Authors and Estates represented by Suhrkamp/Insel
A selection

Theodor W. Adorno
Robert Alexy
Carolin Amlinger
Juri Andruchowycz
Friedrich Ani
Ingeborg Bachmann
Zsófi Bánn
Polina Barskova
Priya Basil
Wolfgang Bauer
Barbara von Bechtle
Ulrich Beck
Zoe Beck
Jurek Becker
Jürgen Becker
Ulla Berkéwicz
Thomas Bernhard
Barbara Beuys
Marcel Beyer
Peter Bichsel
Ernst Bloch
Hans Blumenberg
Karl Heinz Bohrer
Szilárd Borbély
Nora Bossong
Emma Braslavsky
Volker Braun
Bertolt Broch
Fritz Breithaupt
Hermann Broch
Ulrich Bröckling
Simone Buchholz
Paul Celan
Ann Cotten
Sigrid Damm
Zoltán Danyi
László Darvazi
Adrian Daub
Ljubko Deresch
Hans Peter Duerr
Ulrike Edschmid
Günter Eich
Nana Ekvtrimishvili
Sírka Elspaß
Hans Magnus
Enzensberger
Urs Faes
Yannick Han Biao Federer
Erika Fischer-Lichte
Marieleise Fleißer
Rainer Forst
Manfred Frank
Günter Frankenberg
Max Frisch
Valerie Fritsch
Markus Gabriel
Gunther Geltinger
Rainer Goetz
Johannes Groschapf
Durs Grünbein
Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht
Jürgen Habermas
Anna Katharina Hahn
Michael Hampe
Peter Handke
Sabine Hark
Christoph Hein
Heinz Heille
Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck
Dieter Henrich
Hermann Hesse
Jörg Hilbert
Wolfgang Hildeしちemer
Ludwig Hohl
Axel Honneth
Eva Illouz
Rahel Jaeggi
Uffa Jensen
Hans Joas
Uwe Johnson
Hans Jonas
Djéval Karahasan
Anna Kim
Esther Kinsky
Julia Kissnina
Alexander Kluge
Ariane Koch
Wolfgang Koeppen
Siegfried Kraucuier
Michael Krüger
Benjamin Labatut
Christian Lehner
Svenja Leiber
Philipp Lepenies
Gertrud Leutenegger
Sibylle Lewitscharoff
Niklas Luhmann
Nicolas Mahler
Andreas Maier
Philip Manow
Steffen Mau
Friederike Mayröckor
Thomas Meinecke
Robert Menasse
Christoph Menke
Winfried Menninghaus
Andreas Michalsen
Alice Müller
Robert Misik
Christoph Möllers
Heiner Müller
Stefan Müller-Doohm
Hans-Wilhelm Müller-
Wohlfahrt
Martin Mulsow
Oliver Nachtwey
Melinda Nadja Abonji
Angelika Neuwirth
Jakob Nolte
Hans Erich Nossack
Christoph Nußbaumender
Deniz Oehde
Albert Ostermaier
Emine Sevgi Özdamar
Katja Petrowskaja
Andreas Pflüger
Marion Poschmann
Doron Rabinovici
Hanno Rauterberg
Juliane Rebentisch
Andreas Reckwitz
Bärbel Reetz
Christoph Ribbat
Hartmut Rosa
Gerhard Roth
Ralf Rothmann
Sasha Marianna Salzmann
Philipp Sarasin
Judith Schalansky
Wilhelm Schmid
Gershon Scholem
Lutz Seiler
Clemens I. Setz
Peter Sloterdijk
Manfred Sommer
Philipp Staab
Andrzej Stasiuk
Angela Steidele
Maria Stepanova
Wolfgang Streeck
Natascha Strobl
Peter Szondi
Uwe Tellkamp
Philipp Ther
Stephan Thome
Hans Traxler
Hans-Ulrich Treichel
Galsan Tsogtmar
Ernst Tugendhat
Peter Turrini
Siegfried Unseld
Kia Vahland
Kevin Vennemann
Martin Walser
Robert Walser
Peter Weiss
Philipp Weiss
Lambert Wiesing
Josef Winkler
Katharina Winkler
Christa Wolf
Serhiy Zhadan
Ulf Ermdmann Ziegler
Slavoj Žižek
Maxim Znak
Robert Menasse

Enlargement

Finally: The sequel to The Capital

»A first-class read.« The Guardian on The Capital

2019 – membership negotiations between the European Union and the Western Balkan countries have come to a standstill; France and the Netherlands have put in a veto. This has toppled many a political career, including the one of Albania’s charismatic and unconventional Prime Minister, who won his last election with the promise of leading Albania into the EU. But what to do when the political base is crumbling? Fate Vasa, poet laureate, has an idea: The Prime Minister must take on the role of the great national hero Skanderbeg, who defended his country against the Ottomans in the 15th century and who is a symbol for the unity of all Albanians. For the one who rallies the Albanians of the Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia and even the Albanian communities in southern Italy, Germany and Turkey under one cause, will turn Albania into Greater Albania and into a major European power. In order to do so, he should wear Skanderbeg’s helmet with the bizarre goat’s head, that is currently displayed in a museum in Vienna. Unfortunately, it’s too small for the Prime Minister, which is why an ornamental blacksmith from Tirana is tasked with recreating it. But before he can fix the issue, both helmets disappear simultaneously and a furious international hunt starts, involving members from Europol as well as members from the Albanian mafia, and some others who wish to remain unrecognized.

Meanwhile, politics go on and Albania’s Prime Minister invites the heads of the governments of the Balkan countries, the foreign ministers of the EU countries as well as the entirety of the EU delegates to gather on the SS Skanderbeg, a large Albanian cruise ship on its maiden voyage. What happens during this unofficial Balkans Summit, is the kind of stuff dreams are made of – or rather nightmares?

Menasse aims once again at the great questions: how can people living in very different political systems, shaped by different cultural surroundings and histories, find a common ground and form a union or alliance? Do all so called Western societies in the 21st century really share the often-invoked common values? In a kaleidoscope made of more than a dozen voices, he interweaves fascinating individual stories with the history of Europe of the last century – placing it in a global perspective. The result is a unique narrative, a haunting novel.

Awards (selection):
- 21st Century Best Foreign Novel of the Year award 2020 (China)
- Prix littéraire des lycées français d’Europe 2019 (France)
- Premio Strega Europeo 2019 (Italy)
- Deutscher Buchpreis 2017 (Germany)
- Max-Frisch-Preis 2014 (Switzerland)

Menasse was born in Vienna, where he currently resides again, in 1954.

Literary Fiction
Max Frisch, born in Zurich in 1911, first worked as a journalist, later as an architect, until his breakthrough as a writer with his novel Stiller (1954). This was followed by the novels Homo faber (1957) and Mein Name sei Gantenbein (1964) as well as short stories, diaries, plays, radio plays and essays. Frisch died in Zurich on April 4, 1991.

Awards (selection):
- Georg-Büchner-Preis 1958
- Friedenspreis des Deutschen Buchhandels 1976
- Heinrich-Heine-Preis der Stadt Düsseldorf 1989

Ingeborg Bachmann / Max Frisch
We Didn’t Do Well. The Correspondence

A unique document of a love affair with all its ups and downs

Spring 1958: Ingeborg Bachmann – celebrated poet, winner of Literary Prize of Gruppe 47 and cover star of Der Spiegel – is broadcasting the radio play Der gute Gott von Manhattan. Max Frisch, busy with productions of Biedermann und die Brandstifter, writes to the young poets and expresses his enthusiasm for her radio play. Bachmann’s reply in June 1958 marks the beginning of an exchange of letters that – from the time they met until long after their separation – bears witness to the life, love and suffering of one of the most famous couples in German-language literature in almost 300 surviving documents: closeness and distance, admiration and rivalry, jealousy, impulses to flee and fear of loss, but also the difficulties of working in a shared flat and the tension between being writers and being a couple – the themes of the autobiographical testimonies are timeless. Their love has left traces in both Bachmann’s and Frisch’s books, some of which can only be illuminated through the lens of their correspondence. The letters show once again that life and work cannot be separated; they are intimate messages and world literature at the same time.

The dramatic, hitherto unpublished correspondence, expertly annotated by Bachmann and Frisch scholars, paints a new, surprising picture of the relationship and calls into question traditional assessments and assignments of blame.

Ingeborg Bachmann was born in 1926 in Klagenfurt. She began to write when she was at school. She studied Philosophy in Innsbruck, Graz and eventually in Vienna, where she met, among others, Hans Weigel. She subsequently started working for the Allied radio station Rot-Weiss-Rot. Her friendship with Paul Celan majorly influenced her thought. Ingeborg Bachmann is considered one of the most important German-language poets and writers of the 20th century. She died in Rome on October 17, 1973.

Awards (selection):
- Grand Austrian State Prize for Literature 1968
- Büchner Prez 1958
- Deutscher Kritikpreis 1961
- Literary Prize of Gruppe 47 1953

Max Frisch, born in Zurich in 1911, first worked as a journalist, later as an architect, until his breakthrough as a writer with his novel Stiller (1954). This was followed by the novels Homo faber (1957) and Mein Name sei Gantenbein (1964) as well as short stories, diaries, plays, radio plays and essays. Frisch died in Zurich on April 4, 1991.

