About Atlantik Verlag
In spring 2014 Hoffmann und Campe has launched the new imprint called Atlantik. Atlantik focuses on well-told novels, popular non-fiction, great anthologies and beautiful gift books. The Atlantik list features such acclaimed authors as Agatha Christie, José Saramago, Paul Theroux, Grégoire Delacourt, Natalio Grueso and Romain Puértolas.

About Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
Hoffmann und Campe, founded in 1781, is a publishing house with a long tradition and today one of Germany’s largest and most successful general publishers with a portfolio that embraces the works of famous authors and young writing talents. Since 1951, all works by the eminent narrative writer Siegfried Lenz have been published by Hoffmann und Campe.

We control translation rights for all the titles listed in this catalogue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to receive reading copies. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes from Hamburg,
Dana Nitz

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- On the beauty of art and the curse of money

- »Barbara Zeman’s vision of the world is valid and sharp, her gloriously long sentences meander through the reader’s mind like magical lizards.«
  Clemens J. Setz

It is late summer, the heat is stifling, and Immerjahn, the immensely wealthy heir, decides to escape the sheer exquisiteness of his life. He plans to turn his villa, including his impressive art collection, into a museum. But in the course of his preparations he gets increasingly entangled in the web of his life and love story.

Instead of focusing on the impending opening, Immerjahn falls prey to melancholy, and while his son swims his way to Olympic gold, Immerjahn finds out that his wife Katja has been in love with his best friend for years. Thus, shortly before the opening of his exhibition, it seems that he is not only running out of time; his entire life is slipping away from him.

In this debut, Barbara Zeman paints a picture of injured masculinity and the absurdities of a life ruled by aesthetic concepts; magnificent and drunk on tradition, with a fine sense of humour and intoxicatingly powerful language.

BARBARA ZEMAN
was born in the Burgenland region of Austria in 1981. She studied history in Vienna, where she has lived for the past eighteen years. As a journalist, she has been published in Falter, The Gap and Die Presse. She has been awarded various work and travel stipends for her short stories, and in 2010 she won the Wartholz Prize.
Simon Strasser’s first case

Kick-off for a new crime series set in the Piedmont

People lead a quiet life at the Lago d’Orta, the little brother of the Lago Maggiore. But treason makes even the calmest water churn.

Simon Strasser has exchanged the hectic life of a police and court reporter in Frankfurt for the calm and poetic beauty of the Lago d’Orta where he enjoys the pristine nature, good wine and delicious food of the Piedmont. He lives in a converted boathouse – together with his wilful foster daughter Nicola. Nicola’s mother is a past girlfriend of Simon who’s in a relationship with Frankfurt based Luisa.

One hot August morning, Simon encounters a sailing boat drifting on the lake – and on it, the body of Marco Zanetti, the son of a local factory owner. Accident or murder? Simon sticks hard to the heels of the investigating officer, his old acquaintance Carla Moretti. His instinct as a reporter tells him that there is more to this accident than it appears. Unauthorised, he digs deeper and deeper into the history of the mighty Zanetti family and discovers a love that had to be stopped at all cost. But knowing this secret means that now Simon himself is in danger!

Crime Fiction

GIULIA CONTI, is the nom de plume for a German journalist and travel book author. She has lived and worked in Frankfurt am Main for many years, but twenty years ago she made her second home in a small village on the Lago d’Orta in northern Italy. Lago Mortale is her first novel.

GIULIA CONTI

Lago Mortale. A Murder Mystery from the Piedmont.

March 2019

288 pages, Paperback, € 16,–

ISBN 978-3-455-00546-2

German title: Lago Mortale.

Ein Piemont Krimi
»True art will last forever.«
Ludwig van Beethoven

A homage to Beethoven and his symphonies

Ludwig van Beethoven’s nine symphonies occupy a special place in the history of music. Never before had such a multi-layered cosmos of powerful sound been created by instrumental music. Karl-Heinz Ott guides us through this cosmos and offers an entirely new perception of Beethoven’s milestones.

»Never have I seen an artist more together, more energetic, more fervent. I understand quite well how he must be in a wondrous position towards the world.« Goethe’s words, emphasising the extraordinariness of the artist Beethoven, equally apply for the imposing musical heritage Beethoven left to the world. He takes Haydn’s and Mozart’s symphonic oeuvre and leads it across all boundaries imposed by court, church and society once and for all. This music may lack words – but Beethoven renders it all the more eloquent.

