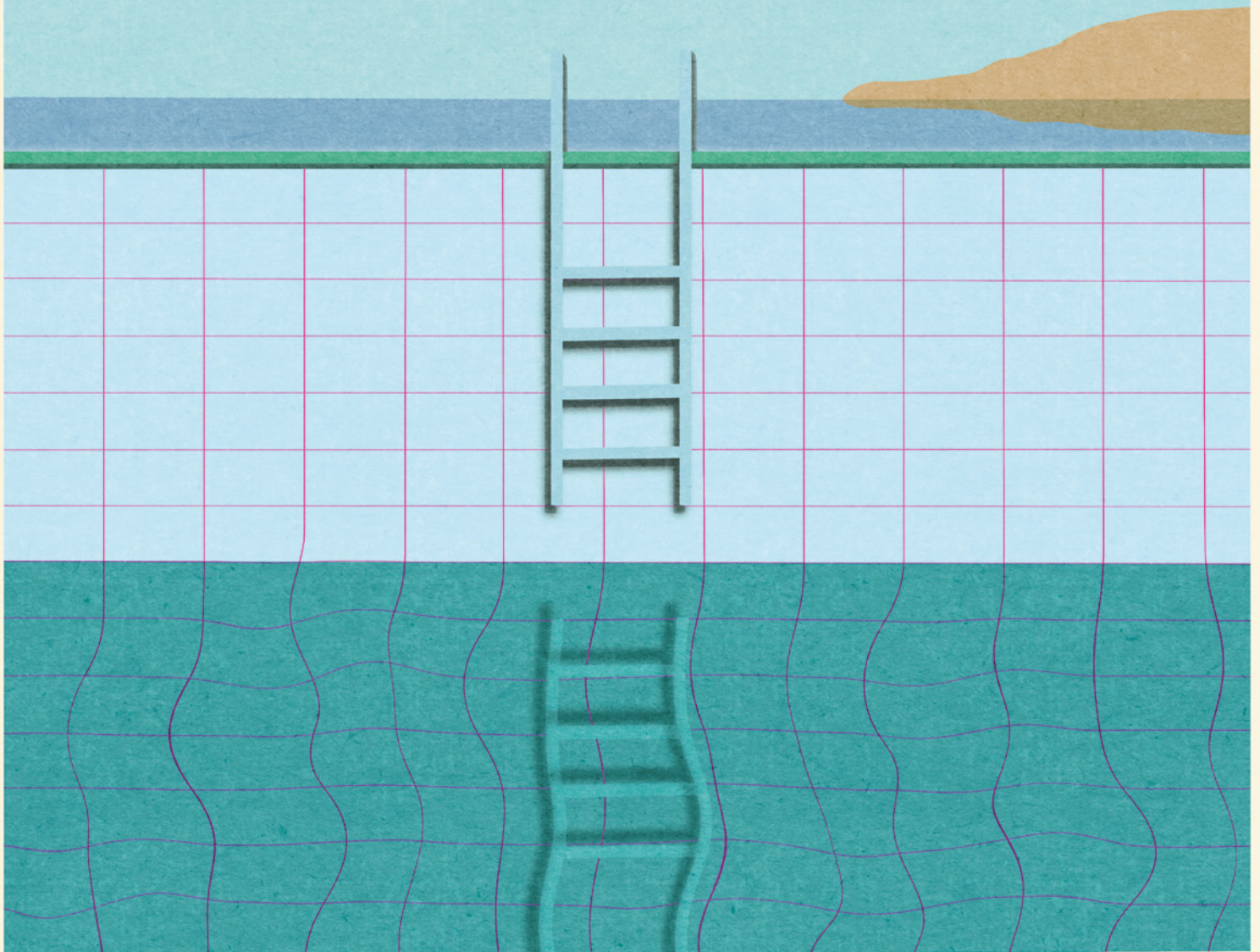


»» WALLSTEIN

Foreign Rights Catalogue **Spring 2024**



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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»Maybe tomorrow, says the harbor keeper. Maybe the ferries will come back tomorrow.«

Thea Mengeler

After the Ferries

Novel

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.

