

Wallstein Verlag

Foreign Rights Catalogue | Spring 2015

Literature

Editions

History

Cultural Sciences

About Literature

Backlist Highlights





Wallstein Verlag

Geiststraße 11
D-37073 Göttingen

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 approx. 150 books per year to its list, with an annual turnover of approx. two million euros.

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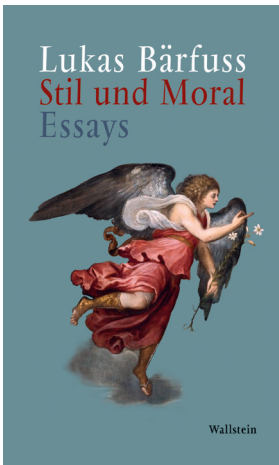
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Perhaps no Swiss author since Frisch and Dürrenmatt has had such a public impact as Lukas Bärfuss.

Lukas Bärfuss

Style and Morality

Essays



Lukas Bärfuss
Style and Morality
Essays

200 pages, hardback,
dust cover

Whenever Lukas Bärfuss thinks about the great concepts: freedom, falsehood, space, time, »Where am I here?«, it never happens in the vacuum of abstraction. He always tells stories. He is curious about the world, about things great and small. Above all, he turns his attention to people and the relationships between them: in the spheres of love, work, politics and art. »Why do authors remain silent?«, asks Bärfuss challengingly. He wants to get involved, even considers it his duty. His biographical experiences in the lower echelons of society may have sharpened his perception of injustice and cheap counsel. He knows: answers are never handed to us on a plate, we must sift through any number of contradictions to find them, and even then, they always remain ambivalent. Repeatedly, Bärfuss goes over the hypothetical scenario of the dilemma that can arise when an individual wishes to behave in the right way in a moral sense. His appraisal of Robert Walser also applies to himself: »His literature does not ask me who I am, what I can do, what I have read or how great my knowledge is. It simply asks me: Are you ready? Do you want to see?«

»Lukas Bärfuss is the most exciting author in Switzerland.«

Richard Kämmerlings, Die Welt

Lukas Bärfuss was born in 1971 in Thun, Switzerland, one of the most successful German-speaking dramatists. His plays are staged all over the world. His extremely successful debut novel »Hundert Tage« (One Hundred Days) was nominated for the German Book Prize and won the Swiss Book prize for his novel »Koala« in 2014. His works have been translated into 17 languages. He received numerous additional prizes for his plays and his novels. Lukas Bärfuss lives in Zurich.

Steven Bloom

The most positive word in the English language

Novel

As a college student, Norman Goldstein falls in love with a black fellow student and marries her, against all opposition. Throughout his career, first as a mail sorter, then as a social worker and finally as a university professor, he continually becomes embroiled in dialogues that are completely politically incorrect: about children and parents, sexuality, marriage and the many-faceted relationships between man and woman, religion, racial discrimination and homophobia, the Irish and the Jews, the Vietnam and Iraq wars, terrorism and the conspiracy theories following the WTC attack.

Bloom refers to every conceivable prejudice and cliché there is, stirring up high-level politics and history as well as the most private of personal fates. He never settles for an easy punch line – on the contrary, he sets alight a firework display of them, from the midst of which elements of sadness and comedy slowly emerge.

Steven Bloom was born in 1942 in Brooklyn, New York, the son of a Polish Jew; lives in Heidelberg. He was a radio journalist in the USA, and has worked at the University of Heidelberg as a lecturer for American studies for many years.

No one writes such quick, wicked and absurdly twisting dialogues as Steven Bloom.



Steven Bloom
The most positive word in the English language
Novel

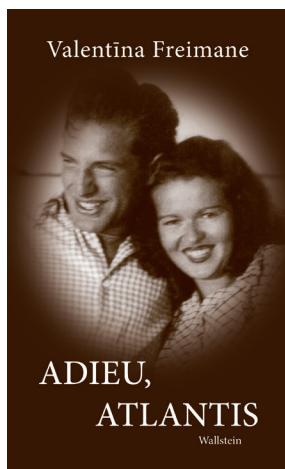
160 pages, hardback,
dust cover

The story of Valentīna Freimane's life gives an astonishing portrait of the history of Europe in the 20th century.