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Radio Night

Juri Andruchovytsch’s long awaited new novel

Juri Andruchovytsch, who has spent his life singing, rehearsing with his band and playing countless concerts. His latest work has already been classed a saucy novel. In the novel Radio Night, the author creates a linguistic firestorm, presenting himself as an artist inspired by music, at the height of the political events in Eastern Europe. It is set at the time of the protests, the onset of a pandemic and the unchanged threat from Russia – a time when hopes for radical change are buried.

Andruchovytsch’s hero, rock musician Josip Rotsky, supported the revolution in his home country by being a barricade pianist. Forced into exile, he earns his living playing salon music. In a Swiss hotel he is forced to perform for his country’s dictator. He throws an egg at him, accidentally killing him.

After his release from prison, Rotsky retreats to the Carpathian Mountains, where he hosts his own radio programme: Radio Night – his own label that allows him to perform his compositions. He ends up on a prison island on the prime meridian, where he is soon found by secret service agents and other sinister characters who are out to get him. His escape takes him as far as Greece and the Carpathian Mountains, where he is buried.

Radio Night received great acclaim from readers and critics alike. The author now presents his fifth novel, Radio Night.
Anna Kim

Story of a Child

How the gaze of others can make lonely

In a small town in the US state of Wisconsin, twenty-year-old telephone operator Carol Truttman gives birth to a child in July 1953. That same night, she gives the boy up for adoption. Daniel, as he is called, remains in the care of social services. Soon the nurses tending to him are confronted with what they see as a serious suspicion: Contrary to the mother’s statement, the baby does not appear to be »white« but, as the official language of the time put it, »Indian«, »Polish« or »negroid« – a scandal in a homogeneously white society subjected to the rigorous laws of racial segregation. The social worker Marlene Winckler, originally from Austria, is tasked with determining the true ethnicity of the child. To do so, however, she must first find the child’s father, whose identity the biological mother refuses to reveal. Neither society nor its institutions do anything to stop her on her obsessive and increasingly destructive search for truth. Readers are as unsurprisingly confronted with her report, the »file Daniel Truttman«, as the narrator, a writer with Austrian-Korean roots – whom Daniel’s wife asks to find Marlene Winckler sixty years after these events in order to maybe finally help Daniel, who is now critically ill. The further the narrator delves into Daniel’s story and into the search for Winckler, the more her view of her own past and her family background begins to unravel.

Anna Kim’s Story of a Child is about the powerful and fatal idea of »race«, which not only still shapes societies today, but also permeates the private sphere, divides families, prevents careers and determines life paths. Clever and touching, this novel, based on a true incident, talks about the way we look at one another and about what we believe we see in the other.
In Rombo nature and oral history combine into a fascinating narrative about the effects of catastrophic events, both physical as well as psychological.

In May and September 1976, two severe earthquakes rip through north-eastern Italy, causing severe damage to the landscape and its population. About a thousand people die under the rubble, tens of thousands are left without shelter; many will leave their home in Friuli forever. The displacement of material as a result of the quakes is enormous, new terrain is formed that reflects the force of the catastrophe and captures the fundamentals of natural history. But it is far more difficult to find expression for the human trauma, of natural history. But it is far more difficult to find expression for the human trauma, in a region that is marked by explosive violence.

In Esther Kinsky’s new novel, seven inhabitants of a remote mountain village, men and women, talk about their lives, which have been deeply impacted by the earthquake that has left marks they are slowly learning to name. From the shared experience of fear and loss, the threads of individual memory soon unravel and become haunting and moving narratives of a grave past hurt.

Heinz Helle
Waves

About a father, his love and his anger

He has become a father for the second time. One night his little daughter won’t stop crying, the next he wonders if she is still breathing. During the day he finds himself amidst nappies and bottles and his older child’s Playmobil. And while his wife is the main breadwinner, he dreams of living in a big house by the sea or of sex with other people. He is overwhelmed as a father, insecure as a man. Why does he find it so difficult to fit into his role? What are the dark sides of his masculinity, what potential for anger and violence lies dormant in him? With his child in his arms, he searches for answers and finds moments of love, closeness and heroism.

Waves is a novel about the ups and downs of a young father’s everyday life, an examination of the miracle of life and the love for one’s child. It’s the story of a modern man striving for equality in a society where old ideals and gender relations still prevail. Heinz Helle’s most personal book to date and a highly poetic text of great power and topicality.

A literary examination of masculinity and fatherhood

About the miracle of life and the challenges a family faces

For readers of Rachel Cusk, Karl Ove Knausgård and Ben Lerner

Heinz Helle was born in 1978. He studied philosophy in Munich and New York. He has worked as a copywriter for advertising agencies and is a graduate of the Swiss Literature Institute in Basel. He was longlisted for the German Book Prize 2015 for his second novel, Eigentlich müssten wir tanzen. For his most recent novel, Die Überwindung der Schwerkraft, he was awarded the Förderpreis zum Bremer Literaturpreis 2019 and was shortlisted for the Swiss Book Prize. 2018. He lives in Zurich with his wife, writer Julia Weber, and their two daughters.

Selected Backlist:
Die Überwindung der Schwerkraft (2018) International Sales: Bulgaria (Fantasy), Greece (Eugenberg)
Eigentlich müssten wir tanzen (2015) International Sales: English world rights (Serpent’s Tail), Chinese simplex rights (People’s Literature Publishing House), France (Piranha)
Der beruhigende Klang von explodierendem Kerosin (2014) International Sales: English world rights (Serpent’s Tail), Turkey (Kafa Yayinevi); previously published in the respective language / territory, rights available again: Bulgaria (Fantasy); Domestic Rights Sales: German Audiobook (Hörbuch Hamburg)

Heinz Helle writes sentences that seem to float in their depth of focus.
Paul Jandl, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

A literary work of art that sounds out the depths of human existence.
Martina Läubli, NZZ am Sonntag, on "Die Überwindung der Schwerkraft"

Esther Kinsky
Rombo

»Of uncompromising poetic sincerity and subtle linguistic beauty.« Marianna Lieder, Literarische Welt

In Rombo nature and oral history combine into a fascinating narrative about the effects of catastrophic events, both physical as well as psychological.

Esther Kinsky
Rombo

Novel
(Original title: Rombo. Roman)
267 pages
Clothbound
Release: February 2022

International Sales:
USA & Canada (NYRB), UK & Commonwealth (Fitzcarraldo), Spanish world rights (Periférica), Catalan rights (Angle), France (Grasset), Italy (Iperborea), Netherlands (Pluim)

Esther Kinsky was born in England in 1956. She has been awarded numerous prizes for her extensive oeuvre, which includes translations from the Polish, Russian and English as well as poetry, essays and works of fiction: Kinsky’s previous novel Grove won the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2018 and the Dusseldorf Literature Prize 2018, was shortlisted for the European Literature Prize 2021, longlisted for the Warwick Prize for Women in Translation 2021, and the English translation by Caroline Schmidt (published in the UK by Fitzcarraldo editions and in the US by Transit) was nominated for the 2021 Oxford-Wildenfeld Prize. An unpublished and anonymously entered extract from Rombo was awarded the newly founded W.-G.-Sebald-Literaturpreis 2020.

Selected Backlist:
Eigentlich müssten wir tanzen (2014) International Sales: Bulgaria (Fantasy), Greece (Eugenberg)

Release: September 2022

Clothbound
284 pages

Heinz Helle
Waves

Novel
(Original title: Wellen. Roman)
267 pages
Clothbound
Release: February 2022

Rights available

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Eigentlich müssten wir tanzen (2015) International Sales: English world rights (Serpent’s Tail), Chinese simplex rights (People’s Literature Publishing House), France (Piranha)

The book sensitises us to the fragile balance that underlies all concepts of existence, and pushes the contrast between human comprehension and nature and oral history com-
Ralf Rothmann

The Night under the Snow

The conclusion of Rothmann’s critically acclaimed, widely translated trilogy of novels on World War II and the post-war years in Germany.

Luisa is studying to become a librarian at university, which is housed in a former arms factory in Kiel. Elizabeth is working at the officers’ mess in the port and all she strives for is a little contentedness and everyday comfort. Two women who are trying to regain control of their lives after the war. But when is war truly over for those who have experienced it?

Over time, Luisa notices that there is a harshness in Elizabeth that weighs her down and prevents her from finding happiness. She tries to stay close to her friend, after her suicide attempt and through the extreme poverty of country life, but for Elizabeth, there will always be that emptiness that stems from the winter of 1945.

In a breathtakingly written panorama of the early post-war years, Ralf Rothmann creates the portrait of a woman whose fear always gets in the way, while the suffering she has gone through robs her of any sense of the suffering she inflicts on others; of a lifelong hard-working wife and mother who dances from one carnival to another so as to never to come to her senses again, and yet one we must admire: because her will to love is expressed in her despair.

After the much-translated novels To Die in Spring (2015) and The God of that Summer (2018), the author concludes his trilogy on World War II and the post-war years in Germany with The Night under the Snow.

With his powerful poetics, Ralf Rothmann is one of the most important German-language authors and he is possibly the most sensitive narrator of his generation.

