadas, generosas, en ocasiones pecando de inocencia, y temerariamente idealistas, gentes que se involucraron en las amargas luchas sociales que marcaron el febril período insurreccional y utópico posterior a la gran guerra imperialista de 1914-1918.

Este tercer volumen del diario de Farquhar McHarg se centra en las extraordinarias aventuras del anarquista oriundo de Glasgow en los años 1920-1924 como miembro de los grupos de acción 'Los Justicieros', 'Crisol', 'Los Solidarios' y de los cuadros armados clandestinos de defensa de la CNT. Sus militantes se enfrentan a la calculada violencia exterminadora de los servicios de seguridad de un sanguinario estado semi-feudal, y a la de los asesinos a sueldo de los grandes terratenientes y de una burguesía industrial y comercial no menos salvaje.

Las *Crónicas* de Farquhar nos conducen también a través de una narración paralela de complot y contra-complot, abarcando de 1936 hasta 1976, en la que se exploran los entresijos de la muerte del camarada de Farquhar, el famoso falsificador y facilitador anarquista Laureano Cerrada Santos, y los subsecuentes intentos de asesinar al propio ya septuagenario Farquhar. Se trata del relato dramático y absorbente del esfuerzo del hombre de Govan para desenmascarar la identidad de un irreductible traidor dentro de la organización anarcosindicalista española en el exilio, la CNT-MLE (Movimiento Libertario Español): un confidente conocido solo por su apodo: 'El Cura'.

La historia se desarrolla en el marco de las intrigas de los servicios de espionaje españoles y de otros países occidentales obsesionados con la idea que la España post-franquista pudiera volverse 'roja'. Para prevenir esta eventualidad, se infiltraron traidores espías en lo más hondo de los niveles máximos del movimiento anarcosindicalista español en el exilio. Induciendo al miedo y a la paranoia a través de sus actos de traición, su objetivo era desmoralizar, trastornar y neutralizar la eficacia de ese pequeño grupo de militantes anarquistas que había luchado sin tregua para derrocar al viejo régimen con su acción combativa, y que podrían frustrar sus planes para la España post-franquista. Entre bambalinas, también trataron de ampliar y consolidar el control delegado que fuese posible ejercer sobre la influyente organización anarcosindicalista en España y en el exterior durante esa transición, 'con tendencia a enfermar', hacia la democracia (definían al comunismo como una 'enfermedad de la transición'). Era el apogeo de la Guerra Fría y, con el dictador ya muerto, quienes fijaban la agenda geopolítica occidental necesitaban asegurar la hegemonía de la OTAN en el Mediterráneo y la continuidad de la agenda franquista (y de su élite) en un tiempo en el que creían que la sociedad española podía ser especialmente susceptible a una ruptura social por la modernización que protagonizaba.

TITLE:	¡PISTOLEROS! — 3: 1920-24 LAS CRÓNICAS DE FARQUHAR MCHARG
AUTHOR:	FARQUHAR MCHARG
ISBN-13:	ISBN 978-1-873976-50-0
PAGES:	370
SIZE:	230MM X 153MM
PUBLISHER:	CHRISTIEBOOKS
PUBLISHED:	01 JANUARY, 2012
BINDING:	PAPERBACK
PRICE:	£12.95 (+ £3.00 P+P UK)
EDITION:	PAPERBACK
MARKET:	FICTION



Available from ChristieBooks: PO Box 35, Hastings, East Sussex, T4341ZS
 &15.95 inc. p+p (cash. cheque or Paypal to: christie@btclick.com)

<http://www.christiebooks.com/ChristieBooksWP/>

What they've said so far...

"Having known Farquhar McHarg in his prime, and despaired of him ever putting down on paper his extraordinary experiences, I am delighted that he has finally done so. Glasgow's answer to Victor Serge has produced a document of remarkable value, so grippingly written that one might almost think it was a novel."

Professor Paul Preston, historian, Hispanist and Principe de Asturias Professor of Contemporary Spanish Studies, LSE

"Written with tremendous brio, this is a passionate and gripping tale of an idealist's 'coming of age'. McHarg's gripping narrative convincingly taps the rich historical seams of intrigue, protest and conflict of an age in which many of the streets of Barcelona, like those of many other European cities, became stained with blood due to the struggle between the defenders of the established order and those who dreamed of overthrowing it."

Dr Chris Ealham, historian, Hispanist and author of Class, Culture and Conflict in Barcelona 1898-1937

"The first volume of memoirs from Farquhar McHarg, is a highly charged narrative that fires from the hip in its scattergun treatment of revolutionary politics. It made me think of Marx's Herr Vogt meets Roddy Doyle's *A Star Called Henry*. Punchy as a bare-knuckle boxer, the writing in this vivid 'red noir' captures the craziness and complexity of the period, as well as exploring the big issues of commitment, faith and violence. In its heady brew of poetry and polemics and its dynamic depiction of the anarchist version of revolution it also does what it says in the title, and offers an explosive account that is as anarchic as the worldview it espouses. A book you'd want to carry in your bandolier!"

Professor Willy Maley, Professor of Renaissance Studies, University of Glasgow

"A fact-packed history of anarchist struggle against the Spanish Catholic Church and state written by a Glaswegian whose revolutionary syndicalism is felt to be partly the inheritance of 'the Presbyterian and Covenanting tradition' in which he was brought up. As such this instructive and entertaining memoir is not only both a kind of retrospective 'prequel' to the story and ideas of Stuart Christie's excellent *Granny Made me an Anarchist*, but its Scottish antecedents also take in not only the anarchism of Guy Aldred, but the polemical and committed covenanting history of John Galt's great novel *Ringan Gilhaize!*"

Tom Leonard, poet, professor and author of outside the narrative. Poems 1965-2009

"...A rare plunge into the dark whirlpool of politics, passion and intrigue that swirled around the docks, bars and tenements of Barcelona in 1918. B. Traven would be envious of McHarg's skill in re-creating the dangers and treachery of the times with such historical accuracy. The story is a fascinating *bildungsroman*; a young Scots seaman has hardly set foot on shore before he is caught up in the maelstrom. Chance encounters with charismatic characters of Barcelona's anarchist movement combined with tests of his resolve bring about the dawning of his own political consciousness and commitment. It is above all a richly-textured adventure story, refreshing in its humour and in its illuminating depiction of life in a period and place that will be unfamiliar to many readers of British fiction. *Pistoleros!* is a crack shot that rings out to remind us of times that were less bland!"

Pauline Melville, writer, actress and author of Shape-Shifter, The Ventriloquist's Tale, The Migration of Ghosts and Eating Air