Valentina Freimane

Adieu, Atlantis

Recollections



Valentīna Freimane
Adieu, Atlantis
Recollections

Translated from the Latvian
by Matthias Knoll

341 pages, hardback,
dust cover, 46 illustrations

What a life! The childhood of the authoress, born in 1922, could certainly be described as cosmopolitan. One of her grandmothers spoke German, the other Russian, and the Latvian-Jewish family constantly moved back and forth between Riga, Paris and Berlin. Here they lived in a guesthouse close to the Kudamm, where a constant stream of actors, directors and authors from all over Europe met and exchanged the latest news and information. Valentina Freimane tells us about this era from the carefree perspective of an adolescent girl, painting a magnificent portrait of the period. At the same time, of course, the authoress knows that there was to be a radical change in these living conditions just a few years later. The family must return to Riga, where it experiences the occupation of the Baltic States by the Soviet Union, the invasion of the German troops in 1941, and finally the return of the Soviets shortly before the end of the war. In a precise and extraordinarily touching way, Freimane tells the story of the crushing wheel of fate that deals three blows, resulting in the loss of both parents, her husband and almost all of her remaining relatives. She herself owes her life to people who hid her at enormous personal risk – Latvian, Russian, German, Polish people, to whom she expresses her gratitude. A deeply moving book.

Valentīna Freimane was born in 1922 in Riga, spent her childhood in Paris, Berlin and Riga. Whilst her entire family was assassinated in the Riga holocaust, Valentīna Freimane was hidden in several places and survived. After 1945 she studied film and theatre studies, graduated with a doctorate in art history, worked at the Latvian Academy of Sciences. Today she lives in Riga and Berlin.

Matthias Knoll was born in 1963, studied Eurythmic Art and Art in Berlin. Freelance work as an actor. Since 1991 freelance author and translator, member of the German and Latvian writers' guild. Lives in Berlin.

Kai Weyand
Applause for Bronikowski
Novel

Nies is over thirty now, but sometimes he still seems far away from becoming an adult. He prefers spending his time throwing eggs and tomatoes against buildings to working in a bank like his brothers. And the fact that his parents left him alone at a rather early age cannot be used as an excuse forever, even though Nies adamantly clings to his defiant nickname from those times. He is an observer, a player who makes up his own mind about everything. It is more by luck than judgement that he suddenly finds himself with a job: at a funeral parlour. The confrontation with death proves demanding, especially as a sense of responsibility has not been one of his outstanding characteristics up until now. He manages to make up for this with his skills of improvisation, and deep down he is really a thoroughly decent kind of guy. Whatever kind of clichés might exist – being an undertaker's assistant is a highly varied occupation. And the dignity of a human being does not come to an end after death.

Kai Weyand was born in 1968, studied, works as a prison teacher and as an employee at a firm of solicitors, lives in Freiburg. Awarded first prize at the open mike of the LiteraturWERKstatt Berlin, the Irseer Pegasus and the Bolero literary prize.

For Kai Weyand it's a matter of life and death. Very funny.



Kai Weyand
Applause for Bronikowski
Novel

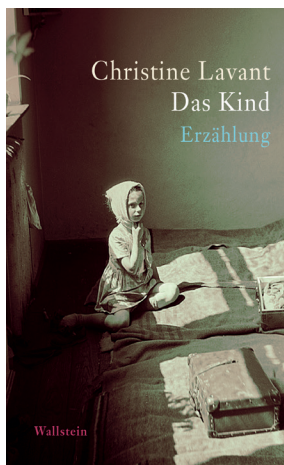
200 pages, hardback,
dust cover

Christine Lavant would have turned 100 on the 4th July 2015.

Christine Lavant

The Child

Story



Christine Lavant
The Child
Story

Edited and with an epilogue
by Klaus Amann

88 pages, hardback, dust
cover

This story, written in 1945/46, marks the debut of the authoress Christine Lavant, in which she writes about the life of a child in a sanatorium. Throughout the narrative, she remains in the girl's world of thought, scarcely understanding the mysterious and existential events going on around her. Many of the themes that arise later are touched upon here in an impressive way: illness, physical impairment and society's discriminatory approach towards it. In contrast, she shows the dignity of the individuals afflicted, who strive to affirm their own existence in antiquated circumstances governed by religion and superstition. From early childhood onwards, Christine Lavant herself suffered from various serious illnesses. This allows her to empathise with her figures in a special way: her writing is based on her own fate, or at least on real situations she experienced during her many stays in hospital. It is not pity that speaks from the texts, but a precise way of observing and acknowledging the severity of the situation from extremely close quarters. This is the source of the enormous power of Lavant's literature.

The story was first published in 1948. It has been out of print for several years. This new edition is based on the original manuscript of the authoress, which has been reworked and corrected only in the case of obvious slips of the pen or errors.

Christine Lavant (1915–1973), born in St. Stefan in Lavanttal (Carinthia) as the ninth child of a miner, was a lyricist and narrator. She finished her school education early due to bad health. For decades, she supported the family by knitting. She was awarded the Georg-Trakl Prize (1954 and 1964) and the Grand Austrian State Prize (1970).