Adam Soboczyński, Die Zeit

So plausible, gripping and heavy the overall set-up, so brilliant the scenes, flawless realism as if you had experienced it yourself. Judith von Sternburg, Frankfurter Rundschau

Selected Backlist:

Hotel der Schlaflosen (2020) International Sales: Italy (Neri Pozza)

Der Gott jenes Sommers (2018) International Sales: English world rights (Picador UK), (NDK), USA/Canada subicens: FSG, English audiobook sublicences: Tartarus, Spanish world rights (Libros del Asteroide), Catalan rights (L’Altra Editorial), Chinese simplex rights (Archipel Press), Portuguese rights (Sebastiao Editora), France (Denoel), Italy (Neri Pozza), Netherlands (Arthurverlag), Denmark (Rosianne), Sweden (Thoren & Lindskog), Norway (Gyldendal Nord), Finland (Alma), Poland (W.A.B.), Czech Republic (Ars), Slovakia (Promedia), Hungary (Magveteli), Bulgaria (Atlantis), Romania (ART), Estonia (Hea Luga), Croatia (Fraktura), Serbia (Lupana), Slovenia (Gosta), Turkey (Yapi Kredi), Greece (Kastanotis), Kosovo / Albanian world rights (Buzuki), Domestic Rights Sales: German Audiobook (Hörbuch Hamburg), German Entire Radio Reading

Ralf Rothmann was born in 1953 in Schleswig and grew up in the Ruhr. He lives in Berlin. For his work, he has been awarded numerous prizes including the Heinrich-Böll-Preis 2005, the Max Frisch-Preis 2006, the Kleist-Preis 2017, the Premio San Clemente (Spain) 2018. His novel Der Gott jenes Sommers received the Uwe-Johnson-Preis 2018 and the English translation of Im Frühling sterben was awarded the HWA Gold Crown for Historical Fiction (UK) 2018.

Awards (selection):

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Uwe-Johnson-Preis for Der Gott jenes Sommers 2016
Premio San Clemente (Spain) 2018
Kleist-Preis 2017
Stefan-Andreu-Preis 2014
Friedrich-Hölderlin-Preis 2013
Hans-Fallada-Preis 2008
Literaturpreis der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung 2008
Erik-Roger-Preis 2007
Max Frisch-Preis (Switzerland) 2006
Heinrich-Böll-Preis 2005
Wilhelm-Raabe-Literaturpreis 2004
Kranichsteiner Literaturpreis 2002
Hermann-Lenz-Preis 2001
Literaturpreis Ruhrgebiet 1996
Mara-Cassens-Preis 1992

Ralf Rothmann

The Night under the Snow

Novel

(Original title: Die Nacht unterm Schnee. Roman)

304 pages

Clothbound

Release: July 2022

Domestic Rights Sales:

German Audiobook (Hörbuch Hamburg)

This last instalment is so great, so touching, so brutal, and shockingly so topical that its publication may be considered an event. Rothmann’s trilogy is, as if incidentally, also this: an absolutely horrific, an incredibly beautiful love story.

Adam Soboczyński, Die Zeit

So plausible, gripping and heavy the overall set-up, so brilliant the scenes, flawless realism as if you had experienced it yourself. Judith von Sternburg, Frankfurter Rundschau

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Hans-Fallada-Preis 2008
Literaturpreis der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung 2008
Erik-Roger-Preis 2007
Max Frisch-Preis (Switzerland) 2006
Heinrich-Böll-Preis 2005
Wilhelm-Raabe-Literaturpreis 2004
Kranichsteiner Literaturpreis 2002
Hermann-Lenz-Preis 2001
Literaturpreis Ruhrgebiet 1996
Mara-Cassens-Preis 1992
Durs Grünbein
Equidistance

"Only in a foreign land do we become close to ourselves."

In his new volume of poetry, his twelfth, Durs Grünbein pursues his course of poetic-historical poetry through history and the present. This presents the reader with the experience of his wanderings through times and spaces, on which he encounters not only Germany but also the antipode of many Germans, Italy, and in both countries himself, as a way of securing evidence, of localization. Always, both here and there, the past crosses the wanderer's path. His verses lead through murderous territories and across clearings, to dives in the Mediterranean, along the sand paths and concreted roads of a unified Germany, through gravel pits and bunkers, along the east-west axis of the restlessly continent confronted yet again with war. Anyone who has followed Grünbein on his path will not be surprised by the fact that the European idea – as reality and a utopia – comes into play as the result of these impressions. Just in case, poetry can also be that: a device for capturing the future.

His verses combine the precise observations of small things with the subtle impressions. "Then a sentence materialises – one word leads to another, tentatively. They break the seal of realities, the surfaces crack." Everything begins with birth, but no one comes into the world / and knows how things works. But then the doctor says straight away that she is capable of great things, with which he means: hunger. And so her own body becomes an area of crisis and conflict from the very beginning. All the more so when later, in a toilet in Versailles, it suddenly bleeds for the first time. A place of love and pain, of longing and healing – the (primal) longing for a mother, perhaps, besides the one I have.

In her debut, Sirka Elspaß strikes a unique note between pop and poetry, existential force and effortless ease. Emotional injuries, moments of loneliness and psychological crises are captured in crystal-clear, precise imagery. So beautiful and so sad, so heartrending and wise, because the author knows: no one is above things / we are all in the midst of it.

Localizations at the edges of history

Awards (selection):
- Zbigniew Herbert International Literary Award 2020 (Poland)
- Premio Internazionale di Poesia 2019 (Italy)
- European Poet of Freedom Award 2012 (Poland)
- Tomas Tranströmer Prize 2012 (Sweden)
- Georg Büchner Prize 1995 (Germany)
- Friedrich Nietzsche Prize 2004 (Germany)
- Friedrich Hölderlin Prize 2005 (Germany)
- Berliner Literaturpreis 2004 (Germany)
- Porzellan. Poem (Original title: Äquidistanz. Gedichte)

Sirka Elspaß
i am blow-drying my lashes

"no one is above things / we are all in the midst of it"

Everything begins with birth, but no one comes into the world / and knows how things works. But then the doctor says straight away that she is capable of great things, with which he means: hunger. And so her own body becomes an area of crisis and conflict from the very beginning. All the more so when later, in a toilet in Versailles, it suddenly bleeds for the first time. A place of love and pain, of longing and healing – the (primal) longing for a mother, perhaps, besides the one I have.

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- Jenseits der Literatur (2020)
- International Slavic: English world rights (Seagull)
- Aus der Traum (Kartei) (2019)
- International Slavic: Italy (selection, Einaudi)
- Selected Backlist:
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- International Slavic: English world rights (Seagull)
- Aus der Traum (Kartei) (2019)
- International Slavic: France (selection, 17 Maschines)
- Zündkerzen (2017)
- International Slavic: Italy (selection, Einaudi)

interpersonal relationships are / my nemesis

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Sirka Elspaß
i am blow-drying my lashes

"no one is above things / we are all in the midst of it"

Everything begins with birth, but no one comes into the world / and knows how things works. But then the doctor says straight away that she is capable of great things, with which he means: hunger. And so her own body becomes an area of crisis and conflict from the very beginning. All the more so when later, in a toilet in Versailles, it suddenly bleeds for the first time. A place of love and pain, of longing and healing – the (primal) longing for a mother, perhaps, besides the one I have.

In her debut, Sirka Elspaß strikes a unique note between pop and poetry, existential force and effortless ease. Emotional injuries, moments of loneliness and psychological crises are captured in crystal-clear, precise imagery. So beautiful and so sad, so heartrending and wise, because the author knows: no one is above things / we are all in the midst of it.

Selected Backlist:
- Jenseits der Literatur (2020)
- International Slavic: English world rights (Seagull)
- Aus der Traum (Kartei) (2019)
- International Slavic: France (selection, 17 Maschines)
- Zündkerzen (2017)
- International Slavic: Italy (selection, Einaudi)
Tarik and two other men disappear without a trace on the MS Rjúkandi, a ferry on the North Atlantic. Two women, Iva and Tarik’s partner Marlin, set out to find their missing friends – and board the ship to Iceland firmly convinced that they will soon be home again. But in the first days onboard, they begin to notice strange things and a weird atmosphere: The crew is incredibly good-looking, the captain always seems to be carrying a bag full of guilt with him, despite all his grandeur and coolness, and what the hell is wrong with that bartender? As it turns out, the crew and some of the passengers are cursed – they stay forever young and carefree, but they cannot leave the ferry. Tarik and his mates have succumbed to this curse and Mila and Iva also give in to the temptation of staying onboard forever. But very quickly Iva realizes that this might have been a mistake, as there is a lot that she has had to leave behind.

In the following, we learn whether Iva manages to get back on land. Which part the captain could play in that. And if the goddesses of the ocean, who comment everything from offstage, will let Iva go in the first place.

In an inimitable laconic style, Simone Buchholz tells a story of friendship and love, of the finiteness of life and the infinity of the ocean, and of Iva and Malin, who suddenly find themselves in a parallel world with no exit, where everything they thought was important in life suddenly no longer counts.

Simone Buchholz
Only the Others are Immortal

Who wants to live forever?

A combination of ‘Flying Dutchman’, ‘Groundhog Day’ and ‘Friends’
Maxim Znak
Zecameron

100 scenes from the everyday life of a political prisoner

In a world shrunk down to the size of a prison cell, every detail becomes important: the cockroach doing its job, the mousetrap that can be used to kill time, the strange rhythms of the collective snoring heard by the insomniac.

