

# »» WALLSTEIN

Foreign Rights Catalogue | Spring 2023



## 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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To be able to be a hostess actually means: to have grown up.

## Teresa Präauer

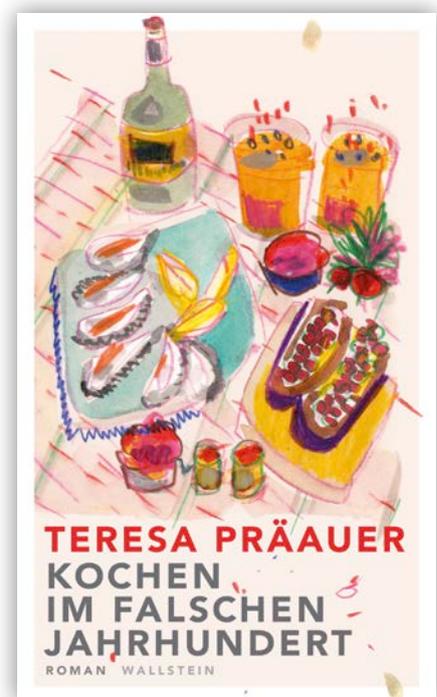
# Dining in the Wrong Century

### Novel

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, at the same time accompanied by the sometimes subliminal and sometimes quite openly articulated aggressions of the people involved. In conversations, the host couple and their guests discuss very big and very small 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 a particularly talented hostess and repeatedly feels transported to the wrong century. Along the way, a history of goods, food and cooking is told anecdotally.

**Teresa Präauer**, born 1979, studied German Language and Literature as well as Fine Arts. Wallstein Verlag published the novels »Für den Herrscher aus Übersee« (For the Emperor from Overseas), »Johnny und Jean«, and »Oh Schimmi« as well as her major essay »Tier werden« (Becoming Animal), the storybook »Das Glück ist eine Bohne« (Happiness is a Bean) and the story-like essay »Mädchen« (Girl) whose theoretical underpinnings are Präauer's Zurich Poetics Lectures, held at the end of 2021. Teresa Präauer lives in Vienna. She has won the ›Aspekte Preis‹ in 2012, the ›Erich Fried Preis‹ in 2017, and the ›Ben Witter Preis‹ in 2022, among others.



Teresa Präauer  
**Dining in the Wrong Century**  
Novel

ca. 180 p.

March 2023



The twins Niklas and Viktor grow up with their mother in the Austrian province. There, it is nature that captivates them, and just as the village and the books are only products of the wood from the nearby forest, the people seem to be mere products, of the weather, of the forest, of mining.

## Leander Fischer

# The Doppelgänger

### Novel

Quite soon Nik and Vik realize that they are indistinguishable from one another, and they take advantage of this fact on several occasions: whether at school, during their studies in Vienna, or in their dealings with women. On their adventures through Vienna they are accompanied by Marlene and Elena, two young female artists. One is an aspiring writer who studied at the renowned writing school in Hildesheim, the other a painter and performance artist – for both, the twins are models and templates for their work on human nature.

The world of this novel is located between Austria and Germany, between the provinces and Vienna, Berlin and Hildesheim. It is populated, for example, by Catholic tailors who are raised by the order of the Sisters of the Cross and whom the Mafia is on the lookout for, and by drawing teachers with a fondness for the figure of the dragon. Leander Fischer's prose is the radical antithesis of contemporary literature. The artful language takes off anew with each chapter, gifting the reader with an immense wealth of detail and stylistic power.

**Leander Fischer**, born 1992 in Vöcklabruck in Austria, graduated in Creative Writing and Cultural Journalism at the University of Hildesheim. He has published several times in journals and was co-editor of the annual anthology of the students of the literary writing course at the University of Hildesheim (2018). In 2019, he participated in the ›Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis‹, where he was awarded the ›Deutschlandfunk Preis‹. In 2020, he won the ›Österreichischen Buchpreis‹ for Best Debut for his novel ›Die Forelle‹ (The Trout).



Leander Fischer  
**The Doppelgänger**  
Novel

ca. 480 p.

April 2023



How much do origin and childhood shape us? Is there a second life beyond the old experiences? A search for traces.

Susanne Fritz

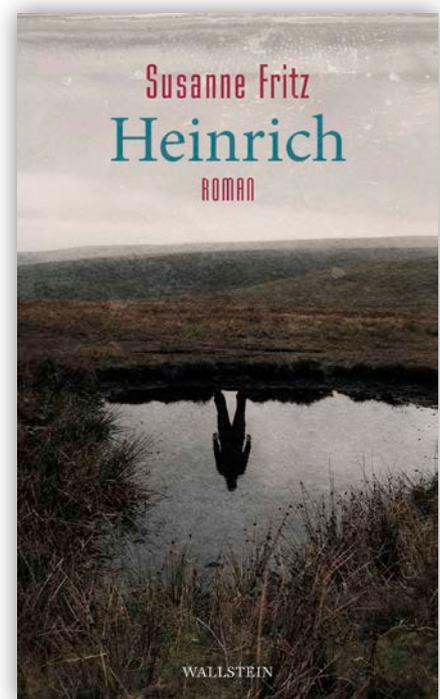
## Heinrich

Novel

Heinrich is a creative mind, successful architect and entrepreneur. At his drawing table, he develops forward-looking ideas. He comes from a difficult background: As the only child of a divorced woman and a member of the German minority, he grows up in the poverty-stricken quarter of a small Polish town. When the Germans invaded in the fall of 1939, the young man was offered opportunities for advancement, which ended in war service and Russian captivity. In 1949 he arrives in West Germany, where he starts a family and succeeds in a dizzying career. His unloved background, however, haunts him beyond his successes. The story begins with an accident: a large mirror shatters. Shortly before, little Heinrich had seen his future in it, which now seems lost. Unless the broken pieces can be reassembled into a whole.