Detlef Siegfried

Modern Lusts

Ernest Borneman –
Jazz Critic, Filmmaker, Sexologist

The first biography of Ernest Bornemann, on the occasion of the centenary of the famous jazz critic, documentary filmmaker and sexual scientist on April 12, 2015. Borneman, a young communist with a Jewish family background, emigrated to London in 1933. During the war he was arrested as an »enemy alien« and interned in Canada. There he worked for the National Film Board from 1941 onwards, making a series of documentary films including propaganda films against the »Third Reich«.

From the late 1960s, Borneman became one of the most prominent sexual scientists in the German-speaking world, propagating the idea of the »sexual revolution«, which was met with approval as well as impassioned opposition.

Owing to his chosen topics of jazz, film and sex, Borneman's focus was on areas where the special sensory perceptions of 20th century modernism and the conflicts of interpretation surrounding them became clearly visible. Detlef Siegfried traces Borneman's eventful life and portrays his work from the perspective of the history of the senses.

Ernest Borneman (1915–1995) was a criminal author, anthropologist, jazz researcher, filmmaker, psychologist and sex researcher. His best known publications include the »Lexikon der Liebe (Lexicon of Love)«, »Sex im Volksmund (Sex in the Vernacular)« and »Das Patriarchat (The Patriarchy)«.

Detlef Siegfried, born 1958, is a professor of modern German and European History at the University of Copenhagen. Publications include: *Deutsche Kulturgeschichte. Die Bundesrepublik 1945 bis zur Gegenwart* (German Cultural History. The Federal Republic of Germany from 1945 to the Present Day. In cooperation with Axel Schildt, 2009); *Time Is on My Side. Konsum und Politik in der westdeutschen Jugendkultur der 60er Jahre* (Consumerism and Politics in the West German Youth Culture of the 1960s, 2006); *Der Fliegerblick. Intellektuelle, Radikalismus und Flugzeugproduktion bei Junkers* (The Aerial View. Intellectuals, Radicalism and Aircraft Production at Junkers, 2001).

A critical appraisal of e-readers and e-books in the context of the history of our media.



Detlef Siegfried
Modern Lusts
Ernest Borneman –
Jazz Critic, Filmmaker,
Sexologist

455 pages, 46 illustrations,
hardback, dust cover

The conflicts surrounding
the Auschwitz-Birkenau
Memorial in the immediate
post-war period.

Imke Hansen

»Auschwitz: Never Again!«

The Creation of a Symbol and the Everyday Life
of a Memorial Site 1945 –1955



»Auschwitz« has today become an international synonym for homicide and holocaust. In the immediate post-war period, however, its path was by no means predetermined. The approach towards the former extermination camp was the subject of intensive discussions within Polish post-war society. There were various opposing ideas for the design and use of the site and for the political, religious and cultural classification of its history.

The starting point of Imke Hansen's work is the area of tension between the prominence of the site and the incongruity – or even irreconcilability – of its various symbolic values, even up to the present day. The authoress examines the origins and development of the Auschwitz-Birkenau symbol and the memorial in the first post-war decade. She devotes special attention to the everyday life of the memorial, events held and decisions made there. In many cases, these were more significant for the representation of Auschwitz-Birkenau than historical-political directives.

Imke Hansen

»Auschwitz: Never Again!«

The Creation of a Symbol and
the Everyday Life of a Memorial
Site 1945–1955

Diktaturen und ihre Überwindung im 20. und 21. Jahrhundert, (Overcoming Dictatorships in the 20th and 21st Centuries), vol. 9.

Edited by Carola Sachse and
Edgar Wolfrum

312 pages, 49 illustrations,
soft-cover.

Awarded the prize »Auschwitz Foundation – Remembrance of Auschwitz«.

Imke Hansen, born in 1978, historicist at the Hugo Valentin Centre of the University of Uppsala, research focus: 20th century East European history, Holocaust studies.

Publications include: *Erfahrung und Erinnerung. Neue Perspektiven der Konzentrationslagerforschung* (Experience and Memory. New Perspectives of Concentration Camp Research, co-ed., 2014); *Lebenswelt Ghetto. Alltag und soziales Umfeld während der nationalsozialistischen Verfolgung* (Life in the Ghetto. Everyday Life and Social Surroundings during the National Socialist Persecution, co-ed., 2013).

Walter Manoschek

»Then I am a Murderer!«

Adolf Storms and the Massacre of Jews in Deutsch Schützen

On March 29, 1945, three members of the »Wiking« division of the Waffen SS shot down at least 57 Hungarian-Jewish forced labourers in Deutsch Schützen in the Province of Burgenland. The name of one of the alleged perpetrators was Adolf Storms. 63 years after the mass murder, Walter Manoschek succeeded in speaking to Storms and two other Hitler Youth leaders involved.