Maxim Znak, a brilliant lawyer and prominent member of the Belarusian opposition movement, was arrested in autumn 2020 and sentenced to ten years in prison in September 2021. In his Zecameron (from zeiks, the Russian acronym for prisoner), which he wrote during his first year in prison, he proves to be a gifted writer – pointedly, ironically, with astonishing humour, he tells his new everyday life in one hundred mini stories. His stories bear witness to resistance and self-assertion, to going against the collective, to going against the grain.

August 2015: Fabian Hoffmann, the former dissident, is a chronicler employed by the »One Thousand and One Nights Department at Treva. Here, in the labyrinth of an underground world, the »Security« pursues activities that once included the reunification of two divided nations. Fabian entered this world following one of its captains, code name »Nemo«, in order to find out who betrayed his sister and his parents. At the same time, Florian is writing a chronicle that is intended to be published on the 25th anniversary of the reunification. But things take a different turn and Fabian begins a journey that takes him deep into Treva’s society and its utopias.

He analyses notions of order and the principles by which power is exercised, the interrelations of politics, state apparatus and the media, observes the changes in everyday life. In the process, his chronicle becomes more and more detached from its original official assignment, meanders back into the Dresden of his childhood, into the time that stood still two epochal years ago. On his search for order and meaning, Fabian tilts at the windmills of power, fights the fabrications of reality, the loss of all certainties – and still never gives up the dream of a liberated future.

»The years before 2015 seem like a barely believable time to me, disappearing into the unreal. What happened, where did this gloom come from?«

Uwe Tellkamp
The Slumber in the Clocks
A continuation of the bestseller The Tower

The years before 2015 seem like a barely believable time to me, disappearing into the unreal. What happened, where did this gloom come from?«

Awards (selection):
Deutscher Nationalpreis 2009
Literaturpreis der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung 2009
Deutscher Buchpreis 2008
Uwe-Johnson-Preis 2008
Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis 2004
Dresdner Lyrikpreis 2004
Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis 2004
Uwe-Johnson-Preis 2008
Deutscher Buchpreis 2008
Uwe-Johnson-Preis 2008
Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis 2004
Dresdner Lyrikpreis 2004

Uwe Tellkamp
The Slumber in the Clocks
Novel
(Original title: Der Schlaf in den Uhren. Roman)
954 pages
Clothbound
Release: May 2022
International Sales:
Italy (La Nave di Teseo), Hungary (MCC)

Uwe Tellkamp was born in Dresden in 1948. He studied medicine in Leipzig, New York and Dresden. He then worked as a doctor. Now living as a writer in Dresden, his novel Der Turm, published in 2008, won that year’s German Book Prize. Der Turm has been translated into 15 languages.

Selected Backlist:
Der Turm (2008) International Sales: English world rights (Penguin Press), Spanish word rights (Anagrama), Catalan rights (Anagrama-Empuries), France (Grasset), French book club sublicense: Grand Livre du Mois; French paperback sublicense: Lui, Italy (Nave di Teseo), Netherlands (Albedroaspers), Denmark (Gyldendal), Sweden (Bonnier), Norway (Press), Hungary (Magvölgyi), Bulgaria (Atlantis), Romania (Curtea Veche), Serbia (Zlatni Zmaj), Turkey (Elife), Greece (Kastaniotis); Domestic Rights Sales: German Audiolook (Der Hörverlag), German Book Club (Der Club Bertelsmann), German Book Club Paperback (Netbübi), German Book Club Special Edition (Buchergilde Gutenberg)
Serhiy Zhadan
Sky Above Kharkiv
A chronicle of ongoing events

He doesn’t have time to keep a diary. He is on the go in Kharkiv, day and night, to evacuate children and the elderly from the suburbs that have come under fire; he sends list of medications to the West, coordinates food deliveries, collects money for military equipment, cares for pets and organises concerts. We see him pose in front of three Nobel Prize winners that went to the same university he attended that will be but rubble only weeks later; or with his literary mothers, on whose typewriter at the publishing house he was allowed to type his first manuscript; today she cooks for volunteers. On photographs, we meet Olga Pyrotechnics, his secret bodyguard, who accompanies him on the dangerous trips to visit the soldiers and Cyril and Timofey, two young boys who have sought refuge in the subway stations turned into bomb shelters with their families.

Pictures of the open sky are interspersed – an allegory of beauty and transcendence, of threat and vulnerability. He shows the people of Kharkiv how beautiful their city is – still, despite the destruction of its familiar face. He juxtaposes images of rubble with his defiant credo: We are going to rebuild everything, we are going to improve it. »Everything will be Ukraine.«

The city is emptying out. Friends are killed. Death is omnipresent, hate is growing. When images of Bucha travel around the world, his voice falters too. »There are no words. None at all.« Persevere, my friends. Now there is only resistance, fight and mutual support. »But Zhadan is committed to the survival of Kharkiv and its citizens.«

This volume contains a selection of texts that Serhiy Zhadan has been publishing on Facebook since the start of the war on February 24, 2022. It is a chronicle of ongoing events, the testimony of a person who enters into a new reality as he writes and who bears the destruction of everything. Not a lone observer, but an active civilian in a society that has, over the past eight years, learnt what it means to be strong together.

Awards (selection):
- Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2022 (Germany)
- Hannah Arendt Prize for Political Thought 2022 (Germany)
- Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2022
- Joseph Conrad Korzeniowski Literary Prize 2014 for The Orphanage (UK)
- Drahman Prize 2020 for Antenna (Ukraine)
- ANGELUS Literary Award 2015 for Mesopotamia (Poland)
- BBC Ukraine Book Of The Decade 2014 for Voroshilovgrad (Ukraine)
- Brücke Berlin Prize for Literature and Translations 2014 for Voroshilovgrad (Germany)
- EBRD Literature Prize 2023 for The Optprahge (UK)
- Meridian Czernowitz Prize 2020 for Verwandlung (Poland)
Leipzig in the 18th century, in its most brilliant period. Merchants carry not only goods but also ideas to the whole of Europe from the fairs. Johann Sebastian Bach surveys the universe in musical notes, assisted by his wife, the singer Anna Magdalena, and his eldest daughter Dorothea. Meanwhile, Johann Christoph and Luise Gottsched are exploring the German language and tirelessly spread the light of the Enlightenment. Outraged by the biography published by Johann Christoph after the early death of his wife, Dorothea Bach decides to put her own memoirs to paper. That was not how things happened with Voltaire, Lessing and the young Goethe! After all, we are living in the age of the highly educated gentlemen! 

With ease and hilarity, Angela Steidele paints a witty portrait of the Enlightenment from a woman’s point of view. Her novel tells of musicians and printers, poets and actresses, of turbulence of the mind, scientific flights of fancy and of worldly wisdom in music. Historically versed, with our present in mind, she describes the fateful years of an epoch in which it seemed possible, for a short while, that women and men together could make the world see reason.
Friedrich Ani

Bull’s Eye

Forlornness & Extremism

Police officer Kay Oleander was hit in the face with a beer bottle during a demonstration and lost his left eye as a result. Released from active duty, he struggles to get through the day—until fate leads him to Silvia Glaser. She, too, has been disabled ever since a bicycle accident. Unexpectedly, the two find support in each other—despite the fact that she is suspected of being responsible for Oleander’s misfortune. Silvia Glaser found refuge with a right-wing populist party after the accident that turned her life upside down. She wants to leave this scene but doesn’t dare for fear of reprisal. When she learns of the party leadership’s plot to carry out an assassination, she turns to Oleander and the two decide to thwart the plan. For this they need allies, but those are not easy to find for two people like them.

With compassion and laconism, Friedrich Ani tells the story of two damaged people who, against all odds, find each other and come together to do something right for once in a life that has felt wrong. People who, against all odds, find each other—despite the fact that they need allies, but those are not easy to find for two people like them.

Highly topical in our current political climate

Selected Backlist:
Letzte Ehre (2021)
All die unwohlbezahlten Zimmer (2019)
International Sales: English world rights (Sagafol), Italy (Emira), Domestik Rights Sales: German Audiobooks (Hörbuch Hamburg), German Radio Drama (Deutschlandfunk Kultur)
Der namenlose Tag. Jakob Franck # 3 (2015)
International Sales: English world rights (Sagafol), Italy (Emira), Griewe (Gutenburg), Domestik Rights Sales: German Audiobooks (Hörbuch Hamburg), German Enhance Radio Readings (HR and BR)

Christine Westermann, WDR 2 Lesen

Someone once wrote that there’s nothing to criticise about a novel by Friedrich Ani; it’s simply a must-read. Which is right. You’ll simply have to read it and then probably become an Ani fan.

—Christine Westermann, WDR 2 Lesen

Johannes Groschupf

Hyaenas

The new sublimine thriller by the two-time winner of the German Crime Fiction Prize

In the past few months, more and more luxury cars are set ablaze once night falls over the capital. Drivers in Berlin feel left alone and set out on communal scitizen patrols in their neighbourhoods, while the police suspect left-wing scum. The young police officer Romina Winter has just been transferred to the arson squad as a disciplinary measure and is patrolling the city at night. Also trolling the streets is postman Maurice Jaenisch, who is convinced that the city is ruled by Satan. And because he wants to do everything right, he must face him now. Jette Geppert is on the go as well. She is a journalist reporting on criminal trials in the borough of Moabit, and she is a super recognizer: She has the ability to recognize faces without fail. Three people are roaming the big city whose nightly face is mysterious, fascinating and highly dangerous...

