

»» WALLSTEIN

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About Wallstein



Wallstein Publishing was founded in 1986. A major event in the development of the publishing house was the huge success of Ruth Klüger's biography »weiter leben – Eine Jugend« (Still alive) in 1992. Partly due to its high literary quality, this book is one of the most-read literary works written in German on the subject of the holocaust, and has become a »classic of holocaust literature«.

Wallstein continues to add approximately 200 books per year to its list, with an annual turnover of approximately three million euros.

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»Don't you also wish you cared less about yourself?«

Julia Friese

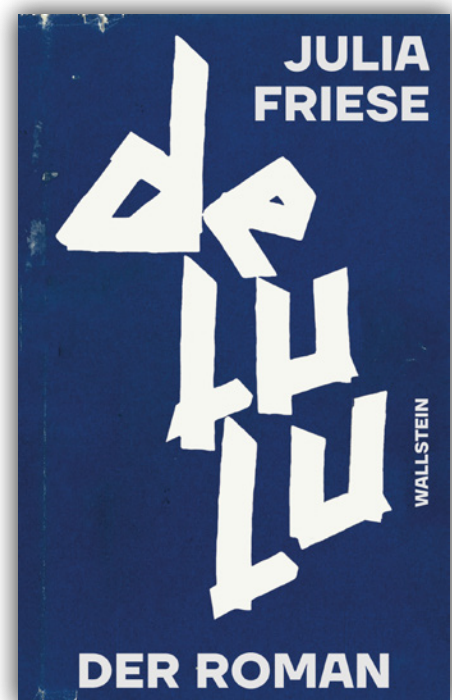
delulu

Novel

Res always believed that she was someone special – just like her idol Frances Scott. But on the very day she is set to meet her favourite pop artist of all time, her life comes to an abrupt end. Her life passes her by on the backdrop of films, music and advertising from the time of the turn of the millennium. And through this we are immersed in the subconscious of Western popular culture. An existence of constant stimulation is expected here as a matter of course, leading to a grandiose end – which must never be reached. Res finally meets Frances in delirium: in lofts and restaurants, at tennis matches and big gigs. It is the last glimmer of a dream from a time when pop seemed to be apolitical and sold nothing but hedonism. Neither Res, who describes the dream, nor Frances, who sells the dream, determine the rules of this game. They strive to become a product and a brand. But why? In a playful style, »delulu« explores the contemporary desire to be seen.

Everything is connected in this delicately arranged novel, which is definitely as colourful and entertaining as a toy.

Julia Friese, born in 1985, lives in Berlin, works as a writer and cultural journalist, publishes in literary magazines and anthologies. Most recently, »life starts after breakfast« was published in »die horen« and »dreams« in the anthology »Und ich –« at Ullstein. Her much-discussed debut »MTTR« was published by Wallstein Verlag in 2022 and was nominated for the ›Clemens Brentano Preis‹. For »delulu«, she was awarded a work grant from the German Literature Fund.



Julia Friese
delulu
Novel

247 pages



A man searching for the meaning of life – a touching literary ›road movie‹

Ulf Erdmann Ziegler

No Turning Back

Novel

A. W. Mumme, a well-known radio essayist, receives a letter from pension insurance and begins to question himself: is a pension of 1,183 euros all he has left after a long working life? A literary agent's idea to write a popular autobiography appears just at the right time. Mumme uses a generous advance to buy a ›retro motorbike‹. He sets off on a journey from Berlin via Leipzig and Paris to the Côte d'Azur, where, in an hour of inner paralysis, his concept of meaning – regarding life and society – shatters. There is no turning back. In this novel Mumme's life is reflected in the presented self-images of the protagonist: the rootless child of a hippie mother; a young man in a gloomy city of intellectual movements called West Berlin; a glamorous media man at the side of a no less glamorous woman; a friend of a dandy artist – a decades-long friendship that does not survive the political strains of a pandemic. The notion that really haunts Mumme is the stereotype of the ›old white man‹ (German: ›alter weißer Mann‹), which he definitely doesn't want to be – but whose abbreviation, AWM, can be found in his name.

Ulf Erdmann Ziegler tells the story of a man searching for the meaning of his past – as well as for the purpose of his future – in a humorous, melancholic and moving manner.

Ulf Erdmann Ziegler, born in 1959, studied photography in Dortmund and later literature and psychology in Berlin. His first novel, ›Hamburger Hochbahn‹, focussed on architecture, ›Nichts Weißes‹ on typography and ›Und jetzt du, Orlando!‹ on the cinema. ›Nichts Weißes‹ was short-listed for ›Deutscher Buchpreis‹. He was awarded the ›Hebbel-Preis‹ for his first two books published by Wallstein. In addition to literature, Ziegler writes essays, art criticism and occasional obituaries for taz, Deutschlandfunk and Monopol. ›No Turning Back‹ is his fifth novel.