The basic structure of the book is provided by discussions with Adolf Storms, the two Hitler Youth leaders and three Jews who survived the massacre. The multi-perspective approach allows a dense description of the procedures to emerge. Manoschek reconstructs the homicide in Deutsch Schützen, then turns his attention to Austria's judicial handling of Nazi perpetrators. The enclosed documentary film from the year 2012 gives both perpetrators and survivors of the massacre in Deutsch Schützen the chance to speak.

»I find this film excellent, especially because of its objectivity. It is a great achievement on the part of Walter Manoschek to document the event so precisely, so to speak without hate and zealotness.«

Elfried Jelinek on the film »Then I am a Murderer«.

Walter Manoschek, born in 1957, associate professor for political science at the University of Vienna, has for many years researched and published on the themes of National Socialism and the Holocaust; 1995–1999 co-designer of the exhibition »Vernichtungskrieg. Verbrechen der Wehrmacht 1941–1944 (War of Extermination. Crimes of the Wehrmacht 1941–1944«.

Publications include: Der Fall Rechnitz. Das Massaker an Juden im März 1945 (The Rechnitz Case. The Massacre of Jews in 1945, ed., 2009); Opfer der NS-Militärjustiz. Urteilspraxis – Strafvollzug – Entschädigungspolitik in Österreich (Victims of Nazi Military Justice. Legal Practice – Penal System – Compensation Policy, ed., 2003).

It was not difficult to find Adolf Storms in the summer of 2008. The name of the former SS Unterscharführer was in the German telephone directory.



Walter Manoschek
»Then I am a Murderer!«
Adolf Storms and the Massacre of Jews in Deutsch Schützen

219 pages, hardback,
dust cover, with enclosed DVD

The origins of the present territorial conflict in the area of the former Soviet Union.

Jan Zofka

Post-Soviet Separatism

The Pro-Russian Movements in the Dnjestr Valley and on the Peninsular of Crimea, 1989–1995



Jan Zofka

Post-Soviet Separatism

The Pro-Russian Movements in the Dnjestr Valley and on the Peninsular of Crimea, 1989–1995

ca. 384 pages, hardback, dust cover

Struggles over the Donbass area have been taking place in Ukraine since spring 2014, and Russian forces have taken over the Crimean Peninsular. Meanwhile, 20 years after the collapse of the UdSSR, state-like entities in Moldova, Georgia and Azerbaijan exist without international recognition.

Jan Zofka returns to the origins of two of these conflicts and takes a close look at the participants involved: the pro-Russian movements in Transnistria, Moldova and on the Crimean Peninsula. In what context did these movements evolve? From which social groups did the participants come? How did recruitment work?

A comparison reveals major differences: in Soviet times, already existing networks, social power structures and local institutions exerted their influence on the movements. The commitment of the participants by no means depended on an accepted collective affiliation, as suggested by the widespread interpretation of the post-1989 interstate wars as »ethnic conflicts«.

Awarded a PhD prize by the Research Academy Leipzig and the German Association for East European Studies.

Jan Zofka, born 1975, studied history, politics and East European studies in Leipzig and St. Petersburg. He is a research assistant at the GWZO (Centre for the History and Culture of East Central Europe), University of Leipzig.

Friedrich Forssman

How I Design Books

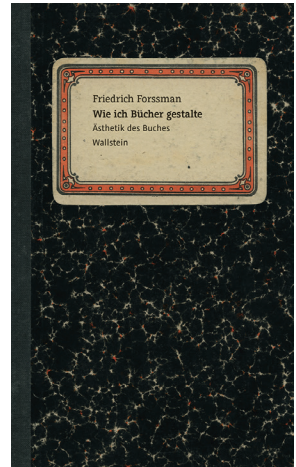
Friedrich Forssman provides a detailed insight into the workshop of a book designer.

Although the design of the cover and binding of a book is elemental for the reader, author, publisher and bookseller, the inner typography is at least as important as a provider of structure and orientation. It can be serious or playful, it can quote historical elements or be decidedly up-to-date – or both. From the clear and consistent design of the entire book right down to the choice of paper and cover materials, it can express the faith of all concerned in the seriousness of the enterprise and the love of the book.

Friedrich Forssman, one of the most prominent German book designers, gives a report on the way he approaches book design: from the general to the specific, from outside and inside, from typographical details to the production process.

Friedrich Forssman, born 1965, completed an apprenticeship as a typesetter and studied graphic design (one of his teachers was Hans Peter Willberg); from 1990 he was a book designer and typographer for the Arno Schmidt Foundation and a large number of publishers. The Buchkunst Foundation regularly awarded prizes to his work.