A hot, hellish trip through a Berlin entirely unlike the one we know

Johannes Groschupf looks into the dark heart of our society

A book with fast-paced laconic dialogues à l’Elmore Leonard. A rhapsody of noir, atmospheric like James Ellroy, and deprived of any hope that Berlin has never seen before.

—Alexander Kluy, Buchkultur Krimi on ›Berlin Prepper‹ (2021)

A perfect crime novel.

—Elmar Krekeler, Welt am Sonntag on ›Berlin Heat‹ (2021)

It’s plain and simple: Groschupf writes the best Berlin thrillers since the times of Jörg Fauser and Ulf Miehe.

—Lutz Göllner & Erik Heier, tip
André Pilz
Killing and Lying
Stunning, emotional – and clear as hydrochloric acid

In 2000, student Angelika R. was murdered in front of her dormitory in an Austrian university town – with a single stab to the heart. The perpetrator has never been found. Sixteen years later, Angelika’s mother seeks out Jan Halder, a fellow student with whom Angelika was in love, out of the blue. She accuses him of knowing more than he told police at the time and of possibly being the murderer. Jan, now a mediocre writer in the throes of a creative crisis, has just moved to a small town to get his life in order again. The haunting memory of the murder compels him to return to his former campus and reconstruct the crime once more – which is problematic, since Jan is a notorious liar who has also constructed a truth even for himself. When he meets the blogger and activist Haddah, who is investigating the murderers of two South African students, the two of them realise that they are onto a conspiracy. Whether he wants to or not, Jan must face the truth, because by now the perpetrators of his past have set their sights on him too.

Killing and Lying aims directly at the neuralgic points of our society
A »simple« murder case develops into a toxic web of violence, racism and misogyny

Sybille Ruge
Davenport 160 x 90
Noir, female noir. Hard-boiled, elegant

Sonja Slanski runs the debt collection company »Claim Managements, which is also involved in some other kinds of shady business.

An obscure member of Frankfurt’s high society commissions Slanski to ruin a highly criminal law firm, by whatever means necessary, because she feels betrayed over a patent. Slanski does quite a thorough job of it, unaware of the fact that this client is the wife of her lover.

Then, her half-sister Luna turns up out of the blue – a young artist who is making quite a splash with her extreme art, somewhere at the intersection of porn, art escort, avant-garde, jet set and drug business. When Slanski finds Luna dead in her flat shortly after her arrival, she questions whether it should have been her lying on the floor instead of Luna. And to make matters worse, the police want her to go undercover to investigate a nasty network of lawyers and industrialists. A job she doesn’t want at all...

Sybille Ruge
Davenport 160 x 90
Thriller
(Original title: Davenport 160 x 90. Thriller)
261 pages
Paperback
Release: May 2022

Rights available
Sybille Ruge
used to be an actress and is now a poet, costume designer and creates fabrics for the international textile market. Born in the GDR, she works in Frankfurt and lives in Switzerland. She loves space travel, sociology and the writings of Heiner Müller. Davenport 160 x 90 is her first novel.

»An outstanding masterpiece that sets new standards.«
Tobias Gohlis, Recoil

»Ruge juggles all the different aspects of the genre, catches them all, her writing is addictive.«
Elmar Krekeler, Die Welt

»Breathtaking ... exceptional ... as witty as it is cunning.«
Hanspeter Egggenberger, Tages-Anzeiger

»A surprising debut with knock-out qualities.«
Kolja Mensing, Deutschlandfunk Kultur

»Dark, dirty, punchy.«
3sat Kulturzeit

»Pilz does not intend to shock, he wants to give a wake-up call. To do so, he uses all the means available to him as an author and gives his story tremendous power.«
FAZ on ›Man Down‹
»White trash, ragamuffin, peasant – those are just a few of the slurs that Eva Müller’s protagonist was called all the time by other children when she was younger. Scolding words with which she, who did not come from a privileged background, was ostracised and which were meant to put her in her place.

In this autofictional graphic novel she tells her own story and the story of her family. In clear, powerful, impressive images of astonishing aesthetic variety, she depicts her grandparents’ rural origins, her parents’ working-class milieu in West Germany, the experience of growing up uneducated and poor, social shame, the stench of deep-frying fat, her cheap clothes with silly patches, her alienation from her origins and finally her emancipation as an artist – and the snake of self-doubt as a constant companion that, regardless of her success, still won't leave her side.

The first memoir about classism in comic form as well as a history of everyday culture in Germany from the 1980s to the present.
Marion Perko
Vega – The Wind in My Hands

When the wind comes to life and the rain becomes a danger, the storm gets a soul and weather a face: Vega

Germany 2052: The hot, dry summers are causing the people to suffer. To alleviate the water shortage, Vega works as a weather maker – she manipulates the clouds and brings rain. But she has a secret: unlike her colleagues, she doesn’t use chemicals and drones to do so. Because Vega can call up wind and rain with the power of her thoughts.

When children are injured in a mysterious weather accident, Vega becomes a target. How is she supposed to prove her innocence when no one is allowed to know about her gift? She receives unexpected help from Leo, a young scientist who is researching the nature of storms. In her search for the truth, Vega delves deeper and deeper into a web of influential environmental authorities, activists and corporations ... Who can she trust? And how can she protect the people she loves?

The first instalment of a spectacular series in two volumes

A gripping story about climate change and its consequences

Follow Vega into the eye of the storm...
Jörg Hilbert
Coco Stolperbein

New people moved in and calamity, it was the Stolperbein family ...

Mrs. Right and Mr. Important live side by side peacefully and amiably – everything is in order: the lawn is trimmed, the car is parked properly, and naturally it is clean. Until one day the attic is converted and a new family moves in: the Stolperbeins, including their cat and their daughter Coco. And Coco brings a great deal of messiness into the wonderful order Mrs. Right and Mr. Important have created...

In catchy rhymes, children’s book author Jörg Hilbert tells a story of living together in our colourful society, of acceptance and of friendship.

Jörg Hilbert
Coco Stolperbein
(Original title: Coco Stolperbein)
32 pages
Paperbound, approx. 19.5 x 24.0 cm
Release: April 2022

Rights available

Jörg Hilbert, author and illustrator of children’s books, has published over one hundred books, the most famous of which are his stories about Ritter Rost (with music by Felix Janosa). He is a distant relative of Joachim Ringelnatz and also performs as a speaker and lute player. Coco Stolperbein is his first book published by Insel Verlag.

Henrike Wilson/Christiane Schwabbaur
Never Give Up!

You can do it!

All beginnings are difficult. This little bird also knows a thing or two about that. The big day has arrived, it’s time to leave the nest. But that’s pretty high! Will it be OK? Just don’t look down for too long. It can’t be helped, it has to be done. Well then: focus, take a run-up, spread your wings – and jump... Rats, that went wrong! Only one thing to do: keep at it and don’t lose heart. An unflappable, loveable little bird – masterfully illustrated with expressive and delightful drawings by Henrike Wilson!

A book of encouragement and a mood booster for readers big and small!

Henrike Wilson
Born in 1961, studied graphic design and painting in her hometown of Cologne and in the USA. Today she lives in Berlin where she works as a freelance illustrator. She has illustrated the picture books Santa’s Littlest Helper Travels The World, Brave Charlotte and Die Kleine Schusselhexe (stories by Anu Stohner). The New York Times called Brave Charlotte one of the best-illustrated books of the year. Henrike Wilson has also illustrated books by Rafik Schami, Jostein Gaarder and David Grossman.

Christiane Schwabbaur
worked as a full-time editor for many years before she decided to spread her wings and stay in the publishing business as a freelance editor and agent. She lives in Munich with her family.
Esther Kinsky
The Captain and Mimi Catt

»Guys, now only solidarity can help us!« yelled Mimi Catt, and everyone cheered.«

So cold! And so much snow! Mimi Catt, a snow-white and very clever cat, would prefer nothing more than to stay in her small, cozy basement flat. Even though a nasty mud-brown pug just did his business right in front of Mimi Catt’s window. And on top of it all, a huge ocean liner is stuck in the frozen canal outside the flat! »How is this possible?« Mimi Catt wonders. But once she meets the captain and the sailors aboard this mysterious ship with whom she can sing such glorious songs all day and all night long, nothing really astonishes her anymore and together with the seafarers she enjoys the most beautiful and craziest winter of her life.
In *The Prince*, Machiavelli addresses the question of whether it is better for a ruler to be loved or feared. Since the two are difficult to combine, he gives priority to fear. In her new book, Eva Illouz follows Machiavelli’s insight that politics is governed by emotions in two ways: she emphasises the importance of emotions in politics and reveals how right-wing populists instrumentalise specific emotions: fear, disgust, resentment, and love.

An increasing number of countries are becoming either populist or with a mixed regime, both democratic and populist. This book asks how populism elicits emotions through the paradigmatic case of Israel.
**Philipp Staab**

**Adaptation**

Adaptation policy is infrastructure policy

Modernity was dominated by the belief that the world could be shaped and that progress would almost automatically ensure a better tomorrow. Global warming, the growth crisis and subjective overload have rattled this optimism. These days, our primary concern is mitigating the catastrophe. And even if we do this successfully, we will have to deal with the change that comes with it. In which case concerns of self-preservation override those of individual and collective self-realisation. Adaptation becomes the leitmotif of society.