Susanne Fritz sets out in search of her father, combining dream and memory, chronicle and fiction. It is nothing less than the human enigma: what can we know about the other, what about ourselves? How much do our origins and childhood shape us, is there a second life beyond the old memories?

**Susanne Fritz**, born 1964, lives in Freiburg and Berlin. She writes short stories, novels, dramatic and essayistic texts. Her personal search for traces, »Wie kommt der Krieg ins Kind« (They Left Us War and Silence), was widely reviewed and nominated for the »Deutscher Buchpreis«. She has received various prizes and fellowships, including the Albrecht Lempp Fellowship in Kraków in 2020 and a fellowship at the Cité internationale des arts, Paris, in 2021.



Susanne Fritz  
**Heinrich**  
Novel

ca. 200 p.

March 2023



Ida doesn't want to commit herself at any price. When she meets Antoine, she faces questions about her origins.

## Luise Maier

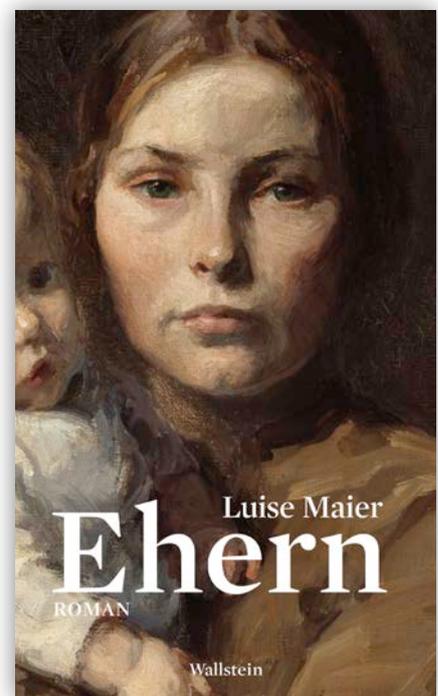
### Iron

Novel

Ida doesn't let anyone get close to her that easily. She rather shimmies from one man to another, loose acquaintances are more important to her than deep relationships, committing to someone seems impossible to her. Suddenly, however, she is confronted with her past through her encounter with Antoine and his two daughters Agnes and Leila. Based on her relationship with them, she begins to search for her origins. She quickly becomes fascinated by the story of her long-dead grandmother Magdalena, who until now has been a blind spot for her. Ida circles her grandmother's life story like a satellite, linking her grandmother's life to her own, her memories to a strangers' memories. Did Magdalena denounce her own sister Anna for having an affair with a French prisoner of war in 1941? During Ida's investigations, 300 pages of letters turn up – all love letters from a certain Clement, addressed to Magdalena... The denunciator apparently had an affair with a prisoner of war herself.

Between searching and finding, dream and reality, telling and remembering, Luise Maier's novel revolves around questions of her own origins, about the connections between past and present.

**Luise Maier**, born in 1991 in Schardenberg in Austria, grew up in Vilshofen an der Donau. From 2012 to 2015 she studied at the Swiss Literature Institute in Biel and since 2020 at the Institute of Art in Basel. Her debut novel »Dass wir uns haben« (Having One Another) received the ›Berner Literaturpreis‹. Luise Maier lives in Biel (Switzerland).



Luise Maier  
**Iron**  
Novel

ca. 152 p.

March 2023



A portrait of life, generation and time, full of narrative depth and poetry.

## Sybil Gräfin Schönfeldt

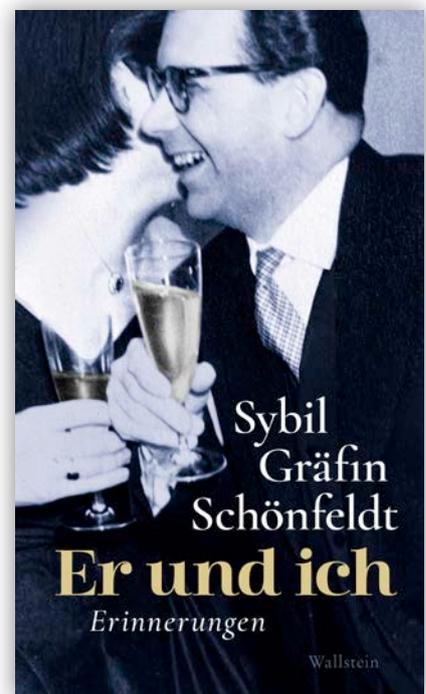
### He and I

#### Memories

In her autobiographical narration, Sybil Gräfin Schönfeldt describes her relationship with Heinrich, her husband: the encounter, the meeting shortly after the war, the love story and their life together. As different as their origins may be, two unhoused young people meet, experiencing the present and the past in post-war West Germany with similar thoughts and feelings. She is an officer's daughter whose mother dies shortly after birth and who grows up with relatives. He comes, according to the racist terminology of the National Socialists, from a »family of Jewish kinship«, whose ancestors include the Mendelssohns, and by good fortune survived the war. They both work, make friends and acquaintances in the newly emerging newspaper landscape and in Hamburg's business life during the years of reconstruction, and are close observers of their times.