Thea Mengeler, born in 1988, grew up in Krefeld and studied literary writing and communication design in Hildesheim, Kiel and Istanbul. She was a finalist at the 28th »open mike« and Styria Artist in Residence 2022. She currently works as a freelance author and lives in Hanover, Germany. In 2022 she published her debut »connect (Leykam)«. »After the Ferries« is her second novel.



Thea Mengeler
After the Ferries
Novel

175 p.



For Kafka Year 2024: the first volume of the first annotated Kafka edition.

Franz Kafka

The Process

Novel

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, Franz Kafka's novel »The Process« is a pleasure to read, even after almost 100 years, and feels like an intense dream. Newly edited and annotated by Kafka biographer Reiner Stach, this volume invites you to read Kafka's »The Process« once again or for the first time with a fresh perspective. 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 workshop. In this way, it becomes clear how extraordinarily dense »The Process« 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.

Franz Kafka (1883–1924), is one of the most important German-language writers of the 20th century.

Reiner Stach, born in 1951, studied German language and literature, philosophy and mathematics in Frankfurt am Main. After working as a science editor for several publishing houses, he began working on a three-volume biography of Franz Kafka in the mid-1990s, which is now internationally recognized as a standard biography. Awards: Special prize for the Heimito von Doderer-Literaturpreis (2008), Bayerischer Buchpreis (2015) and Joseph-Breitbach-Preis (2016).



Franz Kafka
The Process
Novel

Edited, annotated and with an afterword by
Reiner Stach

397 p.



»You will cut, and you will fall endlessly into one world or the other.«

Thomas Lehr Kafka's Scissors

Thomas Lehr's miniatures are based on Franz Kafka's masterly model. They are variations and homage, an addition to and expansion of the spectrum of superb nightmares and humorously grotesque visions. Whole days are spent without a head, the sensitive scissors that separate man from God and animal are applied. Mythical figures meet bizarre civilizations from other galaxies, ludicrous reproductive techniques produce hair-raising results. The grim regime in the Tower of Babel does not lie far from the post-Orwellian surveillance state in these linguistic conundrums brought to extreme brevity.

Miniatures from the 21st century that carry the spirit of Kafka within them.

Thomas Lehr, born in Speyer in 1957, lives and works as a freelance writer in Berlin. Lehr's work, which includes several novels, has received numerous awards.



Thomas Lehr
Kafka's Scissors

83 p.



The decisive debate book on the climate crisis.

Thomas Brussig

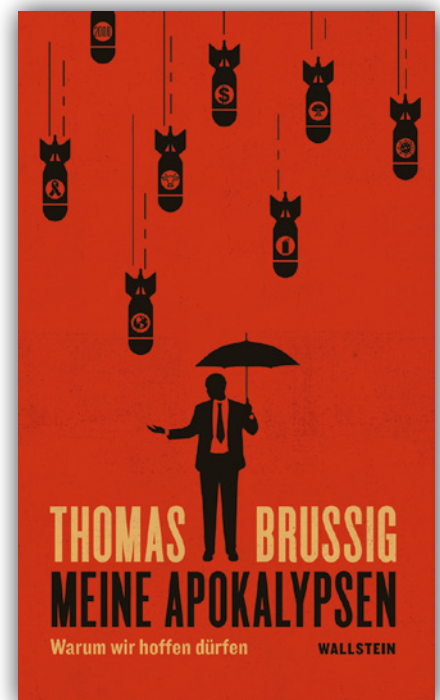
My Apocalypses

Why there is Hope

Thinking about the future today means thinking about climate change, which comes across as a climate catastrophe, even a climate apocalypse. The fearful power of climate change is absolutely understandable, the predicted devastation unprecedented. But mankind has several times been confronted with apocalyptic threats, in the last forty years alone it amounts to the nuclear arms race, AIDS, the hole in the ozone layer, BSE and, last but not least, Covid. What did people fear for? What has actually happened? How does climate change differ from previous apocalyptic scenarios?