Karl-Heinz Ott invites us to join him on a literary-philosophical journey through Beethoven’s symphonic universe. He tells tales of irritation caused by these symphonies, of the trance they can induce, and asks: why does this music stir us so much? And how can we talk about that which is beyond all words?

»The music unlocks a realm unknown to man; a realm [...] where he leaves all impression capable of being put in words behind, and surrenders to that which cannot be spoken.« E. T. A. Hoffmann in his review of Beethoven’s Fifth symphony.

Biographical Fiction
Karl-Heinz Ott
Ecstasy and Silence
Beethovens Symphonies
February 2019
192 pages, Hardback, € 24,-
ISBN 978-3-455-00396-3
German title: Rausch und Stille

KARL-HEINZ OTT, was born in 1957 in Ehingen on the Danube. He has received numerous awards for his oeuvre, such as the Friedrich-Hölderlin Prize (1999), the Alemannic Literature Prize (2005), the LiteraturNord Prize (2006), the Johann-Peter-Hebel Prize (2012) and the Wolfgang Koeppen Prize (2014). Most recently, he published Tumult und Grazie (Trouble and Grace) about Georg Friedrich Händel, and the novels Die Auferstehung (Resurrection) and Und jeden Morgen das Meer (Every Morning, the Sea). Karl-Heinz Ott lives in Freiburg.
The philosopher Rousseau never got over the trauma of the hairdresser Wintzenried replacing him in the bed of his thirteen years older lover. Without Wintzenried Rousseau would be happy, would not have the urge to rage against the world and become the trailblazer of the French Revolution. Madness and truth, are inseparable in Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s life. That persecution mania and megalomania belong together is nowhere so clearly demonstrated than in this epoch-making philosopher who put all depraved humanity on trial.

»Karl-Heinz Ott presents Jean-Jacques Rousseau as a misanthropist who loved philanthropists and cursed other misanthropists – pure pleasure.« FAZ

The opera, London, castrati, divas and philosophers people Handel’s world. This book about the famous composer, as clever as it is entertaining, focuses on 18th-century music and in so doing also on the present day. The author Karl-Heinz Ott has worked for many years as an opera dramaturge and with this book opens up to the layman a world which stretches way beyond the purely musical. Anyone seeking to explore the 18th century of George Frideric Handel finds himself inevitably confronted with the present day. If only because one ponders why baroque music no longer sounds as boring as it did 50 years ago.

A man goes to his childhood village in Upper Swabia to be with his dying mother: a journey into the narrowness of the past. As an illegitimate son born into a devoutly Catholic community, he and his mother were joined in a lifelong love-hate relationship. Now a cautious reconciliation begins – and a desperate struggle against death, which Ott recounts laconically and with humour.

»Everything about this novel is emotion turned into words.«
(Martin Krummbola, Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Rights sold to: France (Editions Phébus)
»Maeve Brennan’s style is the equivalent of the little black number in fashion.«

Deutschlandfunk Radio

»A tongue sharp enough for trimming hedges!«

New York City, 1955. High heels click along 5th Avenue. Wearing a clingy black dress and a string of pearls, hair piled into a beehive, Maeve Brennan is on her way to the offices of the New Yorker. She is a star of her time, a celebrated author and New York’s fashion icon. Rumour has it that she inspired the world-famous character of Holly Golightly in Truman Capote’s Breakfast at Tiffany’s. Her life is perfect. But there’s a reason for her motto that chaos is always just a small step away …

Maeve Brennan has left Ireland and her revolutionary parents behind and has ended a turbulent affair with Charles Addams, the creator of the Addams Family. The position as fashion editor with Vanity Fair in New York seems to be tailor-made for her, but the eccentric young woman with the razor-sharp writing style keeps making her way up: all the way to being a nationwide known author for the New Yorker. She is as much attracted by alcohol and the Cary Grant of the journalistic tribe as by the desire to live an independent life. Michaela Karl, renowned for her detailed biographies about unusual women, delivers an impressive rendition of a colourful character walking the tightrope between glamour and insanity.