Ulf Erdmann Ziegler
No Turning Back
Novel

216 pages



An autobiographical story by the unjustly forgotten, brilliant Swiss storyteller Walter Vogt – unpublished to date

Walter Vogt

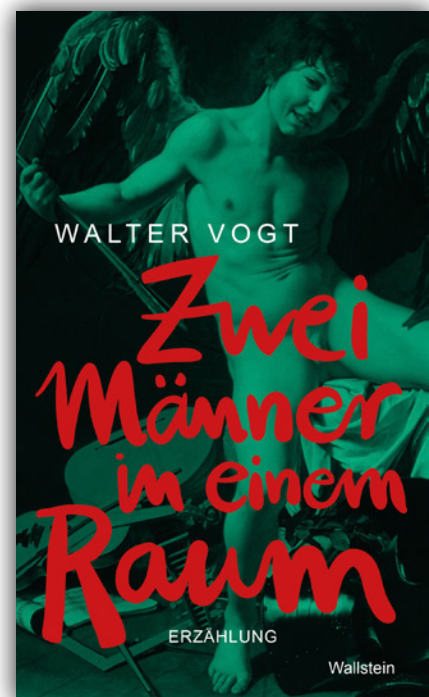
Two Men in a Room

Story

Two men in one bed, one sleeping, the other one talking. This story deals with love in times of the AIDS-crisis: A spared man falls in love with a much younger infected man whose death seems within reach. In monologue form, the older one reflects on their relationship, on what separates them, on sexuality, bought sexuality, but also on friendship, identity and on gender. An unsparing text that Vogt himself thought could not be published.

Kurt Marti wrote about Walter Vogt: »The ecstatic fascinated him, but at the same time he retained the keenly observant eye of the intellectual. The hunger for experience as well as the hunger for knowledge drove him forward. The openness with which Vogt finally dared to speak about himself is astonishing! Whatever he wrote and spoke about, he wrote and spoke about himself. It's true, every author does that, but not all of them do it as openly, as obsessively and as smart as Vogt«. Vogt's impressive text is flanked by a ›prequake‹ by Christoph Geiser and an ›aftershock‹ by Kim de l'Horizon.

Walter Vogt, born 1927 in Zurich, died 1988 in Muri near Bern, studied medicine and became an radiologist, then a psychiatrist. After an illness, he started as an author in 1961, writing novels, short stories, theatre plays, radio plays, television plays and poems. Vogt was a founding member and later president of the Olten Group. He received several literary awards, including from the city and canton of Bern.



Walter Vogt
Two Men in a Room
Story

ca. 112 pages



Swiss author **Andrea Simmen's** debut volume, published in 1991, rediscovered

Andrea Simmen

I Am a Victim of the Colon Stories

Andrea Simmen, who died young, was »one of the most distinctive voices of a new generation of women writers« in Switzerland since the 1990s, wrote Beatrice von Matt in her obituary of the author in the ›Neue Zürcher Zeitung‹ on 27 July 2005. Simmen shared »an unflinching eye, a sense of paradox, above all immunity to ideologies of all kinds, including feminist ones« with writers of her generation according to Matt. To Andrea Simmen it was important to develop a »language in ›variations of laughter‹« – her unique use of language can be rediscovered in this debut volume, first published in 1991. Tragicomic stories, such as that of the nine-fingered television announcer Andreas Gaspazzo, who fell victim to the colon, set this volume apart. It's usually individual keywords that cause Simmen's stories to leave their path and slide into the arabesque, for example when the children's fairy tale in »Grandmothers« becomes an uninhibited spectacle.

Switzerland and its male narrative tradition is a recurring theme. Simmen deals with these topics in a humorous way and creates her own, unique narrative style, with her precise descriptions and lively language.

Andrea Simmen, born in Zurich in 1960 and died in Flaach in canton Zurich in 2005. She worked as a cook, decorator and gardener and began writing alongside her work. Simmen published the following books: »Der eingeschneite Hund. Roman« (2001), »Vielleicht heisst er Paul. Erzählungen« (1995), »Landschaft mit Schäfer und anderen Reizen. Erzählungen« (1993) and »Ich bin ein Opfer des Doppelpunktes. Erzählungen« (1991). She has received several awards for her work: ›Werkbeitrag des Kantons Aargau‹ (1999), ›Werkjahr des Kantons Aargau‹ (1995), participation in the competition for the ›Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis‹ in Klagenfurt (1995), ›Werkbeitrag der Pro Helvetia‹ (1994), ›Anerkennungspreis Zollikon‹ (1993), ›Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich‹ (1991) and ›Arbeiterliteraturpreis‹ (1989).