The Corona pandemic has also shown that in the face of interdependence and ecological dangers, we can no longer worship boundless emancipation. Instead, according to Philipp Staab, the society of the future will be primarily concerned with stabilising an order that is becoming volatile. This, however, will result in a crisis of our relation to self and time, to the future.

"An important mile stone in the debate about the determination of the characteristics of a digital capitalism that provides – particularly as it calls for additional observations – many impulses for further research on the topic."

Alexander Ziegler, Wirtschafts- und sozialwissenschaftliches Institut, on *Digitaler Kapitalismus*

"Philipp Staab has written a book no one who deals with the effects of digitalisation on society, the economy, consumerism and politics can pass by."" 

Herbert Klemisch, contraste, on *Digitaler Kapitalismus*

**Philipp Staab**

**Adaptation**

Leitmotiv of the Coming Society

(Original title: Anpassung. Leitmotiv der nächsten Gesellschaft)

approx. 200 pages

Paperpack

Release: October 2022

Rights available

Philipp Staab, born in 1983, is Professor for the Sociology of the Future at the Humboldt University of Berlin. In 2021, he was awarded the Hans-Matthiessen-Preis.

Selected Backlist:

*Digitaler Kapitalismus* (2019) International Sales: English world rights (Manchester UP)

**Carolin Amlinger / Oliver Nachtwey**

**Offended Freedom**

Authoritarian and libertarian: the new rebels

COVID deniers with flower necklaces, artists questioning scientific findings, journalists staging themselves as rebels against alleged gags: Libertarian authoritarians have found their way into political discourse. They do not long for a glorified past or the strong hand of the state but argue vehemently for individual freedoms such as being free from consideration for others, from social constraints – and free from social solidarity.

According to Carolin Amlinger and Oliver Nachtwey, libertarian authoritarianism is a consequence of the promise of freedom in late modernity: the individual is supposed to be mature, authentic and extremely self-reliant. At the same time, the individual experience is that of being increasingly powerless and without influence in the face of an increasingly complex world – which is perceived as a slight and manifests itself in resentment and a hostility towards democracy.

On the basis of numerous case studies, Amlinger and Nachtwey create an outline of a new social figure. They explain the social reasons that led to a change in the authoritarian figure as imagined by critical theory. Late modernity produces a type of protest whose call for individual sovereignty is a threat to a society of the free and equal: the denial of a shared reality.

"An important and highly topical contribution to the debates on the condition of democracy"

Oliver Nachtwey, born in 1975, is an Associate Professor of Social Structure Analysis at the University of Basel and an associated Scholar at the Institute for Social Research in Frankfurt/Main. He was awarded the Hans-Matthiessen-Preis for Wirtschaftspublizistik for his work *Die Ablösungssozialität*.

Selected Backlist:


*Oliver Nachtwey: Die Ablösungssozialität* (2016) International Sales: English world rights (Verso), Spanish world rights (Paidos Iberica), Chinese simplex rights (East China Normal UP), France (MSE)
Expressions like "post-factual" and alternative facts are all the rage. They point to a battle about the reality of reality that seems to be fought in many societies. However, sociologist Nils C. Kumkar looks at these phenomena from a different angle: based on case studies of the controversies surrounding Corona, climate change and the size of the audience at Donald Trump’s inauguration, he argues for understanding alternative facts not primarily as set pieces of a parallel world, but as discursive smoke-screens in the context of polarised debates. According to Kumkar, they do not have a contributing effect on the construction of an alternative reality, but instead are a communicative destruction of reality that allows one to continue as before against one’s better judgement.

Nils C. Kumkar
Alternative Facts
What should we do with »alternative facts«?

The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere, Jürgen Habermas’ first book, was published in 1962. In it, he profiles a concept of the public sphere from a socio-historical and conceptual-historical perspective that assigns it a place between civil society and the political system. The Structural Transformation soon joined the ranks of the great classics of 20th-century sociology and inspired extensive research in the field of history and the social sciences. In later works, Habermas himself repeatedly addressed the role of the public sphere in ensuring the survival of the democratic polity. In view of a media structure changed by digitalisation and the crisis of democracy, he now returns to the topic once again.

The centrepiece of this book is an essay in which he examines in great detail the new media and their platform character, which are increasingly pushing traditional mass media – significant drivers of the »old« structural transformation – into the background. The vanishing point of his reflections is the assumption that the new forms of communication damage the self-perception of the political public as such. This would mean a new structural change of the public sphere, with serious consequences for the deliberative process of forming opinion and will in a democracy.

60 years later: The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere revisited

Nils C. Kumkar, born in 1965, is a Sociologist and Research Fellow at the SOZUM at the University of Bremen. He conducts research into social inequality and political protest. He also writes for publications such as Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and Jacobin.

Jürgen Habermas
A New Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere and Deliberative Politics

It is not a political choice of direction but a constitutional imperative to maintain a media structure that enables the inclusive character of the public sphere and a deliberative character of the formation of public opinion and will.
Cancel Culture is an invitation to leap from a local trifle to a supposed matter of life and death – why are people the world over so ready to take it?

A spectre is haunting Europe, indeed the whole world – the spectre of Cancel Culture. According to various newspapers, particularly white men over forty are now practically forbidden from saying anything at all if they don’t want to risk their reputation or even their jobs. Is there any truth in this? Or is this more likely scaremongering that stylizes activists as a threat to the moral order so as to discredit their legitimate concerns?

Cancel culture is generally thought to have originated at US universities. Adrian Daub teaches literary studies at Stanford University, California. He shows how patterns of interpretation developed during the Reagan years were disseminated via campus novels and transferred to society at large. Journalists, essayists and conservative activist learned to pick out a few anecdotes and share them, creating a semi-fictional campus space they could populate with increasingly outlandish claims. But while those claims were largely aimed at a US audience, they found eager secondary consumers abroad. It turned out that UK, German and French audiences could be made to care about stories from Evergreen State College. But in each country these stories took on a significantly different function in a significantly different context. Using quantitative analyses, Daub traces how cancel culture-stories spread until they reached the Twitter accounts of German politicians, the UK’s House of Lords, and the talking point of Russia’s president.
Fritz Breithaupt
The Narrative Brain

A redefinition of humans as narrative beings

Life is experienced more intensely when we are enmeshed in stories – I narrate, therefore I am. But it is not only our own lives that are heightened by narratives; through narratives we are also able to transform individual experience into shared experience. To achieve this, our brains and the ways in which we tell stories must be attuned to each other. But how exactly does this happen? Fritz Breithaupt’s brilliant book redefines humans as narrative beings who anchor themselves in the world through narratives.

Tapping into the essence of thinking in stories, Breithaupt draws on the latest scientific research including neuroscience and experiments where thousands of subjects play the telephone game, as well as on literary analysis of novels, Grimm’s fairy tales, and everyday office gossip. The reward of narrative thinking, it turns out, is emotional, and we live the way we live because we follow the specific reward patterns of narratives. Yet at the same time, things can always turn out differently in narratives, and it is precisely this fact that allows us to try out different versions of our own lives.

Everyone is talking about narratives. Finally there is a book to explain what’s really behind this.

Wolfram Eilenberger, author of Time of the Magicians

A unique interdisciplinary exploration of emotional rewards of narrative thinking. Fritz Breithaupt is a distinguished literary scholar, cognitive scientist, and the Director of the Experimental Humanities Lab at the IU Bloomington. His witty, imaginative, genre-and media-crossing book changes everything we thought we knew about how stories satisfy their readers.

Lisa Zunshine, Bush-Holbrook Professor of English, University of Kentucky, and author of The Secret Life of Literature
In ten highly focused chapters, Juliane Rebentisch lays open Hannah Arendt’s political philosophy of plurality and discusses it within the spectrum of contemporary debates. Politics and truth, fleeing and statelessness, slavery and racism, colonialism and National Socialism, morality and education, discrimination and identity as well as capitalism and democracy are the keywords of these explorations. In these different thematic contexts and by focusing on the theme of plurality, Rebentisch makes both the coherence of Arendt’s œuvre as well as the contradictions that run through it tangible.

The book reveals the far-reaching implications of Arendt’s work by means of precise readings and by including historical backgrounds, and mainly does so by elaborating and consistently criticising the conceptual barriers that Arendt herself set for her philosophy. For this very reason, the dispute about pluralism, against Hannah Arendt, proves to be an extremely fitting homage to an amazement at the plurality of human beings.

As long as you haven’t painted grey, Paul Cézanne once said, you are not a painter. When Peter Sloterdijk transports this notion into the realm of philosophy, as an unexplained assertion it might sound like a provocation at first. Why should philosophers think about a single colour instead of dealing with ethics, metaphysics or logic? But even preliminary historical research gives the intuition some plausibility: What colour are the shadows in Plato’s Allegory of the Cave? Doesn’t philosophy, according to Hegel, always paint grisailles? And doesn’t Heidegger’s being-in-the-world imply existing in a diffuse shade of grey?

Peter Sloterdijk follows the grey thread through the history of philosophy, art and mentality. He examines the greying red of the German Democratic Republic, greyscale photography and hostile landscapes in literature. By exploring grey as a metaphor, as the indication of a mood and a display of political-moral ambiguity, he provides a multitude of captivating evidence for his book’s thesis.