Biographical Fiction

»I would never read that without wearing lipstick.«
Maeve Brennan – a biography
April 2019
320 pages, Paperback, € 22,-
ISBN 978-3-455-50414-9

German title: »Ich würde so etwas nie ohne Lippenstift lesen.«

MICHAELA KARL
born 1971, studied politics, history and psychology in Berlin, Munich and Passau. In 2001, she wrote her PhD thesis about Rudi Dutschke at the FU Berlin. Her biographies of Dorothy Parker, Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald as well as her book on Bonnie and Clyde all received great praise in the press. Most recently she published a biography on Unity Mitford (Ich blätterte gerade in der Vogue, da sprach mich der Führer an – I was just leafing through Vogue when the Führer accosted me, 2016). Michaela Karl is a member of the group “Münchner Turmschreiber.”
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»With best love and Heil Hitler!«

The Hitler groupie from the British Upper Crust: Unity Mitford

She was a scion of the British Upper Crust and dedicated her life to the »Führer«. Michaela Karl tells the incredible story of Unity Mitford.

Unity Valkyrie Mitford – Hitler groupie, Nordic goddess and spoiled daughter of a British Lord. In the mid-1930s, the 20-year-old cousin of Winston Churchill moves to Munich in order to meet Hitler. Göring thinks she is a British spy, MI5 thinks she is a silly goose. When Eva Braun, shocked by the unexpected competition, attempts suicide, there is ample speculation in the press about the possible future Mrs Adolf Hitler. But when, on 3rd September 1939, Great Britain and France declare war on the German Reich, two shots ring out in Munich’s English Garden …
100 years after the treaty of Versailles

The long shadow of German colonialism

With the signature of the Treaty of Versailles by the German Reich on 28th June 1919, the overseas colonies fell to the victorious Allied powers of World War I. The period of colonial rule over countries such as Namibia, Cameroon and Rwanda, long forgotten, has come to the fore again in recent years. What does this resurfacing mean for the Federal Republic of Germany? Wouldn’t it be appropriate to include German expansionist ambitions towards the East in this »post-colonial« view? The new culture of remembrance has grave consequences for the self-concept of a country whose population is becoming increasingly diverse. Today, the long shadow of the German »cultural mission« becomes apparent for example in the handling of the »debt crisis«, of migration and the refugee situation, and in every-day racism.

Mark Terkessidis is a renowned researcher into questions of migration and racism. By casting a look into the past, he furthers our understanding of current debates and points out where they should be steered in a new direction. He also highlights which questions arise when one includes the memories of those who have immigrated and so have become part of society.

Non Fiction

Mark Terkessidis
Whose memories should prevail?
A look at past colonialism and present racism
May 2019
160 pages, Hardback, € 20,-
ISBN 978-3-455-00578-3
German title: Wessen Erinnerung zählt?
Koloniale Vergangenheit und Rassismus heute

MARK TERKESSIDIS
born in 1966, is a freelance author who has written for taz, Tagesspiegel, Zeit, Süddeutsche Zeitung and other publications, as well as for Deutschlandfunk and WDR radio. He wrote his PhD thesis on the banality of racism and has taught at the universities of Cologne, Rotterdam and St Gallen. His latest publications are Interkultur (2010), Kollaboration (2015) and Nach der Flucht (2017). He lives in Berlin.
Survival tips for broken hearts

»The highest form of hope is despair overcome.« Albert Camus

What goes on inside a woman whose husband just leaves, without explaining anything? Inside a man who discovers that his wife has been cheating on him with countless others? And what happens inside you when you steal another woman’s husband even though she is expecting her third child? Separating from a partner often feels like the end of the world and leaves us in despair and at a loss. This book gives a voice to people who left and people who were left behind, people who found no consolation and people who did find new happiness.

Kerstin Schweighöfer knows what it means to be left behind. She had just started working on this book when her relationship of 15 years fell apart. And yet, new possibilities opened up and she found new love with the co-author of this book. Together they tracked down people who had been through difficult separations, in order to learn from them. This resulted in unusually open, moving portraits. A beautiful, profound book that deals with the topics dominating our lives: love, partnership and separation.

Non Fiction

Kerstin Schweighöfer & Dieter Quermann
Breaking hearts. Stories of Separations and New Beginnings
March 2018
352 pages, Hardback, € 20,-
ISBN 978-3-455-00534-9
German title: Herzensbrüche. Geschichten von Trennungen und Neubeginn

«The highest form of hope is despair overcome.« Albert Camus

KERSTIN SCHWEIGHÖFER
born in 1960, studied Romance Languages, Politics and History of Art in Munich and Lyon and then went to the Henri Nannen School of Journalism in Hamburg. In 1990, she settled in the Netherlands and works as a freelance author and foreign correspondent, mostly for the ARD public radio broadcasters, Deutschlandfunk radio, the news magazine Focus and the art magazine Art.