Andrea Simmen
I Am a victim of the Colon
Stories

ca. 208 pages



With his debut novel **Henning Ziebritzki** explores the childhood of an attentive boy between the harsh everyday life of a village, adults shaped by the experience of war and his first poetic impressions

Henning Ziebritzki

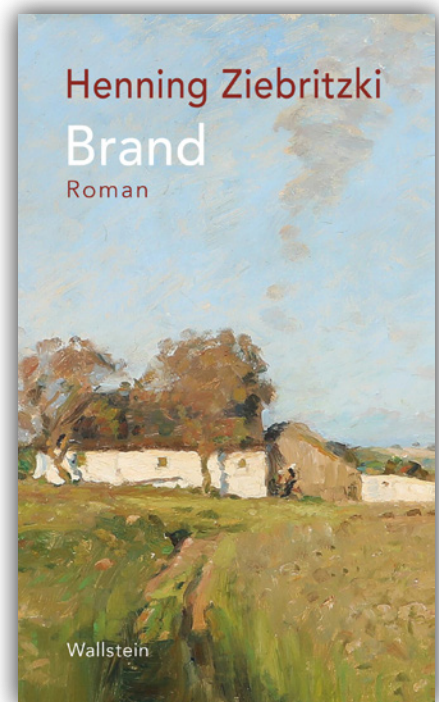
Brand

Novel

Through the memories and stories of a boy growing up in the village of Brand, the family and inhabitants come to life, as does the background of contemporary history and the Northern German landscape. The story is set in the sixties, known by adults as the post-war period. Encountering August, a strange boy, a first erotic impression made by the teacher in the schoolyard and the great-grandmother as well as the dead grandfather characterise the child just as much as the test of courage of the pig ride, a threatening encounter with a stranger at the harvest festival or experiences with the supernatural while fetching milk and the first reading of a poem by Goethe. His mother's stories about the village and its inhabitants play a special part, having a lasting influence on the boy and becoming his first poetic experiences.

In vivid and poetic language, Henning Ziebritzki depicts impressive scenes of a childhood in the countryside.

Henning Ziebritzki, born 1961 in Wunstorf (Lower Saxony), lives in Tübingen and Berlin. He writes poems, essays and narrative prose. He was awarded the ›Peter-Huchel-Preis‹ for German-language poetry in 2020 for his highly acclaimed poetry collection ›Vogelwerk‹ (2019). Most recently, the essay collection ›Gar nicht viel‹ (2023) was published. ›Brand‹ is his first novel.



Henning Ziebritzki

Brand

Novel

144 pages



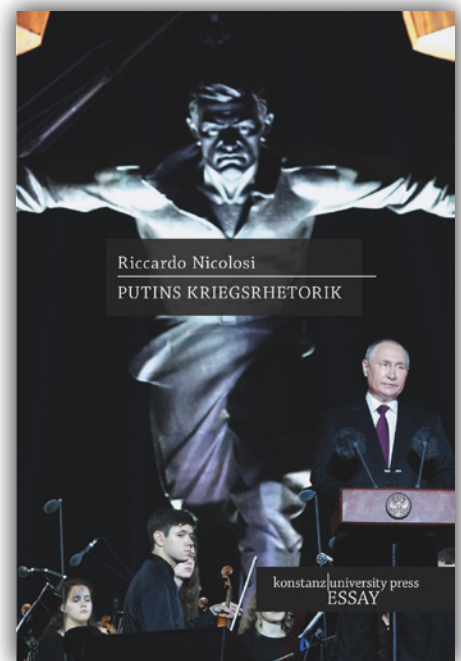
Rhetoric as a weapon – about Putin’s speeches as a political tool

Riccardo Nicolosi Putin’s War Rhetoric

Vladimir Putin rhetorically prepared and escalated the war against Ukraine while also substantiating it with complex arguments. The web of justification strategies may seem disconcerting and disturbing, but it deliberately ties in with the expectations of a broad national and international audience and guarantees a diffuse understanding of the Kremlin’s positions. The Russian president is not a charismatic and eloquent politician. Especially in comparison to his opponent Selenskyj, his oratory skills are clearly inferior. But Putin’s wordings are the origin of all political communication strategies in present day Russia. They define the framework of what can be said politically.

