

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“The Mermaid and the Messerschmitt” Nominated for Publishing Award
Finalist in 2010 Benjamin Franklin Award

LOS ANGELES, CA – *The Mermaid and the Messerschmitt: War Through a Woman’s Eyes, 1939-1940*, by Rulka Langer, ISBN 978-1-60772-000-3, published by Aquila Polonica, has been named one of three finalists for the prestigious **2010 Benjamin Franklin Award** in the category of **The Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book (Nonfiction)**.

The Mermaid is a rare eyewitness account of the early, chaotic days of World War II – the Nazi German invasion of Poland, the Siege of Warsaw and the first few months of the Nazi German occupation – written by a young Polish career woman and mother. This new edition includes more than 100 historical photographs, maps and illustrations (many never before published) and other supplemental material not included in the original 1942 edition.

Bestselling author Alan Furst (*The Foreign Correspondent* and *The Spies of Warsaw*) calls it “absolutely one of the best eyewitness accounts of WWII Poland that I ever read.”

The winners in all categories of the Benjamin Franklin Awards will be announced May 24 at an awards gala in New York City hosted by the Independent Book Publishers Association prior to the BookExpo America trade show.

A panel of 150 judges from throughout the publishing industry evaluated more than 1,300 submissions in 50 categories to choose the three finalists for each category.

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