DIETER QUERMANN
born in 1950 in Eastern Westphalia, worked as police detective until 2012. Since 2017 he has been dividing his time between Germany and the Netherlands.
What the wisdom of hundred-year-olds teaches us about life, luck and love.

This book is about hundred-year-olds who don’t climb out of windows and disappear, but instead allow us to participate in their hundred-year-old wisdom.

When we think of hundred-year-olds, then the usually so feared age becomes mystical. They captivate us. For when, if not then, does a person know what life is all about?

Those who are a hundred years old today have experienced the First World War as children and were already grown up when the Reichstag burnt down. They know what everyday life looked like before the invention of television, antibiotics or ballpoint pens. They were already pensioners when computers became known everywhere and Germany celebrated reunification. Whoever had lived through such an immense change in values, has an incredible treasure of experiences and can calmly pass on his or her insights. In wonderful encounters and touching interviews with 12 hundred-year-olds – from farmer to artist, from priest to politician – Kerstin Schweighöfer discovers quite a few secrets and often surprising answers to the big question in life: What makes for a good friendship, relationship or marriage? How can deep love become the love of your life? How to deal with pain or loss? Which values count over time?

KERSTIN SCHWEIGHÖFER,
born in 1960, studied Romance Studies, Politics and Art History in Munich and Lyon and then attended the Henri-Nannen School of Journalism in Hamburg. Since 1990 she has been living as a freelance author and foreign correspondent in Holland, and primarily works for ARD Hörfunkanstalten, the Deutschlandfunk, the news magazine Focus and the art magazine Art.
But the great noughties auteur came from Europe and he came to his fullest, darkest flower in that decade: Austria’s Michael Haneke (...) has become virtually the founding father of an icily detached ordeal cinema, a pitiless vivisection of the west’s conceit, hypocrisy and cruelty.

Peter Bradshaw, *Guardian* film critic, 2018

To make a good film you need three things – the script, the script and the script.

Billy Wilder

Screenplays lie at the heart of Michael Haneke’s work. As a fundamental component of his oeuvre, this single-edition volume makes all his screenplays accessible to the reader for the first time. His unique films made Michael Haneke one of the most important directors in the world. His breakthrough came with the movie adaption of *The Piano Teacher* based on the same-titled book by Elfriede Jelinek, but *Caché, The White Ribbon, Love* and *Happy End* were his game-changing creations of the last ten years. His precise method of working and his craftsmanship become especially apparent in his screenplays. Reading them is a particular pleasure because they have a remarkable narrative quality that allows an immersion into the traits of the individual characters and they demonstrate a fearless knowledge of human nature. The volume is concluded with the un-filmed script *Flashmob*.

The measure of artistic value is precision, and in it lies pure passion. It is the advocacy of order against chaos. That’s what makes working worthwhile and it creates enthusiasm. I believe that precision delights per se.

Michael Haneke

Screenplays included
Happy End /Flashmob /Amour /The White Ribbon / Caché/ Time of the wolf/ The Piano Teacher/ Code Unknown/ Funny Games/ 71 Fragments of a Chronology of Chance/ Benny’s Video/ The Moor’s Head/ The Seventh Continent

MICHAEL HANEKE,
born in 1942, first studied Philosophy, Psychology and Theatre Studies in Vienna. In 1970 he began as a freelance theatre director, from 1974 on Haneke worked on his own film projects – almost always as both: writer & director. Michael Haneke was awarded with many prizes for his work, among them are i.a. Palm d’Or for *The White Ribbon* and *Amour*, The Golden Globe for *The White Ribbon* and *Amour*, as well as the Academy Award for *Amour*.
A declaration of love to India and the Taj Mahal

»Beauty is always right.«
Matthias Politycki

»There is probably no one more entitled than Politycki to write about what it means to travel, not least because for him, travelling is not a leisure activity. It is a drug, the elixir of life, and staple food in one.«
Jakob Strobel y Serra, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

When he sees the Taj Mahal for the first time, Matthias Politycki is convinced that this is the most beautiful building in the world. But how can he be so sure? This question is the starting point for another journey to the Taj Mahal.

By now it is a top tourist destination with up to 80,000 visitors a day. How can one discover the secret of beauty in this hustle and bustle? And what adventures, what risks await until in the end, one is granted the joy of pure contemplation once again?

Together with his Indian friend Sanjay, Politycki goes on a journey far into India for an in-depth look behind the scenes, a journey that suddenly opens up a completely new perspective on the Taj Mahal.