His designs include the Bargfeld Arno Schmidt Edition, the »Reclam-Bibliothek« and the new layout of the »Universal-Bibliothek«; he is an exhibition curator and the author of many specialist publications including: *Lesetypografie* (Reading Typography, 2005); *Erste Hilfe in Typografie* (First Steps of Typography) (2007) (both in cooperation with Hans Peter Willberg); *Detailtypografie* (Detail Typography) (2010) (in cooperation with Ralf de Jong).



Friedrich Forssman How I Design Books

The Aesthetics of the Book,
Vol. 6.

Edited by Klaus Detjen

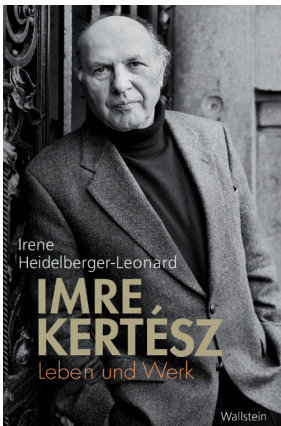
ca. 80 pages,
engl. soft-cover.

The first biography of works
on the great Hungarian
author.

Irene Heidelberger-Leonard

Imre Kertész

Life and Works



Irene Heidelberger-Leonard
Imre Kertész
Life and Works

ca. 200 pages, hardback,
dust cover

Long before writing his world-famous novel »Fatelessness«, Imre Kertész wrote a short text that reads like an outline of the novel. In »I, the Executioner«, a text fragment from the 1950s which remained unpublished for many years, the holocaust survivor does not write from the perspective of the victim, as one might expect, but from that of the perpetrator.

In this early text, there is already evidence of Kertész' conviction that, in totalitarianism, victim and perpetrator are interchangeable. Both sides resign themselves to their »fatelessness«, their loss of personality. According to Kertész, a survivor cannot be guilt-free – only the dead are without guilt.

Irene Heidelberger-Leonard presents the first biography of works of this exceptional writer, showing how closely Kertész' life is bound with his work, but also the freedom with which he constructs his life within literature.

Imre Kertész, born in 1929 in Budapest, deported to Auschwitz in 1944 and liberated from Buchenwald in 1945. After the war, he first became a journalist, and later worked as a freelance author and translator in Budapest. His autobiographical novel »Fatelessness« first attracted little attention. It did not become world-famous until after 1989.

He was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 2002. His trilogy of fatelessness in »Fatelessness«, »Fiasco«, »Kaddish for an Unborn Child« and »Liquidation« are pivotal texts of post-1945 literature. After living in Berlin for ten years, Kertész returned to Budapest in 2012.

Irene Heidelberger-Leonard, born in 1944, was a professor of modern German literature at the University of Brussels until 2009, and is an honorary professor at the University of London. In 2005 she was awarded the Einhard Prize for »outstanding biography« for her work »Jean Améry. Revolte in der Resignation (Revolt in Resignation)« (2004). Heidelberger-Leonard is also the editorial director of the 9-volume edition of the complete works of Jean Améry (2002 –2008).

Herbert Kraft

J. M. R. Lenz

Biography

Who was the Sturm und Drang poet J. M. R. Lenz? Today's picture of the man is pieced together from Goethe's later, harsh assessment in »Dichtung und Wahrheit (Poetry and Truth)« and Büchner's story »Lenz« – here, the poet is threatened with insanity and finally drifts into a wretched and meaningless existence.

Herbert Kraft paints a differentiated picture using material from many sources, some of them remote, and creates panoramas of the different stages in the life and work of the poet Lenz. In this way, certain places come to life: Protestant/Lutheran-oriented Livonia in the second half of the 18th century with its unlimited serfdom; Königsberg at the time of Kant, who was Lenz' teacher; Strasbourg, dominated by art and military barracks; Goethe's Weimar; loneliness in magnificent St. Petersburg; Moscow in the last eleven years of his life, where he wrote texts that have remained practically unknown up to the present day.

The biography provides many new insights into the life and writings of this mysterious poet. Kraft explains, for example, why Lenz was obliged to leave Weimar: contrary to popular belief, it was not Goethe who was responsible for his expulsion.

Jakob Michael Reinhold Lenz (1751–1792) is one of the most significant poets of the Sturm und Drang era. His comedies »Der Hofmeister (The Tutor)« and »Die Soldaten (The Soldiers)« remain some of the most outstanding works in the history of German literature. His poems have also retained their literary status after more than two centuries.

Herbert Kraft, born 1938 in Walsum on the Lower Rhine, is a professor emeritus for recent German literary history at the University of Münster. He was a visiting professor at Armidale/Australia and Cairo, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Sheffield.

Publications include: Annette von Droste-Hülshoff (6th edition, 2008); Kleist. Leben und Werk (Kleist. Life and Works, 2007); Musil (2003); edition of three volumes of Schiller's work (Nationalausgabe / National Edition) (1971, 1982, 2000).