Riccardo Nicolosi dissects Putin’s war communication: From the parody of Western justifications for war to a paranoid causal logic in which Russia is drawn up as the eternal victim of Western hegemonic aspirations; from the affect rhetoric of resentment to the mystification of the Second World War as a never-ending event; from the modelling of the conflict in Ukraine as an anti-colonial, tectonic shift in the geopolitical world order to the elevation of war as the only true form of existence in present and future Russia. The power of words thus legitimises the martial use of force just as much as it accomplishes to let war appear as the solution to all problems.

Riccardo Nicolosi, now a Professor of Slavic Literature at the LMU Munich, was a fellow at the Alfried Krupp Kolleg Greifswald.



Riccardo Nicolosi
Putin’s War Rhetoric

191 pages, 7 illustrations



The first biography of Heinrich Hoffmann – important photographer, propagandist and close confidant of Adolf Hitler

Sebastian Peters

Hitler's Photographer Heinrich Hoffmann

A Biography

To this day, our image of Adolf Hitler is decisively shaped by the photographs of one man: Heinrich Hoffmann. The Munich-based photographer was a National Socialist from the very beginning and quickly used his professional skills for the service of the party. From the early 1920s on, his photographs shaped the visual image of the NSDAP and its leader, whom Hoffmann staged in line with Nazi propaganda. The personal photographer became a close confidant of Hitler and therefore soon an integral part of the inner circle of the NSDAP. And he knew how to profit from this unique position: since 1933, Hoffmann rose to become the publisher of a large company that expanded into a veritable picture factory for the Third Reich. With hundreds of thousands of propaganda photos, Hoffmann created a striking visual representation that was intended not least to cover up the brutal violence of the regime. The photographer became an influential propagandist – and a multimillionaire.

It was only due to the German defeat that the empire of the self-proclaimed ›Reichsbildberichterstatters‹ came to an end. But even if Hoffmann's person gradually sank into insignificance after 1945, his photographs have an afterlife to this day.

Sebastian Peters, born in 1991, is a historian and curator for the Obersalzberg Documentation Center at the Institute for Contemporary History Munich–Berlin.



Sebastian Peters
Hitler's Photographer Heinrich Hoffmann
A Biography
624 pages, 77 illustrations



Marking the 80th anniversary of liberation: The history of one of the largest National Socialist concentration camps – the essential characteristics, developments and contexts presented in a compact form

Michael Löffelsender

The Buchenwald Concentration Camp 1937–1945

From the summer of 1937, the SS had the Buchenwald concentration camp built on the Ettersberg near the city of Weimar. It became one of the largest concentration camps. Until its liberation in April 1945, more than a quarter of a million people from almost every country in Europe passed through the main camp on the Ettersberg or one of its more than 130 satellite camps. 56,000 men, women, young people and children did not survive.

To mark the 80th anniversary of liberation, Michael Löffelsender offers a concise history of the concentration camp that covers all important aspects. The internal history of the camp, the actions of the SS, the experiences of those persecuted and the integration of the camp into German society under National Socialism are described and exemplified.

In the year 2025, which is important in terms of remembrance policy, we now have an accessible, up-to-date and compact account of the Buchenwald concentration camp for a wider audience.

Michael Löffelsender, born 1978, is a historian and curator for the history of the Buchenwald concentration camp at the Buchenwald Memorial. Publications include: »Témoignages strasbourgeois. Berichte französischer Überlebender der Konzentrationslager Buchenwald und Mittelbau-Dora« (co-editor, 2024).



Michael Löffelsender
The Buchenwald Concentration Camp 1937–1945

160 pages, 49 illustrations



Pandemics, wars, climate emergencies: people have underwent times of devastating disasters in the past. What can we learn from their experiences?

Hartmut Lehmann

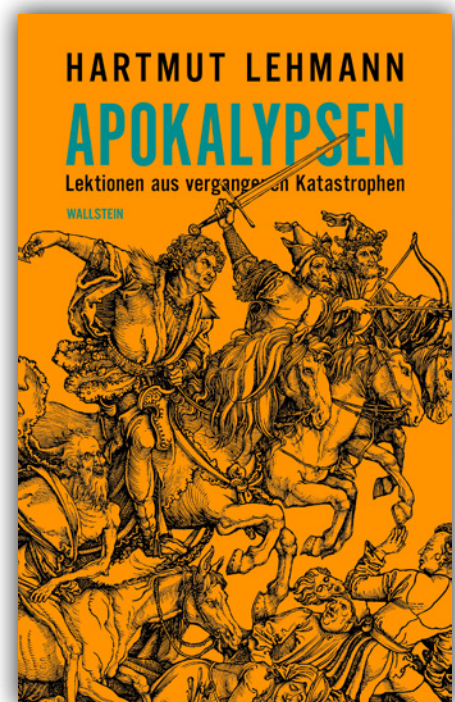
Apocalypses

Lessons from Past Catastrophes

The pandemic, the climate catastrophe, new wars in Europe and the Middle East: we seem to be facing an unprecedented, extreme situation. But over the last 800 years, people in Europe have already had to face the apocalypse several times and feared the beginning of the end time. In the 14th century, the plague left a trail of devastation in its wake. In the late 16th and 17th century, a worsening climate caused an agonisingly long series of famines, epidemics and wars. In the 20th century, war and the destruction of human life on an unprecedented scale upset the political and moral order around the world. These extreme scenarios marked ruptures and were social stress tests.