With poetic tenderness, subjectivity and at the same time in great historical arcs, the author tells a fascinating double biography. The book offers a moving story of love and life covering the time of Second World War and post-war period up until the 1990s.

**Sybil Gräfin Schönfeldt**, born in 1927, holds a doctorate in German Studies and Art History, and worked as an editor and freelance journalist for DIE ZEIT, among others. She wrote and translated books for children and young people, and wrote cookbooks in historical contexts, including »Gestern aß ich bei Goethe« and »Bei Thomas Mann zu Tisch«. Her biography »Astrid Lindgren« (new edition 2007) is a bestseller, as is »Kochbuch für die kleine alte Frau« and »Kochbuch für den großen alten Mann«. She has been the editor of the »Literarischer Küchenkalender« for many years.



Sybil Gräfin Schönfeldt  
**He and I**  
Memories

ca. 256 p.

March 2023



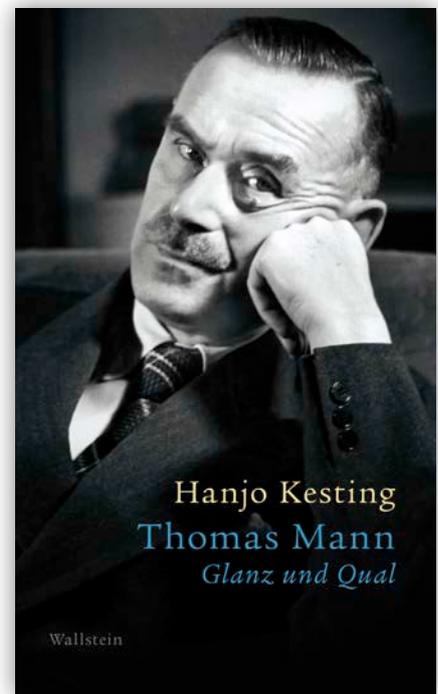
Only very few have written about Thomas Mann in a smarter, more original, and more elegant way. A book for introduction as well as for in-depth study.

## Hanjo Kesting Thomas Mann Glory and Agony

Even in his lifetime he was a monument, the last prince of poets in the succession of Goethe. Thomas Mann was a writer of the finest sensitivity with lurking abysses, deeply rooted in German culture. He faced the catastrophes of his time unflinchingly, even though it was a long way from the »machtgeschützten Innerlichkeit« (power-protected inwardness) of the German Empire, which he glorified, to the fight against Hitler and National Socialist Germany, which he led tirelessly. In almost six decades, his vast literary oeuvre grew, unique in scope and intellectual range. His language occupies all the nooks and crannies of the nameable world, making it narratively available in virtuoso demonstration of its omnipotence. And his irony, not free of condescension, makes one constantly feel the presence of the narrator who imposes his will on us by seducing and enchanting us.

Hanjo Kesting's book is the result of a lifelong preoccupation with Thomas Mann at close quarters and at a distance. In work analyses and biographical approaches an overall picture emerges of the great writer, who took stock in his diary with the words: »There has probably seldom been such an interweaving of agony and glory.«

**Hanjo Kesting**, worked as editorial director at Norddeutscher Rundfunk from 1973 to 2006 and conceived and produced literary programs for radio that achieved a wide reach and impact. In addition he has written numerous books, including essays on Jean Améry (2014) or Siegfried Lenz (2016) and also on the history of opera libretti. His multi-volume anthology »Grundschriften der europäischen Kultur« (Fundamentals of European Culture), »Große Romane der Weltliteratur« (Great Novels of Worldliterature) and »Große Erzählungen der Weltliteratur« (Great Stories of Wordliterature) have found great appeal and a wide listening audience through the accompanying series of readings.



Hanjo Kesting  
**Thomas Mann**  
Glory and Agony

ca. 400 p.

January 2023



In her memoirs, published for the first time, Robert Koch's second wife opens up unexpected perspectives on the famous microbe hunter.