In this personal debate book, Thomas Brussig pleads for a sense of proportion and sobriety. If we accept the unavoidable and focus our efforts and ideas on the avoidable, the climate crisis still leaves room for hope.

Thomas Brussig, born in Berlin in 1964, had his breakthrough in 1995 with »Helden wie wir« (»Heroes Like Us«, Farrar Straus & Giroux 1997). This was followed by »Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee« (og. 1999, »The Short End of the Sonnenallee«, Fourth Estat, 2023) and »Das gibt's in keinem Russenfilm« (2015, »This Wouldn't Happen in a Russian Movie«), among others. His works have been translated into over 30 languages. Thomas Brussig is the only living German writer to have reached an audience of millions with one of his literary works as well as with a feature film and a stage production.



Thomas Brussig
My Apocalypses
 Why there is Hope

181 p.



For the first time based on the hitherto unpublished typescript: A classic that tells of consistent attitude and fearless action in a world that has come apart at the seams.

Ernst Toller

A Youth in Germany

Original Version

In the summer of 1924, one hundred years ago, Ernst Toller began working on his autobiographical novel »A Youth in Germany«. However, it was not until the »collapse of 1933« that he completed the work. The book, which he considered his best, was published in Amsterdam in November 1933.

In it, Toller describes his childhood and youth in the small West Prussian town of Samotschin, him becoming a pacifist and socialist after being a war volunteer, as well as his participation in the Munich Soviet Republic. After its suppression, he was put on trial and sentenced to five years in prison for high treason.

But it is not just his own life story that Toller tells here. It is also the story of a generation that made the first attempt to put democratic socialism into effect in Germany. In its failure, he traces the causes of the problems that led to the rise of Hitler and the downfall of the Weimar Republic.

The newly edited text presents for the first time three different versions, some of which are unknown to scholars, thus enabling a comparative reading. The detailed commentary also sheds light on the historical background and work-historical contexts, as well as the author's working methods. It shows how the exiled Toller increasingly positions his text against National Socialism.

Ernst Toller (1893–1939), son of a Jewish merchant family from Samotschin (Poznan), studied in Grenoble, returned to Germany as a war volunteer in 1914, became an opponent of the war in 1916 and, under the influence of Kurt Eisner and Gustav Landauer, became an advocate of »ethical« socialism. Participation in the Munich Soviet Republic, five years in prison. In 1933 his works were banned in Germany, he then emigrated via England to the U.S., where he took his own life in 1939. Publications: »Transfiguration« (1919), »Masses Man« (1920), »Hoppla, We're Alive!« (1927) and more.

Peter Langemeyer, is professor emeritus of German literature at Østfold University (Halden, Norway). He is co-editor of the critical edition of Toller's »Collected Works« (2015), and of the edition of Toller's Letters (2018), both published by Wallstein Verlag.



Ernst Toller
A Youth in Germany
Original Version

Edited and annotated by Peter Langemeyer
ca. 520 p., 3 ill.



Carefully selected by Hans Wollschläger: Karl Kraus's best texts as published in »Die Fackel«.

Hans Wollschläger (ed.) Karl Kraus Reader

What would he have to say to us today? On the brutalization of language in social networks, on the rhetoric of the New Right? Could he think of anything to say about the active »anti-fascism« of Vladimir Putin?

Karl Kraus was born 150 years ago in Jitschin, eastern Bohemia. In his magazine »Die Fackel«, which was published for 37 years from 1899 onwards, he passionately and tirelessly confronted the disgraces of his time. With furor, anger, and wit that was second to none.

This fearless and non-partisan revolutionary still has much to say to us today with his tireless fight against injustice and hypocrisy, double standards and war mongers and, not least, cant. What does it mean to have a social conscience? Why is accuracy in language important? And why are the phrase and the matter one?

Karl Kraus can now be rediscovered through Hans Wollschläger's reader: In a cross-section of one hundred selected texts, the best of 23.000 printed pages of the »Fackel«, for the first time in the original text form.

Karl Kraus (1874–1936), was the editor and almost sole author of the »Fackel« and one of the most revered and at the same time most hated critics of his time.