The historian Hartmut Lehmann explains in a comprehensible style what these catastrophes meant for people in their everyday lives and what they remembered about them. He asks what role conspiracy theories played in all these events and who made a scapegoat. Last but not least, this book is about lessons from the existential threats of our past: how can they help us to overcome the challenges of our time?

Hartmut Lehmann, born in 1936, was founding director of the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC, and director of the Max Planck Institute for History in Göttingen. Lehmann's research specialises in medieval and modern history, the history of christianity as well as the history of religion.



Hartmut Lehmann
Apocalypses
Lessons from Past Catastrophes

192 pages



Telling his own family's story Andreas Wagner traces back the transformation of agriculture and viticulture over the course of five generations – wrapped in a captivating and nostalgic atmosphere

Andreas Wagner

Among Vines and Turnips

A Story of Grapes, Wine and Five Generations

Andreas Wagner's family has been running a farm near Mainz in Germany for more than 450 years. Agriculture, viticulture and livestock farming shaped the paths of all previous generations. Hard work in the fields and vineyards secured the family's position in the village for centuries. Using individual protagonists from the previous five generations of his family, the author recounts about agricultural innovations of the 19th century and the rapidly accelerating structural change in the young Federal Republic. At the same time Wagner does not omit family calamities or each generation's search for the right partner for their children. The courage to change has always been an indispensable prerequisite for maintaining the family business. Women in particular had a decisive influence on developments. Throughout all upheavals, one of the children always succeeded in continuing the business – voluntarily and with strong willpower.

Andreas Wagner's book is an entertaining, accessible and historically well-founded family chronicle. Through this lively and captivating novel the ongoing fascination of the family farm can be experienced. Moreover Wagner illustrates the opportunities that social change can entail.

Andreas Wagner, historian, winemaker and author. He studied history, political science and bohemian studies in Leipzig and at Charles University in Prague. Together with his two brothers and their families, he has been running the family business on the slopes of the Selz Valley since 2003. Working in the vineyards serves as an inspiration for his books. In addition to scientific works, he has published several crime novels and short stories.



Andreas Wagner
Among Vines and Turnips
 A Story of Grapes, Wine and Five Generations
 275 pages, 31 illustrations



A captivating search for clues uncovers ecological lines of development in Marx's writing that have often been overlooked: a new approach to a work of surprising timeliness

Heinrich Detering

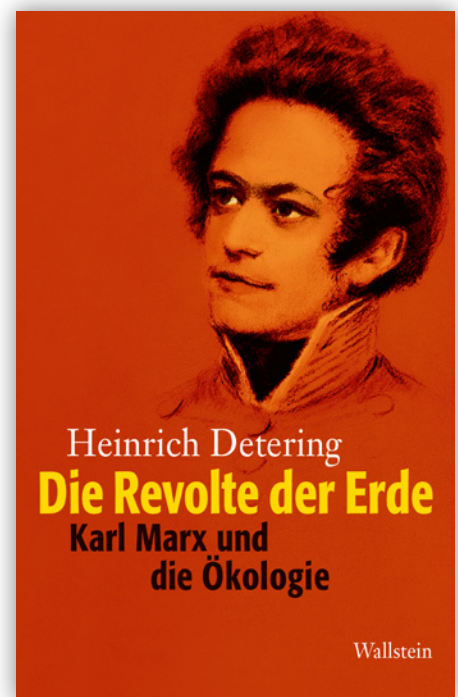
Earth in Revolt

Karl Marx and Ecology

Ecological awareness has characterized Karl Marx's work from the very beginning. It is not the result of a late change, but pervades his thinking from his early writings to his final years. Marx ties in with Romanticism's idea of nature and turns it from a speculative standpoint to an empirical point of view. Regarding this endeavour Charles Darwin and Adam Smith, Ludwig Tieck and Goethe also play an important role. Poetic texts and writing styles permeate social and scientific discourses.

By combining a historical approach with close readings, Detering reveals the surprising topicality of Marx's writings in our time, a time in which the different forms of Marxism have run their course whereas the survival of capitalism is conjuring up a global ecocide.