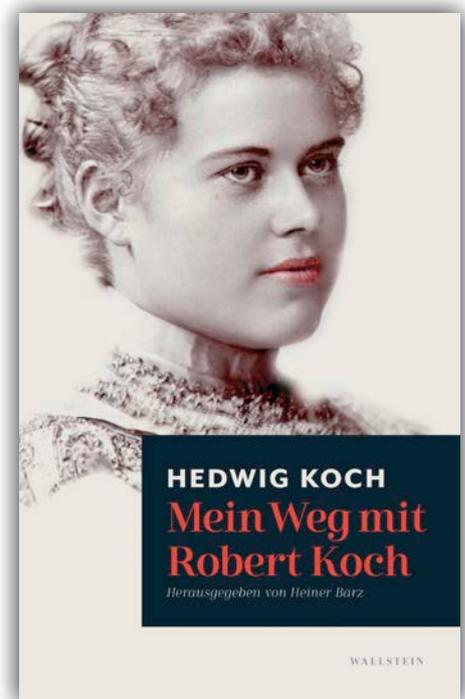
## Hedwig Koch Life Next to Robert Koch

The internationally highly respected Robert Koch shocked bourgeois Berlin in the 1890s: he divorced his wife to marry Hedwig Freiberg, who was 29 years younger.

Many years after his death, Hedwig Koch describes in her memoirs not only the happy moments at the Nobel Prize winner's side, but also the unvarnished reality of marriage to a difficult partner, whom she occasionally experienced as a »schoolmasterishly dry, uncannily civil servant-like, industrious, elderly paragon«. She accompanied her husband on extended research expeditions and provides deep insights into dubious colonial medicine through the example of perhaps its best-known representative. Her observations reveal both the strengths and the abysses of Robert Koch's microbiological research. Above all, however, her memoirs read as the social critique of a woman who sways between selfless devotion and rebellion against humiliation and devaluation she has suffered.

**Hedwig Koch**, 1872–1945, was a student of the famous Berlin painter Gustav Graef. She learned several languages and supported her husband Robert Koch on numerous research trips.

**Heiner Barz**, is head of the Department of Educational Research and Educational Management at Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf. He has been working for many years on topics at the interface of education, health and medicine.



Hedwig Koch  
**Life Next to Robert Koch**  
Edited by Heiner Barz

ca. 144 p., ca. 20 ill.

March 2023



On the 60th anniversary of the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial, Kerstin Steitz examines texts and films that critically engage with the court proceedings, thereby prevailing literary justice.

## Kerstin Steitz

# Fritz Bauer and the Literary and Cinematic Treatment of the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial 1963–1965

From 1963 to 1965, twenty-two men stood accused of murder and manslaughter in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp before the jury court in Frankfurt am Main. German criminal law, however, was not equipped to do legal and historical justice to the mass crimes at Auschwitz, treating them as ordinary cases of murder and manslaughter. This often amounted to a trivialization of Auschwitz and even misrepresented central historic aspects in some cases. The German-Jewish Holocaust survivor and Hessian Attorney General Fritz Bauer, who initiated the trial despite strong opposition, was aware of these criminal law limitations and described the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial as a »juridical alienation of Auschwitz«. For this reason, Bauer appealed to authors to take responsibility for »expressing what the trial was unable to reveal«.

Kerstin Steitz examines literary texts and films that critically deal with the Frankfurt Auschwitz trial and thus attempt to do literary justice.

**Kerstin Steitz**, teaches and conducts research as Associate Professor of German in the Department of World Languages and Cultures and in Jewish Studies and Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, USA. Her research focuses on Holocaust trials in literature and film, as well as issues of gender and sexuality during the Holocaust. In 2018, she received the Best Article Prize from the German Studies Association (GSA) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for her scholarly publication.



Kerstin Steitz  
**Fritz Bauer and the Literary and Cinematic Treatment of the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial 1963–1965**

ca. 288 p., ca. 6 ill.

June 2023



A highly topical analysis of the end of historic certainties and contemporary history's efforts to distance itself from the present.

## Martin Sabrow

# Turning Point in Contemporary History

In his farewell lecture at the Humboldt University Berlin, Martin Sabrow picks up where his inaugural lecture left off twelve years earlier and seeks to determine the place of contemporary history and the culture of memory in the present. He addresses the loss of traditional certainties that accompanies the outbreak of the Russo-Ukrainian war in February 2022 and is expressed in the much-cited talk of the »Zeitenwende«.

Sabrow explores the facets of this upheaval in the field of visualizing the past and describes it as the creeping dissolution of a basic historical-cultural consensus that had emerged in the last quarter of the 20th century. Based on the willingness to critically and self-critically deal with the burden of the past catastrophic century being established at all levels of state and society, Sabrow evokes an era of reappraisal. Today, our seemingly firmly established certainties are increasingly being called into question thereby suggesting a historical-cultural epochal shift from universalism to particularism.

**Martin Sabrow**, born 1954, professor emeritus of recent and contemporary history at Humboldt University Berlin and director of the Leibniz Center for Contemporary History Potsdam from 2004 to 2021. He is a reputable and widely acknowledged historian in the German-speaking public. His last publication with Wallstein Verlag was »Der Rathenau-mord und die deutsche Gegenrevolution« (The Rathenau Murder and the German Counter-Revolution).



Martin Sabrow  
**Turning Point in Contemporary History**  
ca. 68 p.  
June 2023



The long-forgotten novel of a former prisoner about his time in the concentration camp Esterwegen 1934–1936. Annotated and reissued with expanding texts.