Hans Wollschläger (1935–2007), was a translator (of James Joyce's »Ulysses«, amongst other works), writer, historian, religious critic, rhetorician, essayist and literary historian. Throughout his lifetime, he received many awards.



Hans Wollschläger (ed.)
Karl Kraus Reader

ca. 440 p.



A plea for the ethics of storytelling and thinking in utopias.

Carolyn Emcke

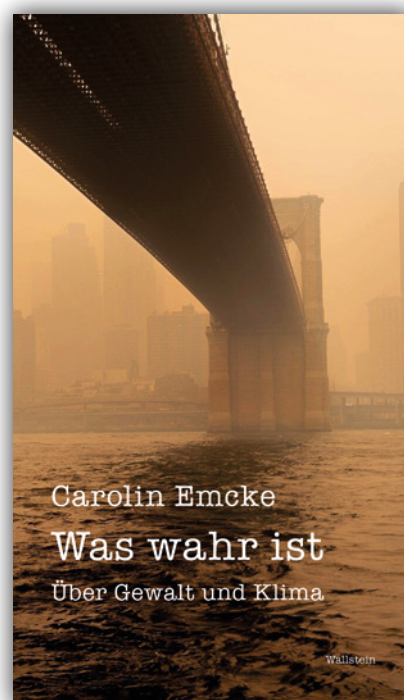
What is True

On Violence and Climate

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 forwards: 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.

Carolyn Emcke, was born in 1967 and studied philosophy in London, Frankfurt am Main and at Harvard University. She wrote her doctoral thesis on the concept of »collective identities«. From 1998 to 2013, Carolyn Emcke traveled to crisis regions worldwide and reported on them. In 2003/2004 she was a visiting lecturer in political theory at Yale University. She is a philosopher and publicist and is regularly involved in artistic projects and interventions, including the events »Narrating War« and »Archive of Flight« at the House of World Cultures, Berlin. Carolyn Emcke has curated and moderated the monthly discussion series »Space for Dispute« at the Schaubühne Berlin for almost 20 years. Her books »Against Hate« (Polity, 2019), »How We Desire« (Text, 2018), »When I Say Yes« (Polity, 2020) have been translated into over 15 languages. Awards: Merck-Preis der Deutschen Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung (2014), Friedenspreis des Deutschen Buchhandels (2016), Carl-von-Ossietzky-Preis (2020).



Carolyn Emcke
What is True
On Violence and Climate

124 p.



The philosopher and the lagoon city – Nietzsche expert Renate Müller-Buck set out in search of clues.

Renate Müller-Buck

»... trembling with colorful bliss«

Nietzsche in Venice

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 morning 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.

Renate Müller-Buck, studied German and American studies in Tübingen and Berkeley. From 1980 to 1985, she was a lecturer in German language and literature at the German Department of the University of Florence, then a research assistant at the Technical University of Berlin for the preparation of the post-report volumes for the historical-critical edition of Nietzsche's correspondence by Colli and Montinari. She also works as a translator from Italian and French, has written radio essays and in 2017 was involved in a documentary about Nietzsche and his sister's forgeries.



Renate Müller-Buck
»... trembling with colorful bliss«
Nietzsche in Venice

ca. 176 p., ca. 20 ill.

Except for translation rights into Italian.



Teresa Präauer

Dining in the Wrong Century

Novel | 198 p.

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 hosting couple and their guests discuss very important and marginal issues, covering the range from foodporn images on the internet to cooking, shopping and dwelling 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

For the Emperor from Overseas

140 p.

A female aviator glides along in a bean-shaped aircraft, accompanied by birds flying in a formation. The grandfather is immediately able to explain this to his small grandchildren by pointing his middle and index fingers upwards in the shape of a V for victory, for the formation the birds fly in! And with the same level of enthusiasm he shows them how to fly, teaching them to study the birds closely so as to learn their flying tricks. The grandfather is a real expert, himself having been an aviator until he crashed one day and met a rather mysterious Japanese lady whose aircraft he was then obliged to repair. On the one hand so that she could fly home again, and on the other...