Heinrich Detering, born in 1959, is a literary scholar and poet living in Göttingen. In 2009, he received the ›Leibniz-Preis‹ from the German Research Foundation. In 2023, he was inducted into the ›Orden Pour le mérite‹, and in 2024, he was awarded the ›Niedersächsischer Staatspreis‹. His research focuses on ecology and literature from the 18th century to Günter Grass, literary history and social history of Marx and Engels, as well as German, Scandinavian and Anglo-American literature of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Besides this Detering has published several poetry collections. Most recently, his studies ›Menschen im Weltgarten‹ and ›Holzfrevell und Heilsverlust‹ (2020) on the relationship between literature and ecology and the poetry collection ›An der Nachtwand‹ (2023) were published.



Heinrich Detering
Earth in Revolt
Karl Marx and Ecology

221 pages, 36 illustrations



Felix Heidenreich **The Philosopher's Servant**

Novel | 149 pages

When former soldier Martin Lampe enters the service of the young philosopher Immanuel Kant, a struggle between master and servant begins. Lampe performs an idiosyncratic way of subtle resistance: On the surface he plays the fool, but in reality he tries to show up the famous philosopher by devious means and gradually drives him mad. Soon, the servant Lampe and his master become a bizarre, well-known couple around town.

But Kant's good friend Ehregott Wasianski, who will later become known as Kant's first biographer, also has his plans. These are aimed primarily at warding off the danger of Kant's marriage, for that would mean the end of the philosopher's work of genius.

The author stages a game of confusion in which historical facts and intertextual cross fadings merge into one another. And so this novel offers not only entertainment, but also a philosophically informed look into the abysses of the Enlightenment.

Rights available



Sabine Peters **The Third Half**

Novel | 231 pages

Sometimes, after coming home from work at his practice, Doc, whose real name is Hermann Dik, sits at home exhausted, even skipping his sports group; he can't seem to manage his work-life balance. But his job is entertaining: doors opening, patients walking in and out – and home visits afterwards. His employee Christine has six legs and arms, she keeps the place running. Doc listens to the patients' stories. Mr Viersen has no time for his slipped disc, while Mrs Glüsing dresses up for the doctor and Mrs Bültjer is nearing the end of her life in an old people's home. At the end of his work days, Doc isn't expecting a loving wife at home because she has died; but his sister means well and invites him to the family party. The world is a colourful place, Doc tells himself when his neighbour Mechthild and her son, a young activist, drop by. And then there's his university friend Brummer, with whom Doc chats about getting older, about their defeats and prospects.

Sabine Peters sketches four generations, who each have their own perspective on things due to their age and their jobs. Doc, in the center of it all, is a melancholic hero, but he is not alone. A gentle book on what it means to be human.

Rights available



Teresa Präauer

Dining in the Wrong Century

Novel | 198 pages

The novel of an evening and an invitation to dinner. Full of recipes for a successful life and an unsuccessful evening, which always starts anew; clever, funny, cheerful, and at the same time accompanied by the sometimes subliminal and sometimes quite openly articulated aggressions of the people involved. In conversations, the hosting couple and their guests discuss very important and marginal issues, covering the range from ›foodporn‹ images on the internet to cooking, shopping and living as social practices.

Increasingly, the evening becomes more comical, more tragic, more erotic – negotiating individual current terms, while the hostess is not particularly talented at hosting and repeatedly feels transported to the wrong century. Along the way, a history of goods, food and cooking is told anecdotally.

Rights sold

- Danish: Forlaget Klara W.
- Dutch: Meridiaan Uitgevers
- English: Pushkin Press
- French: Editions Flammarion
- Italian: Marsilio Editori



Teresa Präauer

How to Eat an Apple

32 pages

»Teresa Präauer combines (...) humour, analysis and existential restlessness in a unique way.« (Jury statement for ›Bremer Literaturpreis‹ 2024)

How did your grandfather eat his apple? Do you remember how he held the knife in his hand? Do we do it differently today?

This book is a gift: the memory of eating an apple is a story about the labour of writing itself. From the skin through the flesh to the core, the flavour of this text is Teresa Präauer's literature in a nutshell.

The speech was given at the award ceremony for prestigious ›Bremer Literaturpreis‹ in January 2024. It is supplemented with a previously unpublished original text by the author.

Rights available



Teresa Präauer **Girl**

78 pages

A playful literary text about belonging and demarcation, about the difficulties and hilarities of growing up.

In this book, Teresa Präauer devotes herself to a figure that has almost been left out of her earlier books: girls. In personal reminiscences and literary reflections, she talks about childhood and competition, girl gangs and boy games. About affiliation and differentiation as well as the difficulties and serendipity of growing up.