MATTHIAS POLITYCKI,
Born in 1955, lives in Hamburg and Munich. The “grand seigneur of our literature” (Tagesspiegel) is one of the most renowned authors in the German-speaking world. For thirty years he has published novels, short stories and essays, but he has always considered poetry to be at the heart of his body of work. Hoffmann und Campe has published various volumes, including Ratschlag zum Verzehr der Seidenraupe (Advice, on the Consumption of Silkworm, 2003), Die Sekunden danach (The Seconds Afterwards, 2009), London für Helden (London For Heroes, 2011) and Dies irre Geglitzer in deinem Blick (That Lunatic Glitter in Your Eyes, 2015).
The collected Poems – in a single volume for the first time

»Enormously precise observations of human behaviour, a facility for description bordering on object fetishism, humour and nimble-witted formal and linguistic artistry.«
Denis Scheck

»Simply good poetry: gorgeous, heart-wrenching, wise. And readable.«
Poetry Slam Magazin

In his poems Matthias Politycki summons a whole panopticon of lyrical characters. Lovers, dreamers, travellers and drifters, barflies, grumps and the walking wounded tell their stories – sometimes in free verse, sometimes under the romantic spell of rhyme – about the real fundamentals of life. Formally strict sonnets sit side by side with concrete poetry, throwing an unerring spotlight on love, death and the ostensible banality of everyday life. From the mysterious “dumpling paradigm” to the nonchalant Botswana blues, Politycki guides the reader on a journey that moves between local history and worldly wisdom. For thirty years he has struck his own unique tone, which makes audible even “the rustling of time behind the light and the things”. This volume gathers his complete poems for the first time, including those initially printed in a wide variety of publications; it also features a new cycle that leads behind the temple of Angkor Wat.

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Weekend trip or round-the-world trip, package tour or backpacker trip, countries collector or simply last minute traveler: We travel for all one’s worth and in all possible versions. But what is at the bottom of our wanderlust? The world once has been a great promise – is this still valid? How has traveling changed? Matthias Politycki whose main profession is novelist and lyricist, is an ardent sideline traveler. This book is not a tourist guide, but a book about travelling and a very personal book on general questions. The book is a literary logbook, a report of Matthias Politycki’s experiences.

Terribly Beautiful and Far and Wild. Why We Travel and What We Think Along the Way
April 2017
352 pages, Hardback, € 22,-
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
German title: Schrecklich schön und weit und wild. Warum wir reisen und was wir dabei denken

What is it that motivates and stirs us, which regularly drives us out of the comfort of our homes? What’s going on when we run? What do we think while we’re running? What do we think about running in general? And what does this say about the society we live in and ourselves? The writer Matthias Politycki looks into a sport that is much more than a leisure activity. In a globalised world, running has become the minimal consensus of the new world community. For Politycki, his life and his writings have long become unthinkable without running. ›No, I don’t live for running; however, my life would no longer be my life without it.‹ Over 42,195 chapters, he reflects on running and recounts from his own running experiences that are inextricably linked to his existence as a writer. Just like in his writings, the runner Matthias Politycki goes out into the world and takes the reader with him to London, New York, Iceland and the Kilimanjaro.

42,195. Why We Run Marathons and What We Think About While Doing it
March 2015
192 pages, Hardback, € 20,-
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-50338-8
German title: 42,195. Warum wir Marathon laufen und was wir dabei denken

This epic so rich in imagery is adventure novel, love story and novel of decline and fall all rolled into one. It describes one man’s confrontation with a foreign place where the big existential questions take on new meaning. The world is in disarray. Where the silk road used to be is now, in 2026, the epicentre of the crisis. Alexander Kaufner, mountain ranger and frontiersman, is travelling in legendary Samarkand and sets off in search of a mysterious place of worship. But is it really possible that victory or defeat, war or peace depend on a heap of sacred bones?

Together with his mountain guide, Odina, who is bound to him by oath, and protected by the fantastical girl, Schochi, who can dream the future, Kaufner roams the immense mountainous world of Central Asia and soon finds himself in a life and death race, not least against himself.

Samarkand Samarkand
Novel, August 2013
400 pages, Hardback, € 22,99
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-40443-2
German title: Samarkand Samarkand

Hinrich Schepp has regained his sight. After decades of severe myopia he at last hopes to get to the bottom of women and their magnificent incomprehensibility. All the more when he notices a seductive beauty at the bar in his local being first kissed and then bitten in the neck by her female companion – something Schepp finds simultaneously dreadful and auspicious. His life gets really problematic when the very same woman turns up there again shortly afterwards – as a waitress. But what has all this to do with his wife Doro’s notes, which he finds one morning on the desk? Or with the cold, dark lake down into which, according to Doro, all newly dead people must go, to die there for the second time? A compelling story of both love and its worst nightmares.