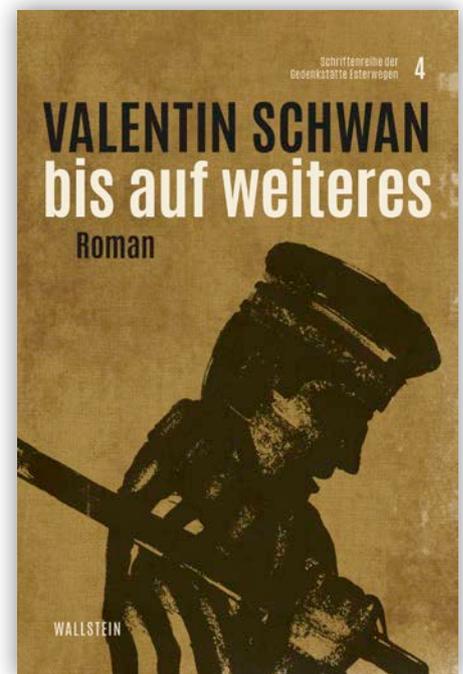
## Valentin Schwan for the time being Novel

»Someone will write it one day, Jakob. One out of the anonymous group of those who got away... The book of our time... The memorial of the unknown ›Moorsoldaten‹...« A character says these words in the novel about KL Esterwegen but perhaps the author is talking about himself. But the book, published in 1961 under the pseudonym Valentin Schwan, was soon forgotten and the author's identity remained a mystery. It was not until 2015 that the pseudonym was deciphered by chance: Hans-Otto Körbs – a prisoner in Esterwegen in 1935/36 – had written the text. The story of the novel is thus the story of a rediscovery, too.

In a matter-of-fact style, Schwan/Körbs has processed his memories of imprisonment in form of a novel. He writes thoughtfully and profoundly about life in one of Germany's first concentration camps: about the prisoners, the camp SS and the violence. Sebastian Weitkamp, co-director of the Esterwegen Memorial, has now annotated the text and republished it together with the very personal account of a descendant of Hans-Otto Körbs – the Swede Birger Schmitz.

**Valentin Schwan (Hans-Otto Körbs)**, was born in 1902 in Gau Odernheim in Rheinhessen and became active in the KPD in 1922 as a miner in Castrop-Rauxel. After the Nazis came to power, Körbs was imprisoned in Werl Prison and the concentration camps of Esterwegen and Sachsenhausen for anti-regime statements. After 1945, he temporarily held a mandate for the KPD in the Lower Saxony state parliament before falling out with the party. Hans-Otto Körbs died in Lüneburg in 1981.

**Sebastian Weitkamp**, born in 1973, has worked as historian and lecturer at the universities of Osnabrück and Münster and as a research assistant for the Esterwegen Memorial since 2009. Since 2021 he is one of two memorial site directors there. He has worked and published about Nazi diplomats and was co-publisher of »Paul Gangolf«, which rediscovers an artist, who was murdered in Esterwegen in 1936.



Valentin Schwan  
**for the time being**  
Novel

edited by Sebastian Weitkamp, with a report  
by Birger Schmitz

ca. 672 p.

May 2023



**What is the appeal of the objects we surround ourselves with? What happens to them after we have taken possession of them? And how does the relationship between things and their owners change over time?**

## Valentin Groebner

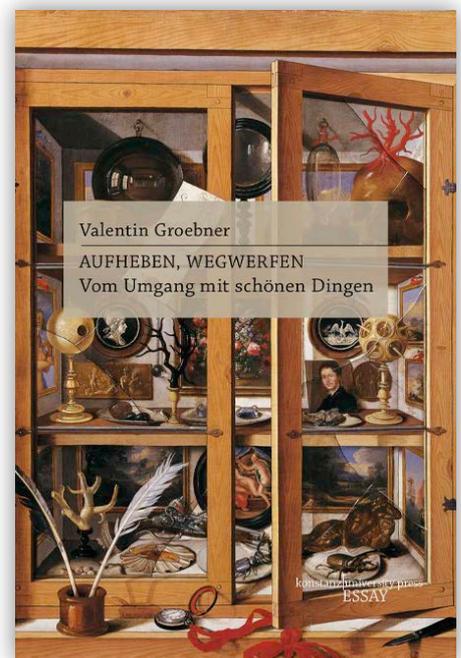
### Picking up, Throwing away

#### On Dealing with Beautiful Things

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.

**Valentin Groebner**, is professor of history with a focus on the Middle Ages and Renaissance at the University of Lucerne. He has published numerous books on the history of culture and science. KUP published »Ferienmüde. Als das Reisen nicht mehr geholfen hat« (Holiday Fatigue. When Traveling Didn't Help Anymore), »Wissenschaftssprache digital« (Science language digital) and »Wissenschaftssprache. Eine Gebrauchsanweisung« (Science language. A manual).



Valentin Groebner  
**Picking up, Throwing away**  
On Dealing with Beautiful Things

ca. 150 p.

March 2023



## Teresa Präauer **Girl**

78 p.

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 p.

In »Becoming Animal«, Teresa Präauer observes stages of transition and 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 sub-culture. The author explores all these artificial and artistic phenomena in vivid 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



Julia Frieese

## MTTR

Novel | 416 p.