The life, work and times of an author who was always surrounded by secrets:
Jakob Michael Reinhold Lenz.



Herbert Kraft
J.M.R. Lenz
Biography

464 pages, hardback,
dust cover

Backlist Highlights

Lukas Bärfuss

Rights sold:

- Bulgaria: Black Flamingo
- Croatia: Edicije Bozicevic
- English World: Milkweed
- France: Editions Zoé
- Spanish World: Adriana Hidalgo
- Turkey: Adam Aylak

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kalima
- Bulgaria: RIVA
- China: Shanghai Publishing
- Croatia: Edicije Bozicevic
- English World: Granta
- France: L'Arche Editeur
- Israel: Babel
- Italy: Einaudi
- Macedonia: ILI-ILI
- Poland: Ha!art
- Russia: Text Publishers
- Spanish World: Adriana Hidalgo Editora S.A.
- Sweden: Norstedts Förlag
- Turkey: Metis Yayınları

Koala

Novel | 184 pages

Nothing about the story told in Lukas Bärfuss's new novel seems normal. For the story culminates in an act of suicide, committed by the author's brother.

Bärfuss tries to track down his brother's fate, of which he knows very little. He encounters silence. Somehow the theme appears to be hidden behind a high wall; there is a huge taboo. And a secret. Why did his friends call him Koala? How did he get the name? And did it perhaps somehow influence his brother's fate, does a person start behaving as his name suggests he ought?

A Hundred Days

Novel | 198 pages

Lukas Bärfuss' meticulously researched novel tells the story of people who set out to do good and finally caused nothing but evil. »A Hundred Days« relays the darkest chapter of Africa's history, the Rwanda genocide, a story which concerns us more than we wish to believe. Not least, it is the moving story of love in times of war and the devastation caused by hate.

Alice goes to Switzerland – The Test – Amygdala

Plays | 168 pages

Euthanasia, paternity test, brain research, these are all only secondary matters – Lukas Bärfuss's plays in this selection address all the big moral questions of the present day in a way which is both auspicious and playful.

Rights sold:

- Bulgaria: Pygmalion Press
- France: L'Arche (Alice goes to Switzerland. The Test)

The Death of Meienberg – The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents – The Bus

Pieces for Theater | 220 pages

In The Sexual Neuroses, the mentally handicapped Dora is in a certain sense such a grain of sand in the works of the good, liberal society – not when she fulfils the role of the merely pitiable, but with immediate effect when she makes her own demands and no longer serves as the projection screen for all the nonsense about tolerance.

Rights sold:

- Bulgaria: Pygmalion Press (The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents. The Bus. The Death of Meienberg)
- France: L'Arche Editeur (The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents. The Bus. Four pictures of Love)
- Poland: Ksierngarnia Akademicka (The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents. The Bus)
- Romanian: Europress Group (The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents. The Bus)
- UK: Nick Hern Books Limited (The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents)
- Adapted to a movie by Stina Werenfels

Malaga – Parcifal – Twenty Thousand Pages

Plays | 208 pages

Bärfuss lets things start off like a piece of conversation and swell to a tragedy of Greek proportions. This plays tell stories that are related to our everyday lives and yet discuss wide-ranging themes such as guilt, responsibility, individual fulfillment – funny, tragic, grotesque. Full of unexpected turns. Exciting.

Rights sold:

- Bulgaria: Black Flamingo
- Spanish World: Quatenus/Eduvim

Ralph Dutli

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kana'an
- Netherlands: Cossee

The Song of Honey

A cultural history of the bee | 208 pages

The bee has provided inspiration for religious rituals, superstitions and miracle stories. It has stood for community spirit, self-sacrifice, provision for the future, well thought-out organization, purity, industriousness and abundance. But also for magic and prophecy, soul and inspiration. Ralph Dutli tells us all these things in a knowledgeable, witty and poetical way. A pleasurable invitation to reflect on the important role of the honey-making hymenoptera in world culture.

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kana'an
- France: Le Bruit du temps

Soutine's Last Journey

Novel | 272 pages

August 6, 1943. Chaime Soutine, a Belarussian/Jewish painter and a contemporary of Chagall, Modigliani and Picasso, is driven from the town of Chinon on the Loire to occupied Paris, hidden in a hearse. Suffering from a gastric ulcer, he is in need of an urgent operation which can no longer be put off. Being forced to lie quietly in the car for the whole trip, his mind starts wandering back in time.

A novel about childhood, infirmity and art. About the wounds of exile in Paris, the powerlessness of the letter and the overwhelming power of pictures.

Maja Haderlap

Angel of Oblivion

Novel | 288 pages

The story of a young girl and a family, and at the same time relates the story of a nation. This story goes back to the memories of a childhood in the mountains at Kärnten. In a highly sensuous way, the author recalls the scents of summer, her grandmother's cooking, her parents' fights and the idiosyncrasies of the neighbours. It tells of a girl growing up and her attempts to understand her family and the people around her.

