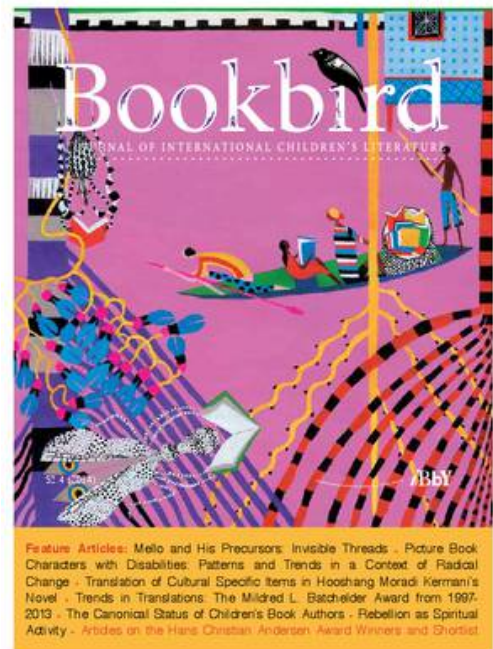


Dear *Bookbird* Friends,

I hope that you have all received *Bookbird* 52.3, the special issue focussing on Mexican and South American children's books, guest edited by Beatriz Alcubierre Moya. Issue 52.4 should arrive very soon, if you haven't already received it. This is a special issue which features articles on our two 2014 Hans Christian Andersen Medal winners, Nahoko Uehashi (Japan) and Roger Mello (Brazil), as well as articles about the short-listed nominees from Austria, Britain, France, Germany, Iran, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United States of America, and articles on the exciting projects from Canada and South Africa which received the 2014 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award.

I want to draw your attention to a wonderful opportunity to acquire a unique piece of art work by HCA winner, Roger Mello. This gorgeous painting graces the cover of Issue 52.4 and Roger has very generously given his original art work to *Bookbird* to be auctioned in aid of IBBY's Children in Crisis fund for Syrian children in Lebanon – a very worthy cause. Read more about the positive impact IBBY's programme is having on children in a dire situation at www.ibby.org. The poster publicising the auction can be downloaded at [Mello auction](#) at www.ibby.org, and bids can be placed at a confidential email address, BookbirdAuction@gmail.com.



Please include details of this very special auction on your IBBY websites, Facebook pages, blogs and newsletters, and anywhere else where it might get attention. As well as being a wonderful opportunity to win a piece of art work by one of the world's greatest picturebook creators, it also represents an opportunity to raise funds for children who are badly in need of support.

And please, please include details of each new issue *Bookbird* in all your communications to your section members. *Bookbird* is IBBY's journal and we want IBBY members to read it, contribute to it and to learn about IBBY activities and about children's books from around the world through its pages. Images for the Mello Auction and for *Bookbird* may be downloaded from the IBBY website; remember to include these colourful visuals on your websites and newsletters.

With my very best wishes to all IBBY sections,

Valerie Coghlan
President, *Bookbird* Inc.