Next World Novella
Novel, August 2009
128 pages, Hardback, € 15,95
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-40194-3
German title: Jenseitsnovelle

Hinrich Schepp has regained his sight. After decades of severe myopia he at last hopes to get to the bottom of women and their magnificent incomprehensibility. All the more when he notices a seductive beauty at the bar in his local being first kissed and then bitten in the neck by her female companion – something Schepp finds simultaneously dreadful and auspicious. His life gets really problematic when the very same woman turns up there again shortly afterwards – as a waitress. But what has all this to do with his wife Doro’s notes, which he finds one morning on the desk? Or with the cold, dark lake down into which, according to Doro, all newly dead people must go, to die there for the second time? A compelling story of both love and its worst nightmares.

Sold to: France (Actes Sud), Italy (CartaCanta Editore Srl.), Portugal (Estrofes & Versos – Unipessoal), UK (Peirene Press)
Reality is not black and white, it is complicated. Thank goodness!
Katapult, the magazine for cartography and social sciences, ups the game
and delivers facts for all those who are curious, doubters, or simply nerds.
Germany is full? Actually, the entire global population fits comfortably
into the northern part of Saxony-Anhalt. Russia is invading everywhere?
Katapult happens to know that there are only 14 countries on earth which
Great Britain has not invaded yet. Also: the most inaccessible town on this
planet, an international comparison of the average length of children’s way
to school, and how much space would be needed to provide solar energy
for the entire globe (spoiler alert: not much).

100 maps that will change your view of the world – this book delivers
fascinating facts and offers unusual perspectives on what is going on in the
world. Always well researched and with a little wink, this is a journey
around the world, full of surprises and errors. Easily comprehensible graphics
make background and expert knowledge from the realms of history,
politics and social sciences easily accessible – readers will be amazed,
shake their heads and then rush to show this book to their friends.

KATAPULT magazine
was founded in 2016 by students at Greifswald University. Their
aim was to make scientific research and knowledge accessible to
the wider public in an uncomplicated way. It is published every
three months and gained cult status in record time. Besides a print
run of 40,000 the graphics created by editor-in-chief Benjamin
Fredrich reach people of all backgrounds and ages online.

Non Fiction
Katapult
100 maps that will change the way
you see the world
February 2019
200 pages, Hardback, € 20,-;
ISBN 978-3-455-00538-7
German title: 100 Karten, die Deine
Sicht auf die Welt verändern
By the author of the successful column »A man and his word«

Excursions into the animal world as used in the German language

How did the mouse hook up with the computer? What do you mean, there’s a draft as if I’ve been angling for pike? How does a canard survive in the day and age of fake news? And no, life is no dog and pony show.

We encounter far more animals in our daily use of language than in real life: in metaphors and turns of phrase. When and how did these become proverbial? Matthias Hein has tracked them down. There is the mole, which is indebted to a famous spy novel for learning its trade as a secret agent in the times of the Cold War. Or the bull which entered the china shop for the first time in the German parliament building, the Reichstag. And there is the “inner pig dog”, whose career is so shady that there should be no doubt it should be let off the leash once and for all.

A book full of curious and revelatory discoveries, making connections that we have only had vague notions of.

MATTHIAS HEINE, born in Kassel in 1961, studied German and history in Brunswick. Since 1992 he has been a journalist in Berlin, writing for publications including Die Welt, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, taz, BZ, Cicero, Neon and Theatre heute, and producing radio programmes for NDR and SFB/RBB. Since 2010 he has been culture editor for Welt. Most recently with Hoffmann und Campe he has published Seit wann hat “geil” nichts mehr mit Sex zu tun? (When Did “Geil” Stop Having Anything To Do With Sex? 100 Words And Their Remarkable Careers, 2016).
How frankfurters became hot dogs

By the author of the successful language column »one man, one word«

Language is a living thing – it’s constantly changing. Lots of people like to bemoan these changes, especially with English-isms popping up everywhere. Much more decisive and of far greater importance than the current changes for the German language, however, was the First World War.