Although the war is over, it is still omnipresent in the minds of the Slovenian minority to which the family belongs and has more influence on people's behavior than she would have ever guessed.

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Dar Al-Muna
- English World: Archipelago
- France: Editions Métailié
- Italy: Keller Editore
- Slovenia: Litera

Michael Hagner

The Matter of the Book

280 pages

Michael Hagner combines his analysis of the digital cultural critique of the printed book with a thorough examination of Open Access. In this way, he investigates the very phenomenon that bears some of the responsibility for the contemporary crisis of the book: the excessive supply of scientific literature.

An intelligent analysis of contemporary forms of book publication.

Rights available

Friedrich Kellner

Rights sold:

- Poland: Fundacja Ośrodku Karta

»Clouded, Darkened are all Minds«

Diaries 1939 – 1945 | 2 vols, together 1134 pages

Edited by Sascha Feuchert, Robert Kellner, Erwin Leibfried, Jörg Riecke and Markus Roth

The diaries of the judicial inspector Friedrich Kellner show that everyone was in a position to unmask National Socialist rhetoric and be aware of the atrocities of the Third Reich. By placing newspaper articles next to his comments, Friedrich Kellner finds a highly effective method which places the importance of his diaries alongside that of the reports of Victor Klemperer.

»At that time, I was unable to fight against the Nazis in the present. Therefore I decided to fight against them in the future. I wanted to give future generations a weapon to use against the resurgence of any such injustice.«

Friedrich Kellner

Dea Loher

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kalima
- Netherlands: Cossee
- Macedonia: ILI-ILI

Bugatti Surfaces

Novel | 208 pages

No other German-speaking dramatist is so widely read, in her own country and all over the world, and more successfully staged (more than 300 productions, translations in 31 countries) than Dea Loher. This narrative focuses on existential matters: The death of a young man and the desparat efforts to deal with it. It investigates the meaning of life in the face of this completely meaningless death, finding images of great intensity.

Hans Mommsen

The Nazi Regime and the Extermination of Judaism in Europe

235 pages

Hans Mommsen, one of the leading contemporary German historians, gives a compact overall interpretation of the complex events leading up to the unleashing of the holocaust. He begins by sketching the hostility against Jews in the Weimar Republic and the role of anti-Semitism during the rise of the Nazi party. He describes how the Nazi regime radicalized the persecution of the Jews, resulting in their complete disenfranchisement.

Rights sold:

· Poland: Bellona

Teresa Präauer

Johnny and Jean

Novel | 208 pages

Create good art! Johnny and Jean have no less goal in mind when they meet up again at the art academy after the summer holidays. The story begins with a jump in at the deep end, and there is still quite a way to go before embarking on an international career in New York and Paris. Some things that seem to be of help are the murmurings of the old masters, well-sharpened pencils and a bottle of Pastis.

In a series of adventurous episodes, Teresa Präauer fabricates the life of two young men who are out to discover everything about art and life. Sensuous and quick-witted!

Rights available

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kalima
- Turkey: Dedalus Kitap

For the Ruler from Overseas

Novel | 138 pages

A novel about flying, love, and the pure beauty of language.

The grandfather tells a story to his grandchildren that is so playful and fantastic, it is hard to believe – but even harder to turn away from. It brings up sheer fireworks of imagination in the minds of the children. And there is this spark in his eyes every time he speaks of this mysterious Japanese woman, it just cannot be all made up ...

Joseph Roth and Stefan Zweig

Rights sold:

- France: Payot & Rivages
- Italy: Adelphi
- Spanish World: Quaderns Crema

»A Friendship with me is a Perishable Thing«

Correspondence 1927–1938 | 624 pages

Edited by Madeleine Rietra and Rainer Joachim Siegel. With an epilogue by Heinz Lunzer

Joseph Roth (1894–1939) and Stefan Zweig (1881–1942) are still two of the most widely read narrators in German literature. The correspondence tells the story of a friendship that is broken apart by the political circumstances – and the story of two lives destroyed by exile. »We exiles don't live long« Zweig comments when Roth dies in Paris in 1939. In 1942, Zweig commits suicide in Petropolis, Brazil.

Patrick Roth

My Journey to Chaplin

An Encore | 88 pages

»My Journey to Chaplin« is the story of a passion. It tells us of Roth's life-long love and veneration for the maker of »City Lights« (1931), whom he follows from the screen of a run-down L.A. cinema all the way to the door of his house in Vevey, Switzerland, just to hand over a letter to him in person.