»Girl« is full of observations, tenderness and exhilaration, and it is an intimate gift from the author to her readers.

Rights available



Teresa Präauer **Becoming Animal**

100 pages

In »Becoming Animal«, Teresa Präauer observes stages of transition, transformation, metamorphosis. Her text allows anyone or anything that has hair to make an appearance: in places that are overgrown with textured surfaces, fur, fake fur or grass. She has assembled a collection of shaggy figures for this purpose, from medieval drawings of mythical creatures – half real, half fantasy – to hairpieces from the Alps, Toni Erdmann wearing wigs and costumed furies from subculture. The author explores all these artificial and artistic phenomena in concrete pictorial observations and philosophical considerations.

In Teresa Präauer's work, animalisation is a procedure described in terms of art, culture, film and fashion, but she also applies it to the writing and reading of literature itself. As we write, we exhaust the possibilities of speech, reaching its human limits. As we read, we are transformed, according to the warning and the promise this narrative-essayistic text holds.

Rights sold

- English: Seagull Books



Thea Mengeler **After the Ferries**

Novel | 175 pages

On a formerly popular vacation island, the ferries suddenly stop coming and with them the vacationers. Life comes to a standstill; most of the inhabitants leave the island, only a few hold out. Hoping for the ferries to return and isolated from each other, they carry on with the same old activities. The lives of those who remain only change when a girl called Ada inexplicably appears at a hotel and seeks to get close to the former janitor. Her questions about his past and that of the island lead to an upheaval that cannot be stopped, even when Ada vanishes as abruptly as she had appeared. The characters' stories become more and more intertwined as they begin to come to terms with their past – and with the question of whether a return of the ferries is something to wish for at all.

Thea Mengeler's novel tells of private and social relational dynamics, of (over)tourism and of reclaiming one's own life, one's own living space. In concise but sensitive language, she describes the events on the island as well as the inner lives of her characters, whose life choices are put to the test.

Rights available



Julia Friese **MTTR**

Novel | 421 pages

While in the office, Teresa Borsig finds out for sure: she is pregnant. She feels simultaneously attracted and repelled by the idea of having a family. The memories of her own childhood are full of distance, discipline and beatings. Urged by nurses in the abortion clinic to swallow the pill, Teresa refuses to go through with it: she wants to be a mother after all. Can she fulfill this role while lacking a mother of her own?

The health care system takes the pregnant woman in as it once did with her parents. Efficient. Cold. They only want what's best for her. And isolate her baby in a warming bed. Will her infant survive? Doctors and nurses talk about it, but never with her. Teresa screams. She shouldn't take herself so seriously, the hospital says. »MTTR« recounts the effects of German post-war education, recounts the inability of baby boomers to show emotions, and if they do, it's only through substitute actions: Purchase, correction and concern. Every dialogue is an act of malice. You almost don't notice it, because file-gray emotional temperature and gross ineptness are everyday life in Germany. Will millennials, like Teresa, reproduce this?

Rights available



Carolyn Emcke **What Is True**

On Violence and Climate | 124 pages

A plea for the ethics of storytelling and thinking in utopias. How is it possible to talk about violence? How can we tell stories about experiences that override all moral expectations of what people can do to each other? With what caution, what discretion and what empathy must we search for language in contexts of war and violence? Carolyn Emcke asks about the ethics of storytelling. For her, the search for what is true is always one that also questions her own role. Anyone who writes about violence and trauma must also write about what remains untouched as a normative core: human dignity.

Writers who reflect on what is true, who think above all about violence and how it destroys people, must also talk about the violence of the climate crisis: What role does factual storytelling play in narrating climate discourses? For Emcke, the search for truth in the face of the climate catastrophe must open up in different directions. Backwards: What has happened and who is responsible? But also forward: This search for truth in the context of the climate crisis must show what will be, it must open up and map out spaces of possibility. »What Is True« is a plea for the ethics of storytelling and for utopian thinking.

Rights sold

- Catalan: Atmarcardia
- Spanish: Penguin Random House



Ruth Klüger **Women Read Differently**

264 pages

»Most of the literature I know is by men. Do I read it differently? I think so. But how?« The literary scholar and writer Ruth Klüger has been pondering this question from the very beginning. She published her answers to this question for the first time in 1996 under the title »Women Read Differently«. When Klüger uses this impetus to read authors such as Grimmelshausen, Goethe, Kleist, Stifter, Schnitzler and Kästner against the grain, she combines literary expertise with verve, humour and a high level of great writing.