Peter Sloterdijk
If You Have Never Thought Grey
A Theory of Colour
(Original title: Wer noch kein Grau gedacht hat. Eine Farbenlehre)
287 pages
Clothbound
Release: April 2022

International Sales:
English world rights (Polity), Spanish world rights (Siruela), Catalían rights (Arcadia), France (Payot & Rivages), Italy (Marsilio), Turkey (Can)

Peter Sloterdijk was born in 1947 and is Professor Emeritus of Aesthetics and Philosophy at the Institute of Design in Karlsruhe. The unmistakable characteristic of Peter Sloterdijk’s thought and writings is the way he embeds current issues in a long history. This way, he succeeds in redrawing the current human condition, visualizes it from a hitherto unknown perspective, and finds evidence for unexpected or unsought connections. His book Critique of Cynical Reason is one of the biggest-selling philosophical books of the 20th century.

Awards (selection):
Europäische für politische Kultur 2021
Shortlisted for the Prix du livre européen 2019
Helmuth Plessner Prize 2017
Lesung Börne Prize 2013
Shortlisted for the Deutscher Wirtschaftspris 2011
Leissing Prize 2008
Sigmund Freud Prize 2005

Juliane Rebentisch
The Plurality Dispute
Der Streit um Pluralität
Auseinandersetzungen mit Hannah Arendt
(Original title: Der Streit um Pluralität. Auseinandersetzungen mit Hannah Arendt)
288 pages
Clothbound
Release: February 2022

Rights available
Juliane Rebentisch is Professor of Aesthetics at the University of Arts and Design in Offenbach, Germany. In 2017, she was awarded the Lessing-Preis der Freuen und Hansestadt Hamburg.

Selected Backlist:

Peter Sloterdijk
If You Have Never Thought Grey
Dasein means staying in a twilight of a global scale.

Selected Backlist:
Den Himmel zum Sprechen bringen. Elemente der Theopoesie (2020) International Sales: English world rights (Polity), Spanish world rights (Siruela), Brazilian Portuguese rights (Edição Livandrade), France (Payot & Rivages), Netherlands (Room)

Nach Gott (2017) International Sales: English world rights (Polity), Spanish world rights (Siruela), Brazilian Portuguese rights (Vozes), Portuguese rights (Religio D’Água), Italy (Cortina), Domestic Rights Sales: German Book Club (WBG)

»With great meticulousness and affection, [Rebentisch] develops a reading that manages to protect Arendt from herself, from her own prejudices and narrow-mindedness, and reveals all kinds of ambivalences.«
Daniel Kehlmann, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»The work of Hannah Arendt can be read as that of a political philosophy based in the amazement at the plurality of human beings.«
Sigmund Freud Prize 2005

»Sloterdijk commands an overwhelming knowledge and interweaves this knowledge with his bright judgement, never limited by the status quo.«
Daniel Kehlmann, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

With great meticulousness and affection, [Rebentisch] develops a reading that manages to protect Arendt from herself, from her own prejudices and narrow-mindedness, and reveals all kinds of ambivalences.«
Martin Hartmann, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The work of Hannah Arendt can be read as that of a political philosophy based in the amazement at the plurality of human beings.«
Sigmund Freud Prize 2005
We live in a time of failed liberations. Under critical examination, it turns out that sooner or later all attempts at liberation have produced new forms of domination and thus of servitude. According to Christoph Menke, we must reverse our perspective to explain this situation. Instead of simply turning to the next project of liberation, we need to analyse how previous attempts at liberation have unfolded. And in doing so, the way they began is most crucial – the ordinary but fascinating experience of a habit that enslaves us suddenly disintegrating. To affirm this experience is to enter into the practice of liberation.

From this fundamental thesis, Menke develops a groundbreaking theory of liberation that involves a revision of the usual notions of freedom, whether anchored in nature or in society. And it turns out that freedom and domination are indissolubly intertwined, that liberation is not the precursor of freedom, but rather the process of its implementation. This is illustrated by two significant exemplary narratives of liberation on which this book draws: the Exodus from Genesis 2 and the story of Walter White in the television series *Breaking Bad*.

«... Menke makes an important contribution to the ability of thinking about political alternatives beyond the liberal mainstream. And that is a great feat!» WDR3 on *Kritik der Rechte*
Rainer Herrn
Love and Suffering
The Institute of Sexual Science 1919-1933

When Magnus Hirschfeld established his institute in Tiergarten, Berlin, in 1919, the future seemed to belong to the young discipline of sexology. Patients and visitors from all over the world were attracted by the extensive library, the diverse collections, the counselling and therapy services. People from all walks of life were able to obtain information about contraception or how to protect themselves against venereal diseases. But for a long time it would remain the only institution with the purpose of dealing with the topic of sexuality in its entirety. Hirschfeld and his staff were exposed to constant hostility from political and scientific opponents, which culminated in the National Socialists' looting the institute and subsequently shutting it in 1933.

In Love and Suffering, Rainer Herrn tells the eventful history of this famous institution for the first time. He introduces the protagonists who shaped it, describes the struggles for the abolition of Paragraph 175, which criminalised homosexuality, follows the fates of the people who sought help at the institute and brings the spirit of the Weimar Republic to life along the way.

»Rainer Herrn’s great expertise that is evident in For Love and for Sorrow is impressive; he describes the complex web of antagonists in an unagitated, objective manner, shows the limits of Hirschfeld’s position and yet remains empathetic towards him.«
Andrea Roeding, Deutschlandfunk Kultur

The first extensive study of Magnus Hirschfeld’s famous institute
An important contribution to the history of science

Uffa Jensen
An Anti-Semitic Double Murder
Aggressively forgotten: Right-wing Terrorism in Germany

Brilliantly written and meticulously researched by one of Germany’s leading researchers on anti-Semitism: Significant contemporary history and a highly topical book on the debate at the same time

On December 19, 1980, Shlomo Lewin, the former chairman of the Jewish community in Nuremberg, and his partner Frida Poeschke were shot dead in their house in Erlangen. Instead of pursuing the leads that led to the right-wing extremist group »Wehrsportgruppe Hoffmann«, investigators concentrated on Lewin’s social environment for a long time. The exact circumstances of the crime remained unexplained. Hardly any event of contemporary historical significance has been so aggressively forgotten as this anti-Semitic double murder.

Uffa Jensen reconstructs the crime and its motivations. He follows the connections to the PLO, in whose camp the »Wehrsportgruppe« was trained, sheds light on the role of its founder, Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, and relates the assassination to the other attacks of 1980 in which more people in Germany were killed by (right-wing) terrorism than in any other year.

In doing so, Jensen reveals the patterns in dealing with right-wing terrorism that would be repeated several more times in the future – a history of violence, trivialisation and repression that continues to this day.

»Ultimately, the NSU murder series 20 years later was also only possible because people had already refused to draw conclusions from right-wing terrorism in 1980.«
Martin Mulsow
Overreaches

What is a global history of ideas?

A doctor in Hamburg sets out on a search for Turkish battle drugs; three travellers to East India concoct an unheard-of elixir in a pharmacy on Java; Leibniz, the philosopher, tries to find the earliest Chinese scripts; Spaniards in Potosí, Peru, are forced to witness devil worship in the mines; a Jesuit missionary encounters an eastern Hermeticism in Isfahan, a heterodox adventurer delivers a secret manuscript to the Moroccan ambassador and a collector of the Lord’s Prayer becomes exasperated with the vocabulary of the African Khoisan peoples.

What distinguishes these pre-modern pioneers of 17th and 18th century globalisation? How do they succeed or fail in referencing the foreign and distant objects they deal with? How did the ideas that reached them travel through space and time? In his new book, Martin Mulsow interprets the early modern period as a time of overreaches, an epoch in which sources and news from near and far overlapped without anyone coming to terms with this duplication or sometimes even noticing it. It was an age of risky reference, which Mulsow brings to life before our eyes in a stirring and erudite way.

»The real challenge in global history is adding reference from another side to one’s own reference in order to prove interconnections.«

Anyone interested in a history of thought beyond that of the usual well-trodden paths will glean much from reading Mulsow’s vividly written attempt to shed light also on the plentiful alternative routes and byways.

»Anyone interested in a history of thought beyond that of the usual well-trodden paths will glean much from reading Mulsow’s vividly written attempt to shed light also on the plentiful alternative routes and byways.«

Catherine Newmark, Deutschlandfunk on ›Prekäre Wissen‹
Felix Heidenreich
Sustainability and Democracy
For A New Green Democratic Republicanism

Felix Heidenreich
Nachtalität und Demokratie
Eine politische Theorie
(approx. 300 pages, Paperback, Release: November 2022)

Felix Heidenreich
Sustainability and Democracy
A Political Theory
(Original title: Nachhaltigkeit und Demokratie. Eine politische Theorie)
(approx. 380 pages, Paperback, Release: August 2022)

Felix Heidenreich is a Research Coordinator at the International Center for Cultural and Technological Studies (IZKT) at the University of Stuttgart and chercheur associé at the CEVIPOF in Paris.

A groundbreaking book that brings together the debates on climate change and on the republican revival in political philosophy for the first time.

What does the goal of sustainability mean for our democracy? Allegedly, there is a contradiction between the claim to individual freedom on the one hand and the ecological necessity of collective self-restraint on the other. In order to show a way out of this supposed dilemma, Felix Heidenreich draws on the republican tradition of democratic theory in this seminal book. Where liberalism celebrates freedom as individual freedom, republicanism conceives of freedom as collective self-commitment. Democracy, therefore, does not consist in being subject to a minimum of regulations, but in understanding oneself as a co-author of collective self-commitments that enable the construction of sustainable environments.