In its own way, the »Journey to Chaplin« becomes a film à la Chaplin, with the young man in the role of the tramp and the narrator as the director of the story of a memory.

On April 16th 2014 will be Chaplin's 125th birthday, which will be widely celebrated throughout the world.

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kana'an
- France: Le Bruit du temps

Reinhard Rürup

The Long Shadow of National Socialism

History, the Politics of History and the
Culture of Remembrance | 248 pages

With a preface by Stefanie Schüler-Springorum

The author's many years of experience in dealing with the history of National Socialism provide the basis of this volume. Reinhard Rürup describes the historical events and processes that are of particular significance for a real understanding of the Nazi regime in a precise and vivid way: from the »seizure of power« and »book-burning« to the persecution and murder of the Jews and the war of conquest and annihilation against the Soviet Union to the way the German politics and society deal with the past.

Rights available

Gregor Sander

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kalima

What Would Have Been

Novel | 236 pages

Gregor Sander interweaves past and present, telling tales of German life histories that almost make your head spin. He succeeds in creating delicate images that are full of surprises: Love, friendship, escape, betrayal. Nothing is how it seems at first glance. Or at second, or even third.

Rights sold:

- Arabic World: Kana'an
- Spanish World: El tercer nombre

Absent

Novel | 156 pages

Christoph Radtke, in his early 30s, has to go back to his hometown of Schwerin to watch over his father, who has been in a coma for years. Being pulled out of his everyday life he starts to wonder about his past and future. Who was his father and what did he want out of life? The silence of his father in life, as if in death, is interrupted by a peculiar letter from Switzerland. The son is suddenly far more active than he would like to be.

Rights sold:

- Czech Rep.: Vetrné mlyny

Winter Fish

Short Stories | 192 pages

These stories are set in Rerik, at the Kiel Canal, in Gotland, Helsinki, Klaipeda. They are about people who are on the move and yet bound by their fates: Taciturn seadogs, disillusioned artists, female idols. Although the stories are all different, they do have one thing in common. They are about longing – longing to be with loved ones, to lead a free life or simply to feel understood.

Sander's writing appears sparse, almost restrained; like the characters, like the northern landscape. In just a few strokes, discreet but precise, the author draws fates that never fail to fascinate the reader.

Armin T. Wegner

The Expulsion of the Armenian People into the Desert

Edited by Andreas Meier. With an essay by Wolfgang Gust

As a first-aid attendant in the First World War, Armin T. Wegner witnessed the stream of Armenian refugees driven into the Syrian Desert by the Turks. Between the years of 1915 and 1917, up to 1.5 million Armenians died there. In an open letter to the American president Wilson, Wegner protested against this outrageous injustice.

Immediately after the war ended, Wegner recapitulated his experiences as an eye witness in a presentation, which he held several times from October 1919 onwards. Here he showed 100 slides he had made in spite of the Turkish ban and – as he said in his lecture – »hid under his truss and smuggled across the border».

Although many of these photographs have greatly influenced the iconography of the genocide, up until now Wegner's eye witness report has remained unpublished.

Rights sold:

• Sweden: Mediable

Shout it to the World

Manifestos and Open Letters | ca. 288 pages

Edited by Miriam Esau and Michael Hofmann

Armin T. Wegner was an exemplary 20th century witness. He literally experienced the atrocities and brutalities of totalitarianism at first hand, offering resistance for his entire life – the resistance of the spirit, as he saw it.

The texts in this volume cover subjects from the 1918 revolution to the Palestinian conflict of 1968– the testimonies of a wakeful spirit. bear testimony to this resistance. Armin T. Wegner took a stance on all aspects of the significant ideological battles of the 20th century, often by means of the manifesto and the open letter.

Rights available

Matthias Zschokke

Rights sold:

- France: Editions Zoé

The Strict Ladies of the Rosa Salva

414 pages

There are a considerable number of books about Venice. But no one has ever written one like this before! It brings the magnetism of the town to life in such a passionate, observant and laconic way that it overwhelms you.

Zschokke's infectious curiosity protects him from idealisation – it is directed towards the whole world, wishing to fully grasp everything it is possible to know. In this way a shimmering kaleidoscope emerges, a study of the big picture and the smallest of quirks, from theatrical rumblings and the literary scene to the real things of everyday existence. A marvellous thing, this book.

Rights sold:

- English World:
Thames River Press
- France: Editions Zoé

The Man with Two Eyes

Novel | 244 pages

The man with two eyes has a real aversion to anything out of the ordinary, even though, as a legal correspondent, you would expect him to be continually in search of the sensational. But for him normality is far more interesting, not boring at all: on the contrary, he finds it complicated, surprising and fascinating.

Matthias Zschokke writes of seemingly everyday things, discovering their uniqueness, beauty, sadness and humour, and tells a discrete love story along the way.

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