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 in the pregnant woman as it once did 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 but not 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 spitefulness. 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**



Selene Mariani

## Ellis

Novel | 147 p.

Germany and Italy. Two friends between closeness and distance. What keeps them together? When Ellis is a small child, she moves with her mother from Italy to Germany. Life in the new environment is difficult, but one day a new girl comes to school: Grace. With her a friendship develops that gives Ellis support and replaces her missing sense of belonging. Until Grace suddenly changes sides. Years later, Ellis invites Grace to accompany her on her annual visit to her grandparents in Italy. There, the problematic dynamics of their friendship emerge anew.

What does it mean to feel at home neither in the country where you live nor in the country where you were born? In delicate language rich in imagery, Selene Mariani's novel episodically explores these questions.

**Rights available**



## Steffen Mensching **Hauser's Getaway**

Novel | 244 p.

CEO David Hauser doesn't remember how he got into the box. What he does know is that someone wants to get rid of him. His company AIRDROP manufactures so-called return boxes, in which asylum seekers whose residence permits have been rejected are transported back to their regions of origin by specially designed aircraft. Shortly before the drop, Hauser comes to consciousness; soon afterwards he finds himself in a barren, desert-like yet mountainous landscape, wearing foreign clothes and carrying forged papers. Where is he? Syria? Afghanistan? How could he have been put in the box without realizing it? He knows that not everyone supports his ventures – right up front his father, who is devoted to leftist ideals –, but who would go so far as to obliterate him in this way? Hauser soon realizes that the food supplies he carries in his box won't last long. But before he can make a plan for survival in defiance of heat and hunger, he gets attacked and overwhelmed...

A suspenseful, political, and eloquent novel full of masterful monologues – and entertaining dialogue.

**Rights available**



## Steffen Mensching **Schermann's Eyes**

Novel | 820 p.

A novel set in the Gulag, with German and Austrian protagonists as well as a retrospective view of Vienna in the 1920s. A novel that leads us to the heart of the 20th century.

Rafael Schermann had been a colourful figure in the Viennese coffeehouse scene and now this dazzling figure finds himself desolate and fatally ill, imprisoned in the Artek camp at the end of the world. He, who can predict the future on the basis of handwriting immediately, attracts a great deal of interest – whether it be from the camp commander or from his fellow prisoners. And then Schermann claims he cannot speak Russian, and demands a translator. Steffen Mensching places the young German communist Otto Haferkorn at his side and lets this mismatched pair fight for survival under brutal, absurd conditions in the murderous cogwheel of the twentieth century.

**Rights sold**

- Italian: Keller Editore



## Felix Heidenreich **I Still Remember**

Novel | 152 p.

On a cold, wet September morning, Dorela is making her way back to Fribourg. Suddenly she hears a noise: Is someone calling for help? A few days later, Dorela learns about the death of her uncle Durs. While Dorela is in love and wants to enjoy life with Antoine, she still travels to Berlin with her mother, where her uncle worked for the Swiss representation. The chaos in his apartment causes horror: Countless documents, records and notes scattered on the floor suggest that Durs had completely lost himself in the settlement history of North America. Had her uncle possibly gotten carried away with the desire to become a Native American? What was he looking for? And what's the deal with the mysterious hole dug in the basement? Dorela suspects that she is part of this story as well. A web of mysterious references connects her uncle's story to her own life, to Antoine, and to the places she visits. In the south of France, in Paris, Venice and New York, her memories come together, forming a bigger picture.

With detailed descriptions of events and places, Felix Heidenreich draws the reader into his debut novel.

**Rights available**



## Leander Fischer **The Trout**

Novel | 782 p.

Siegi Heehrmann, being a graduate from a prestigious Austrian art school, has ended up in a provincial Upper Austrian backwater working as a teacher at a regional music school. His real passion, however, is reserved for something else entirely – the art of making perfect fishing bait, being initiated into the secrets of fly-fishing by Ernstl Thalinger. Not only do the villagers consider Siegi and his friends to be outsiders, the local fly-fishing club also observes their activities with hostility. And doesn't fly-fishing club chairman Volki seem to be suspiciously close to Siegi's wife Lena?

In his debut novel, Leander Fischer develops a complex world out of fly-tying, with topics such as art and imitation, nature and environment as well as societal matters. With ease and rhythm he lets the various levels of text flow into one another.

**Rights available**



## Christine Lavant

### The Changeling

Story | 104 p.

Christine Lavant, the great Austrian poet, has been rediscovered as a prose writer.

Zitha is beaten by fate. She is the illegitimate child of a peasant maid, mentally retarded and physically deformed. The people in the village, who are as Catholic as they are superstitious, have a simple explanation for the girl's sad fate: evil spirits stole the child from the unfortunate maid after birth and instead foisted a bewitched girl on her. A changeling, as it is known from legends and ghost stories of the Alpine regions. It is said that it will bring misfortune to the whole village. Thus the collective delusion takes its course, against which even the love of the mother can do nothing. Finally, even the girl's life is threatened.

Christine Lavant describes the exclusion of a weak person from the village community with great urgency. The story, which was published posthumously in 1998, also stands for the threat to our civilization, which became apparent not least during Christine Lavant's lifetime in the »extermination of unworthy life« by the National Socialists. After »The Changeling« had been unavailable for some time, the story is now being published, edited by Klaus Amann.