The children hang on his every word, and the stories become more and more fantastic. That is, if the grandfather does not suddenly turn grumpy and give his listeners a telling-off, along with their grandmother, who bears no comparison to the Japanese lady. Or does she...?

Rights available



Teresa Präauer **Becoming Animal**

100 p.

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



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



Felix Heidenreich **The Philosopher's Servant**

Novel | 152 p.

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, town-famous couple.

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 inspired look into the abysses of the Enlightenment.

Rights available



Felix Heidenreich **I Still Remember**

Novel | 146 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



Ofer Waldman **Singular Collective**

152 p.

You can't imagine it. The rush, the fear, the heartbeat, the breath, the emotion, the heat. With these words, »Singular Collective« dives into a world beyond the glamour usually associated with classical music. A world beneath the thin cover of tailcoats and bow ties, where the orchestra resembles a vast plain, a stationless place. Where it smells of tin and oil, wood and sweat.

Fantasies, observations, social aphorisms appear from the thin gap between the solitude of the practice room and the anonymity of the orchestra rows. The violinist who pretends to play and celebrates her silent art, the rejected trombonist who fears for the favor of a new general music director. The bad cellist who hangs on to his cello like a castaway, the late violinist who is not being waited for. The illusionary reality of a dress rehearsal. The unusual instruments that didn't make it into the orchestral canon. Characters and scenes that come from the orchestral world and are read as commentaries on life.

Rights available



Julia Frieese **MTTR**

Novel | 421 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 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 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



Anna Baar **Hey, Delightful Art!**

152 p.

Anna Baar tells of artists and works that influenced her aesthetic perception of the world in the most diverse ways. »Hey, Delightful Art!« gathers marginal notes and literary contributions on what she has seen, heard, and read. Anecdotes of quaint encounters on her strolls through fairgrounds, movie theaters, public restrooms, bars, museums, concert arenas, and opera houses, reflections on reception and critics, and obituaries on early companions. In doing so, she dispenses with common assessments, places celebrities such as Patti Smith, Peter Handke, David Bowie, J. M. Simmel, Mozart, or Hannibal Lecter among the seemingly inconspicuous – and herself along with them.

What Baar discovers in others, she links to the personal. She tells of distractions and digressions on her own path, about times of wondering and pausing, the dear misery of gallery visits, the comfort of moritates and silent lovers, who speak from songs. Art not as what seems, but what resonates within us ...

Rights available



Anna Baar **Nile**

Novel | 148 p.

»In the end everything comes true, especially the parts that were made up.« A novel on the prophetic power of writing.

A storywriter is tasked to bring her serial for a women's magazine to a close with the next issue. Feverishly she sketches a final scenario, but then destroys the notes – not because they weren't good enough, but because she is afraid they will come true. What if the things she has written turn out to be biographical – not in a backwards sense, like looking back on life in a retrospective, but in the sense of fortune-telling, becoming real along the way? Does the narrator only exist in her story? And if so, is there a way of escaping it?

A highly literary novel about the relationship between reality and fiction, narration and memory – enthrallingly written, with a delicate use of language.

Rights available

»» Christine Lavant The Changeling Story | 104 p.

Fate has been unkind to Zitha. Born as the illegitimate child of a farm girl, she is mentally and physically handicapped. The people in the village, biased by their Catholicism and superstition, have a simple explanation for the girl's fate: evil spirits have stolen the child after birth and replaced it with a bewitched girl. A changeling, as it is known as in the myths and ghost stories of the Alpine regions. It is said that it will bring bad luck to the whole of the village. So the collective delusion runs its course, against which even the mother's love is powerless. In the end, the villagers go so far as to seek to kill the child. Christine Lavant describes the social exclusion of a weak member of the village community with great intensity. The story, which was posthumously published in 1998, also stands for the danger to our civilisation that emerged not least during Christine Lavant's lifetime, with the ›extermination of worthless life‹ propagated by the National Socialists.