Until 1914, the spread of German seemed unstoppable. A leading language of scholarship, it was also an administrative language in the colonies and Eastern Europe. Conquerors and emigrants brought German not only to exotic regions in Africa and the South Pacific but also to the USA. In many areas, what force alone couldn’t accomplish was achieved through the cultural influence of Germany – when the Austro-Hungarian monarchy gathered people in some corner of Eastern Europe to hear the music of Richard Wagner, for instance. Then came the First World War. After 1918 German disappeared from various Slavic nations, as well as Alsace and Lorraine and several countries below the equator, where it had been forced on the local population, but its influence also waned in areas like South Tyrol, where nothing but German had ever been spoken. Kaiser-Wilhelmsland became New Guinea, the house of Saxe-Coburg was suddenly called Windsor, and even the German Shepherd was redubbed the Alsatian. Even the Swiss no longer wanted to sound like Germans, so they started speaking dialect again. It proved the beginning of a gradual process which ended with Germany losing its significance in the global world of science and with the dramatic decline of the German language in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and a few other leftovers. Journalist, linguist and historian Matthias Heine explores how the World War led to the downfall of German as a language.

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BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS
WOLF HAAS

was born in Maria Alm in 1960. His crime novels, set around the private detective Brenner, sold millions of copies and were made into successful films. His novel Das Wetter vor 15 Jahren was published in 2006. The novel Verteidigung der Missionarstellung (2012) was awarded the Bremen Prize for Literature. Wolf Haas was awarded the Jonathan Swift Prize 2016 for his Simon Brenner novels. His most recent book Brennerova was published by Hoffmann und Campe in 2014. Wolf Haas lives in Vienna.
First of all Brenner’s knocked out by a ten year old. Then his girlfriend tries to drag him to the altar. Which is great since things are going swimmingly with the two of them. The only trouble is that things are going pretty swimmingly with his other girlfriend as well. How lucky for Brenner that a third woman enters his life – by disappearing. It’s likely she’s been kidnapped by human traffickers, and looking for her – that is to say, taking refuge in his work as a detective – turns out to be the solution to all of his personal problems. For there’s no better time to contemplate the happiness offered by a wedding ring than when the most notorious pimp in town is about to chop off your hands.

—Simon Brenner, the hero of Wolf Haas marvelous series of crime thrillers, is a wildly likable and original character – a delightful and unexpected hero to show up in this noble and enduring genre. That Brenner struggles his way – always humanistically, often humorously – through Haas’ acutely suspenseful narratives without the aid of a firearm, armed only with his smarts and sometimes fallible intuition, is a monumental plus.

—Jonathan Demme, Oscar-winning director of The Silence of the Lambs

Sold to: Poland (Burda Publishing), Czech Republic (Host)

Brennerova
August 2014
240 pages, Hardback, € 20,-
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-40499-9
German title: Brennerova

Defending the Missionary Position
August 2012
240 pages, Hardback, € 19,90
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-40418-0
German title: Verteidigung der Missionarsstellung

Benjamin Lee Baumgartner is fighting a losing battle against falling in love.

—The first time I fell in love, I was in England and mad cow disease broke out. When I fell in love a second time, I was in China and bird flu broke out. And three years later I was the first registered victim of swine flu. If I ever show symptoms of being in love again, you must immediately alert the health police, promise me that. The romantic escapades of Benjamin Lee Baumgartner, told by his friend, Wolf Haas.

Sold to: Poland (G+J Poland)

Brenner and God
August 2009
224 pages, Hardback, € 18,99
Hoffmann und Campe Verlag
ISBN 978-3-455-40189-9
German title: Der Brenner und der liebe Gott


At last Brenner has found a good job and even a friend for life, because there is nowhere better for getting to know each other than on the motorway. This is how Brenner and little Helena become loving friends while he is chauffeuring her to and fro between her mother in Vienna and her father in Kitzbühel. But the problems do not begin with the child but with the parents. Helena’s mother runs a clinic which is being besieged by anti-abortionists and Helena’s father, a property tycoon, has just secured a massive contract to turn the Vienna Prater into an amusement park. In this scenario Brenner can hardly be surprised that something goes wrong again.

—Wolf Haas writes quite simply the best crime novels in the German language.

—Denis Scheck

Sold to: USA (Melville), Poland (G+J Poland), Hungary (Scolar)
A fox with hair problems. A goose on the contrary. Haas in rhyming mood.

“This fox ran too fast. So his pelt grew in the wrong direction. He looked into the pond down in the clearing and went pale. Something bad had happened to his hair...” In ingeniously off-beat verses, beautifully illustrated by Teresa Präauer, Wolf Haas tells the story of a problem which called for an extremely unusual goose.