#### Rights sold

- Dutch: Uitgeverij Vleugels
- English: New York Review Books
- Italien: La Grande Illusion di Giuseppe Zapelloni
- Korean: Moonji Publishing



## Christine Lavant

### Notes from the Asylum

140 p.

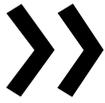
Christine Lavant processes her stay in the psychiatric hospital in literary form: a haunting reading.

At the age of twenty, Christine Lavant spent six weeks in the »Landesirrenanstalt« (public lunatic asylum) in Klagenfurt, after she had attempted suicide with medication. Eleven years later, in the fall of 1946, she wrote about these experiences with patients, nurses and doctors in the institution of psychiatry. But more importantly: about her self-perceptions, the states of her own consciousness and subconscious in this existential situation. Excessively sharp and with the highest intensity, the author puts concrete situations into the picture, the everyday life in the clinic, the treatments and the implicit violence, while everything is permeated by apocalyptic fantasies.

The text was never published in German during her lifetime. Only a radio narrative translated into English was broadcast by the BBC in 1959. The fact that the German text has survived at all is thanks to the translator Nora Wydenbruck, in whose estate it was found in the mid-1990s. It was first published in 2001 and is now available in a new edition.

#### Rights sold

- Dutch: Uigeverij Vleugels
- Korean: Moonji Publishing
- Polish: Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolinskich
- Spanish: Errata naturae editores



## Georges-Arthur Goldschmidt **The Obstructed Path**

Novel on a Brother's life | 111 p.

A moving literary document compassionately retelling the story of a life obstructed. Although connected by a common fate of threat, escape and displacement, the author's brother Erich was obliged to take a completely different path in life. Georges-Arthur spends his life in between languages and words, while his brother lived among weapons. Erich joined the Résistance, fought for the liberation of Paris and Alsace, and eventually became a major in the French colonial army in Algeria, where he even participated in the Generals' putsch against de Gaulle. Even after the coup had failed and Algeria was granted independence, he remained an officer until he retired. He worked as a low-profile employee at Crédit Agricole for many years afterwards.

Georges-Arthur kept memories of his brother's life buried for decades, until a birthday letter finally brought them to the surface.

**Rights available**



## Georges-Arthur Goldschmidt **From Post-Exile**

88 p.

Georges-Arthur Goldschmidt is known for his memorable Holocaust literature. With an expressive power, he tells the story of a child who has fallen victim to the arbitrary actions and anti-Semitic persecution of the Nazi dictatorship. As the son of a Jewish family that had converted to Protestantism in the 19th century, he was in grave danger in Germany. For this reason, the ten-year-old Georges-Arthur and his older brother Erich were sent to Italy by their parents in 1938. From there, they fled to France in the following year. At a boarding school in Annecy, Goldschmidt continued to be exposed to traumatic violence. Finally, he was hidden by mountain farmers in Savoy until the end of the war, which saved his life.

Goldschmidt's work is deeply marked by a feeling of existential disorientation, of an existence between languages and between countries.

**Rights sold**

- French: Editions Verdier



## Anat Feinberg **The Villa in Berlin**

A Jewish Family History 1924–1934 | 232 p., 40 ill.

At Freiherr-vom-Stein-Straße in Berlin-Schöneberg, where the stately Berlin villa of a Jewish family once stood, now there is a gap between buildings. Likewise there's a gap in family memory after 1934, when the Grüngards fulfilled their long-cherished Zionist dream by emigrating to Palestine. The grandchildren's generation knew the villa, where the grandmother invited to glamorous salon parties, only from hearsay. Through intensive research did the blind spot gradually come into focus. What came to light was the fascinating story of a family whose villa had been a social meeting place for Eastern Jewish and Zionist circles in the late 1920s, a place where Jewish poets, painters, actors, philosophers and politicians came together. They all appreciated the social and cultural commitment of the wayward landlady Braina Grüngard.

Anat Feinberg not only tells Braina's story, but also traces the family's experiences in Berlin during the Weimar years.

**Rights available**



## Kay Schiller **»Germany's Fastest Jew«**

Alex Natan (1906–1971) – A Biography | 398 p., 14 ill.

Alex Natan (1906–1971) – top German-Jewish track and field athlete as well as journalist – is a personality that has hardly been explored though being a fascinating one: The homosexual top athlete was a 100-meter sprint relay world record holder, belonged to the Berlin circle around Alfred Flechtheim's magazine »Querschnitt«, studied under Alfred Weber in Heidelberg, put his life on the line in the resistance against NS-dictatorship, was involved in a mysterious criminal case in London's exile milieu, suffered through four years of privation in internment, and became a well-known German publicist after WWII.

Kay Schiller's biography captures a grand panorama of history by linking very different subjects: sports and culture in the Weimar Republic, antisemitism, homosexuality and persecution, wartime Germany and Britain, and the first decades of the Bonn Republic.

**Rights available**



## Valentin Groebner **Holiday Fatigue**

When Traveling Didn't Help Anymore | 152 p., 7 ill.