Rights sold

- Dutch: Uitgeverij Vleugels
- English: New York Review Books
- Italian: La Grande Illusiion de Giuseppe Zapelloni
- Korean: Moonji Publishing
- Spanish – Mexico: AUIEO Ediciones

»» Christine Lavant Notes from the Asylum 140 p.

Christine Lavant attempts to process her stay on a psychiatric ward in writing: a literary report that gets right under the reader's skin.

At the age of twenty, after attempting to commit suicide by taking an overdose of medication, Christine Lavant spent six weeks in the Federal State Asylum in Klagenfurt. Eleven years later, in the autumn of 1946, she wrote about the experiences she had with the patients, nurses and doctors in the psychiatric institution. Above all, however, her report focuses on her self-perception, the state of her own consciousness and subconsciousness in this existential situation. With exaggerated precision and extreme intensity, the authoress conveys a picture of specific situations and everyday life in the clinic – the treatments, the implicit violence. Everything is imbued with apocalyptic fantasies.

During her lifetime, the text was never published in German. Only an English translation was broadcast as a radio story by the BBC in 1959.

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 - Polish: Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolinskich
 - Spanish: Errata Naturae Editores
- Rights sold



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.

The fundamental experience of being a refugee is always the loss of homeland, language and sense of belonging.

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. In his works, he expresses the suffering of persecution in an exceptional way.

Rights sold

- French: Editions Verdier
- Italian: Casa Editrice Giuntina



Valentin Groebner

Picking Up, Throwing Away

On Dealing with Beautiful Things | 171 p.

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.

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Christian Begemann

Little Poetics of the Drawer

From Goethe to Musil, Christian Begemann's essay takes a look at the functions and meanings of this very special kind of container. The literature of the 19th century and early modernity unfolds a veritable poetics of the drawer, whose contents serve, for example, to characterize literary figures. But actions also arise in and from them, for example when things, records, or letters come to light that drastically change the lives of the characters. Sometimes entire stories are spun out of drawers: catastrophes, small and large, love disasters and marriage crises. This is also reflected in the construction of narratives that are fictitiously found in drawers as old sheets of paper. Drawers are spaces of memory, but thus also spaces of the unconscious. Alongside long-forgotten clutter, items exist in which memory is stored, and which, often hauntingly and destructively, allow the past to return. These uncalled and uncontrollable forces constitute the special magic of the drawer.

If one looks into them more closely, questions of a cultural imaginary are raised that mark cracks in modern consciousness.

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Norman Domeier

Global Public and Dictatorship.

American Foreign Correspondents in the »Third Reich« | 768 p.

On the close cooperation between the Nazi regime and American journalists.

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. As political actors the Americans held a firm position in the Nazi polycracy up to December 1941.

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), which is, to this day, the world's largest news agency, 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: the daily flood of news and press photos from the Nazi domain led to a media saturation that made it seem superfluous for news agencies to conduct their own research into controversial stories.

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- English: Camden House



Edited by Magnus Brechtken

Reprocessing National Socialism

A Compendium | 720 p.

Reviewing Germany's approach to handling the legacy of National Socialism.

Grappling with 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 form of more than 25 contributions. They provide descriptive summaries of contemporary knowledge, specifying the historical facts and how they are handled.

With contributions by Frank Bajohr, Christopher Browning, Constantin Goscler, Jeffrey Herf, Ulrike Jureit, Wulf Kansteiner and many others.

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Ulrike Enke

Emil von Behring 1854–1917

624 p.

Emil von Behring (1854–1917) became famous as the inventor of vaccines against diphtheria and tetanus. The press celebrated him as the ›savior of children and soldiers‹. In 1901, he received the first Nobel Prize for Medicine. Using previously undiscovered sources, Ulrike Enke draws a nuanced portrait of the physician and immunologist beyond all indiscriminate worship.

Behring grew up in poverty; it was only due to a scholarship that he was able to study medicine. His intelligence, his ambition, and not at least his ability to establish useful networks furthered his enormous social advancement. Enke shows a person who is admired as an analytical mastermind and feared as a negotiator. She unfolds a new image of a pioneering researcher who is still remembered today as the founder of the Behringwerke in Marburg.

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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.

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