Wolfgang Bauer
At the End of the Road
A parable about the failure in Afghanistan

The Afghan Ring Road. A road that exists in reality and is yet a mystery. The 3,200-kilometre circular highway connects the country’s most important cities. It promised unity and prosperity. It has been under construction for sixty years, but it is still not finished. Corruption and mismanagement have swallowed up huge sums of money. After the invasion of Western troops, the road became a bloody battlefield.

Hardly any other German journalist knows Afghanistan as well as Wolfgang Bauer. The Zeit reporter was on the ground many times and has vividly described the fates of the people in award-winning reportages. He warned of a return of the Taliban early on. In August 2021, one of his closest colleagues was murdered.

After the fall of Kabul, Wolfgang Bauer returns one more time. He travels the Ring Road, visits places he has been to in the last 20 years – and investigates the question: Why has the West failed in Afghanistan? What does this failure has to do with billions in development aid? And where do things go from here? His reportage is a parable about hope and failure in the Hindu Kush.

»Strongly recommend this book that tells tragic, heartbreaking unbelievable stories of stolen girls in Nigeria.« Malala Yousafzai on ›Die geraubten Mädchen‹

»Must read. Stolen Girls, their own words, about surviving Boko Haram, abt which even less is known than N Korea. W Bauer great journalist.« Ashley Judd on Twitter on ›Die geraubten Mädchen‹

Wolfgang Bauer
At the End of the Road
Afghanistan between Hope and Failure
A Reportage
With numerous photographs
(approx. 240 pages, Clothbound, Release: August 2022)

Wolfgang Bauer, born 1970, works for the weekly German newspaper Die Zeit. For his reportages he has been awarded numerous prizes.

Selected Backlist:
Bruchzone (2018)
International Sales: Poland (Czarne), Die geraubten Mädchen (2016) International Sales: English world rights (The New Press), English audiobook sublicense: Recorded Books, Arabic world rights (Al-Arabi), Italy (La Nuova Frontiera), Netherlands (Walburg Pers), Poland (Czarne), Czech Republic (Grada), Turkey (Ginko)
Über das Meer (2014) International Sales: English world rights (And Other Stories), Spanish world rights (El Capitan Swing), Chinese complex rights (Yuwen), Arabic world rights (Al-Arabi), French world rights (Lux Editur), Poland (Czarne), Czech Republic (Grada), Croatia (Sandorf), Turkey (Ayrinti);
previously published in the respective language / territory; rights available again: Italy (La Nuova Frontiera)

Unique impressions by one of Germany’s most renowned reporters and war correspondents.

Felix Heidenreich
Sustainability and Democracy
A political theory
(Original title: Nachhaltigkeit und Demokratie. Eine politische Theorie)
(approx. 300 pages, Paperback, Release: November 2022)

»Strongly recommend this book that tells tragic, heartbreaking unbelievable stories of stolen girls in Nigeria.« Malala Yousafzai on ›Die geraubten Mädchen‹

»Must read. Stolen Girls, their own words, about surviving Boko Haram, about which even less is known than N Korea. W Bauer great journalist.« Ashley Judd on Twitter on ›Die geraubten Mädchen‹
Ilse Gross is fourteen and all alone when she flees Nazi Germany. Her family stays behind. Arriving in the UK, she finds work as a maid, but longs to be a writer. And seven years after the end of the war, she gets her breakthrough as an English-language novelist. Her pen name: Kathrine Talbot.

Like the Queen tells the true story of an almost perfect assimilation. We accompany Ilse’s escape to the UK and her deportation almost too late. She finally succeeds, it’s too late. Her breakthrough as an English-language novelist will surprise and delight international, especially British readers. Like the Queen is a previously untold story of a once-successful writer who bears an uncanny resemblance to her new monarch.

This previously untold story of a once-successful writer will surprise and delight international, especially British readers. Like the Queen journeys from London to the centre, however, is the story of a German-Jewish family. Throughout her life, Kathrine Talbot struggles to turn her memories into literature. When she finally succeeds, it’s almost too late.

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Barbara von Bechtolsheim

Hannah Arendt and Heinrich Blücher

Buchmesse and was translated into fourteen languages. This intellectual biography explores the shared life of two very different partners who inspired each other’s philosophical thinking and political and social involvement. Arendt’s central works would be inconceivable without Blücher’s influence and vice versa – Barbara von Bechtolsheim gives a deeper insight into their philosophical relationship by looking at Blücher’s letters and recently published essays, his previously unpublished lectures, which are only available as audio documents and transcripts, and interviews with former colleagues and students.

This work provides a better understanding of the energy and courage of scholars and artists in exile who enriched the cultural life in post-War II New England. With their skills of self-reflection, relationship and friendship, social justice and social change, the creative couple Arendt-Blücher continues to inspire intellectuals on both sides of the Atlantic to this day.

Selected Backlist: Paare (2022)

Barbara von Bechtolsheim trained Literature, Philosophy and Psychology in Munich and Stanford. She teaches Literature and Cultural Studies at various universities and researches the creativity of couples. As a literary translator, she acts as intermediary between American and German culture in many different ways.
Exercise is the key to our physical and mental well-being. Yet children move too little, and adults sit down too much. Science calls this phenomenon the "sitting disease." But exercise plays a crucial part in our lives: it promotes coordination, strength, resilience, bone formation, prevents muscle atrophy and stimulates the immune system. The brain benefits from every kind of movement as there is always a direct connection to the muscles.

Hans-Wilhelm Müller-Wohlfahrt, MD, himself an enthusiastic athlete since his youth, describes the relationship between exercise and health – muscles, fascia, connective tissue – in a scientific manner while using the knowledge he gained over the course of more than 40 years of practical experience to make a passionate case for more exercise. He introduces the most important muscle injuries of the foot, knee, hip, back, cervical spine and shoulder, explains his treatment methods and how we can treat these injuries quickly and effectively ourselves. A pioneer and distinguished expert in the field of diagnostic muscle injuries, Müller-Wohlfahrt also presents his latest project, which he is working on in collaboration with the Technical University of Munich: using his experienced hands.

With an extensive practical section teaching you how to treat the most common athletic injuries as precisely as he is able to do by using his experienced hands.

With numerous practical examples Protecting joints, alleviating pain, overcoming limitations – with the healing power of nature

Andreas Michalsen advocates for and explains the science behind leeching, fasting, meditation, yoga, and vegetarianism.

Andreas Michalsen, MD, born in Bad Waldsee in 1961 as the son of a Kneipp-Doctor, is Professor of Clinical Complementary Medicine at the Charité University Medical Centre Berlin and Head of the Department of Internal and Complementary Medicine at Immanuel Hospital Berlin. Clinically and scientifically, the internist focuses on mind-body-medicine (meditation, yoga, stress reduction), nutritional medicine and therapeutic fasting as well as purging methods. In cooperation with his team, he conducts research into the efficacy of Ayurveda.
Isabelle Van Groeningen
The Seven Seasons
A tour of the garden year full of inspiration and expertise

Even as a child, there was nothing Isabelle Van Groeningen loved more than digging in the soil with her hands and enjoying the greenery and the wondrous flowers. As an adult, she turned her passion into a profession and has since designed and planted countless gardens. Another matter close to her heart is imparting her knowledge about garden culture to others, nurturing their sense of colour, shape and scent.

In *The Seven Seasons* (because for gardeners there are more than just four) she shares her many years of experience and the knowledge she has gained. She explains issues of design and location, introduces not just the well-known but also numerous lesser-known of her favourite plants, and gives valuable tips on planting and care. And she reminds us of what is most important in gardening: a garden is good for the soul.

Internationally renowned garden designer Isabelle Van Groeningen takes us through the year and her garden and shares her experience.

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Jora Dahl
Flower Notes
»Give the flowers back to the gardens!«

Who doesn’t dream of ambling through their very own garden with blossoms and fragrances everywhere, of cutting an armful of flowers and filling the flat with lush bouquets – to ultimately not only make their own surroundings more beautiful, but also make the world a little better? Because flowers from your own garden or balcony are not just the most beautiful, they are also particularly sustainable.

Flower expert Jora Dahl shows how it’s done: in her flower journal, she reveals the best tips and tricks for your own flower garden – arranged by month – from growing to caring for and arranging cut flowers.

Grow your own cutting garden in just a few months – with help from acclaimed flower expert and influencer Jora Dahl. With adorable illustrations by Marion Rekersdrees.

In keeping with the new trend of the Slow Flower Movement: Grow your own cut flowers seasonally, locally and sustainably

Easy-to-implement, effective DIY tips

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Jora Dahl
Flower Notes
A Flower Journal Illustrated by Marion Rekersdrees, with 80 colour illustrations (Original title: Flower Notes. Ein Blumenjournal) 176 pages Flexcover Release: August 2022

Rights available

Jora Dahl is an acclaimed flower expert and influencer known for her lush, romantic plant combinations. She sells handpicked plant collections and modular planting plans in her online boutique and runs a design studio in Hamburg.

Marion Rekersdrees creates the »face« of the Jora Dahl brand with her botanical drawings. She is inspired by her own garden, which turns into a sea of flowers in summer. Rekersdrees lives in Potsdam with her family.
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