A most recent buzzword was »overtourism«: overcrowding in cities, beaches, dream destinations. Then the big shutdown came in the spring of 2020: closed borders, closed airports, deserted city centers. With the return to normality, wanderlust will probably return, the great departure for the vacationing. But where to? Vacation was not envisioned in any of the great social utopias of recent centuries, in Tommaso di Campanella's Sunshine State any more than in the communist paradise or in the supposed dissolution of all bodies and boundaries in the self-governing Digitalia of the 1990s. Overthrow? Revolution? All irrelevant.

At the beginning of the 21st century, vacation was the last great social utopia, the territory of freedom, three weeks a year. Unfortunately, this utopia is just ceasing to function. It has become crowded and cramped in paradise. That's why — like every paradise — it was unfortunately closed down for good recently. The fulfillment of dreams has left behind too much dirt, a lot of weariness and tiredness. Then the COVID 19 pandemic came. And at some point, normality will return. Reason enough for a little stocktaking.

**Rights available**



## Stefana Sabin **The Blink of an Eye**

A Cultural History of Spectacles | 96 p., 34 ill.

From the nobleman Titurel in the story of the Holy Grail to Emma Bovary and Harry Potter – this book tells of historical figures and figures from painting and literature, all of whom wore glasses.

The printing press, mechanization, automation and digitization were harbingers of profound and lasting changes that have transformed social, cultural and economic conditions in such a way that we commonly refer to them as revolutions. But there are also quieter revolutions: for example, when an apparently banal object fundamentally changes people's living and working conditions. One such object is a pair of spectacles. It could be said that modernity begins with a paradigm shift in medical philosophy, transforming visual impairment from a disease treated with pomades and tinctures into an impairment that can be corrected by means of technical instruments.

**Rights sold**

- English: Reaktion Books



## Magnus Brechtken (Ed.) **Reprocessing National Socialism** A Compendium | 720 p., 21 ill.

Grappling the collective National Socialist past has had a profound influence on the history of the Federal Republic of Germany. It presented a challenge that many Germans were reluctant to accept. Attempts at legal reappraisal, the question of the perpetrators, the perspective of personal responsibility, political discussions and social suppression, along with autobiographical literature and public remembrance at memorial sites and museums: over more than seven decades, all this has formed a panorama of working on the past.

Up until now, however, no summarizing analysis on this complex has been published. Magnus Brechtken has assembled leading historians, who provide a compendium on the most important topics in more than 25 contributions.

With contributions, among others, by Frank Bajohr, Christopher Browning, Constantin Goschler, Jeffrey Herf, Ulrike Jureit, Wulf Kansteiner

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## Norman Domeier **Global Public and Dictatorship** American Foreign Correspondents in the »Third Reich« 656 p., 50 ill.

Hitler's »Third Reich« was never a hermetically sealed dictatorship. On the contrary – up until the spring of 1945, Nazi Germany was extremely active and well connected in the global media market. For the first time, Norman Domeier examines American foreign correspondents in Germany – from the rise of Hitler in the 1920s to the Nuremberg Trials in 1945/46.

Domeier's research reveals many state and World War secrets, shedding new light on the transatlantic and global relationships of the era. The US media maintained their ties with the wartime enemy between 1942 and 1945: Associated Press (AP) cooperated with the Nazi regime throughout World War II. This could offer a new explanation for the American media's ignorance of the murder of European Jews.

**Rights sold**

- English: Camden House



## Julian Timm

### **Narrated Antisemitism**

The narrative of the ›Jewish World Conspiracy‹ from its literary origins to the present day | 432 p., 14 ill.

For a long time, research and public discourse have based the notion of a Jewish world conspiracy on the supposed credibility of the so-called »Protocols of the Elders of Zion«. Yet it is well known that even the forged »Protocols« can be traced back to older texts. One of these texts is John Retcliffe's »In the Jewish Churchyard in Prague« (1868), in which fictional elements can be identified that constitute the idea of a Jewish world conspiracy to the present day.

From the perspective of literary studies, Julian Timm shows the continuities of the narrative of the ›Jewish World Conspiracy‹ from its literary beginnings in the 19th century to Michael Ende's children's book »Wunschkinder« (1989). He shows how antisemitic fictions are still reproduced today – (un)consciously and beyond literature – and how a formerly literary narrative can repeatedly become a legitimizing narrative for antisemitic and racist acts of violence, such as in Halle or Hanau.

**Rights available**



## Martin Sabrow

### **The Rathenau Murder and the German Counter-Revolution**

334 p., 17 ill.

On June 24, 1922, Walther Rathenau, Reich Foreign Minister of the Weimar Republic, was shot dead on the open street. No other event shook the Weimar Republic more than the series of attacks in 1921/1922.

Martin Sabrow explores the question: Were the assassinations attributable to incited individual perpetrators, or was there an organized murder plot of a secret society behind them? German justice was unable (or unwilling) to prove the guilt of the »Consul« organization, which had obviously pulled all the strings.

The author uncovers the events of that time. He proves the deliberate bending of the law by the conservative thinking judiciary and explains why the aim of the assassination series could never be fully known to the public.

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