The original volume, compiled by Klüger herself in 1996, is at the heart of this edition. Expanded by a more recent, previously unpublished essay from her estate: »A man must tell me this«. Kleist's image of women«.

»Women Read Differently« complements Ruth Klüger's previous essay collections »Wer rechnet schon mit Lesern?« (2021) and »Anders lesen. Frauen und Juden in der deutschen Literatur des 19. und 20. Jahrhunderts« (2023).

Rights available



Nicolas Pethes

Springsteen

A Lifetime Conversation | 216 pages, 7 illustrations

Bruce Springsteen has been a rock star for decades, fostering a heartfelt relationship with his audience. This is not only due to his precisely designed and musically diverse albums, which reflect the significance of different phases of his life and whose engaging songs encompass all genres of American pop music. Springsteen also bases his music and the messages associated with it on direct contact with the audience: he achieves this special bond through his concerts, which are characterised by extreme physical intensity, his understanding of rock'n'roll as a musical tradition, which includes emphatic anthems as well as sharing personal stories, his committed statements on socio-political debates as well as his examination of age and transience.

The latter were also the central theme of Springsteen's tour in 2023, whose stages Nicolas Pethes chooses as a guiding line when he follows Springsteen's »lifetime conversation with [his] audience« and uses numerous testimonies from fans to show that the idea of such communication between artist and audience is no mere illusion. Instead, it is based on serious emotions and practices, which Nicolas Pethes compiles in a knowledgeable and entertaining way.

Rights sold

- English: Bloomsbury Publishing



Valentin Groebner

Picking Up, Throwing Away

On Dealing with Beautiful Things | 171 pages

They stand on our desks or on our bedside tables. We hang them on the wall or carry them discreetly in our pockets: the very personal things. No matter whether we call them amulets, talismans or mementos: They accompany us wherever we stay for longer. We make little private altars for them and find them beautiful – but what does that mean? And where does the magic come from that these very personal objects exert on us?

»Picking Up, Throwing Away« traces the history of our lucky charms and souvenirs from 21st century living rooms back to the material culture of the Middle Ages with its magical stones, pictures and rosaries. In the wealthy industrial societies of the modern age, personal possessions have multiplied explosively too. They fill our cellars, attics and closets to such an extent that sometimes we would like to get rid of them again and dream of a life with very few things, the right and important ones. It would make more sense ecologically anyway – but is it possible? An essay about the beautiful everyday things, about magic, guilty conscience, the utopia of rabid reduction and the daily clutter.

Rights available



Franz Kafka | Rainer Stach (Ed.)

The Trial

Novel | 397 pages

Even after a century of multiple interpretations, the enigmatic fate of Josef K. continues to captivate readers. His entanglement in the ghostly bureaucracy, its inscrutability which makes it impossible for him to find his bearings, do not allow for simple analysis. Nevertheless, or perhaps precisely for this reason, Kafka's »The Trial« is a pleasure to read, even after almost 100 years, and feels like an intense dream. Newly edited and annotated by Kafka biographer Rainer Stach, this volume invites you to read Kafka's »The Trial« once again or for the first time.

This first volume of the annotated edition focuses on one question: How did Kafka actually do it? The detailed commentary explains essential motifs, terms and narrative techniques, as well as significant deletions and corrections, providing an insight into Kafka's work. Thus, it becomes clear how extraordinarily dense »The Trial« is woven. The edition sheds light on the virtuoso play with levels of reality that Kafka pursues. Finally, the editor's afterword provides an overview of the genesis, transmission and impact of the work.

Rights sold

- French: Editions L'orma
- Italian: L'Orma Editore



Renate Müller-Buck

»... trembling with colorful bliss«

Nietzsche in Venice | 199 pages, 34 illustrations

Between 1880 and 1887, Friedrich Nietzsche spent a total of five extended visits in Venice. It was the only city he loved, a »consecrated place« for him and, as a place of »100 deep solitudes« an »image for the people of the future«. He was welcomed and cared for by the musician Heinrich Köselitz, whose teacher he had been at the University of Basel.

Based on Nietzsche's letters as well as reports and memories of friends and companions, Renate Müller-Buck conveys a picture of the philosopher's everyday life in Venice and the significance that the lagoon city had in his thinking. We accompany him through the shady alleyways with their »regular trachyte cobblestones«, which he particularly liked as a »three-quarter blind man«. We follow him to the Calle nova, where Köselitz spent whole mornings playing music for him in his room. And we leaf through his Venice readings with him: Lord Byron, George Sand, Stendhal.

Renate Müller-Buck, a proven expert on Nietzsche, takes a knowledgeable and intimate look at Nietzsche as a person and at the same time offers a special picture of Venice at the end of the 19th century.

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