Once again Wolf Haas astonishes his readers with a total surprise – a goose in a rescue operation, the “goose on the contrary”, who is always on hand when other people are in trouble. This time a desperate fox calls on her for help, because his hair is in a mess...

A wonderful book for people of all ages, to give away or to read aloud, with brilliant rhymes and beautifully appropriate illustrations. There is no doubt that the rescue cry of this first-aid goose could become a catchword: “I can do it. I’m the goose. I’ll put it right! I’m the goose on the contrary!”

“No-one has gone out on a limb like this for a long time.” Der Spiegel

“No, unadulterated delight.” E.A.Z.

“Wolf Haas manages to do a balancing act between fun and art quite unpretentiously. And how!” Profil

The Illustrator:
Teresa Präauer studied painting, now works as an artist in Vienna and has exhibited in Hamburg, Düsseldorf, Dresden, Vienna and Salzburg. Her most recent art book Taubenbriefe von Stummen an anderer Vögel Küken (Pigeon post from dumb people to other birds’ chicks) was published in Vienna in 2009.
The long time awaited new novel by Irene Dische

»In the land of the free, many aspects of peoples’ lives are strictly controlled; yet others are left to chance. A particularly blatant example of this, is love. And so it came to pass that one day, quite by chance, a boy and a girl – in this case Duke and Lily – fell in love ... .«

»What makes Dische so distinctive is her antic exuberance, despite the often touchy topics she tackles.« The Seattle Times

»Like a pathologist, Dische can identify the intricacies of human behaviour without necessarily being able to breathe life into them.« The Independent

At the end of the 1960s, Duke Butler, naive and uneducated, stumbles into the life of an intellectual family on New York’s upper west side, who admire the young man from Florida like a Kaspar Hauser and take him in. Before he knew what was happening, the Southerner is married to Lily, the only daughter, and develops into a wine connoisseur and role-model intellectual. Dreamy Lily on the other hand is discovered as a model and becomes the talk of the town. And Duke must learn that a real New Yorker gets by without a heart, but not without using his elbows. He realizes that it’s difficult to free himself from the past, and that family and marriage can keep you above water, but you can also drown, which in a cultivated shark pool like New York can have devastating consequences.
Praise for
BLACK AND WHITE

»Once again, Irene Dische pulls out all the stops of her narrative art in this tumultuous novel.« *Antje Weber, Süddeutsche Zeitung Extra*

»A breath-taking ghost-train ride through America’s loves and hatreds.« *Elke Schlinsog, Deutschlandfunk Kultur*

»Romantic. Political. Poetic. BLACK AND WHITE is all that, ennobled with a delicate humour.« *Nil Varol, 3sat Kulturzeit*

»The protagonists are irresistible. The language, in particular […] is a delight – the subtle irony and dry humour leave readers silently grinning to themselves.« *Laila Oudray, die taz*

»If you haven’t read it yet, you can look forward to a savagely good time.« *Willi Winkler, Süddeutsche Zeitung*

»Dische’s writing is gripping and modern, confronting dreams with reality, illusions with forces that are stronger still.« *Armgard Seegers, Hamburger Abendblatt*

»Irene Dische is a great storyteller, and an eagle-eyed observer of our age. […] She has spent ten years writing a gripping, angrily laconic and very moving tale about the state of her homeland, the USA.« *ARD, ttt – titel thesen temperamente*

»Astute and seriously sharp-tongued New York novel.« *Elke Schlinsog, Radio Bremen 2*

»As though in passing, Irene Dische sketches a portrait of the United States. She does so primarily through her precise use of language – her ability to give each character their own voice.« *Marie Schoeß, BR 5 aktuell*

»The realisation that in life there is no clear line between black and white, only subtle shades of grey […] is only one of the lessons in this wise novel.« *Ulricke Frick, Münchner Merkur*

»A godsend!« *Reinhard Helling, Münchner Abendzeitung*

»She has produced a shrewd and brilliantly written study of a society threatening to founder on its own superficiality.« *Maria-Christine Leitgeb, Die Presse*

»Irene Dische has produced an epic.« *Der Stern*

»Fairy-tale stuff! Perfectly suited to the maestro of the art of storytelling. […] A breath-taking book.« *NDR Kultur*
Having problems is a classic reason for travelling. Clarissa is a young American immigrant who foolishly falls in love with the wrong man. She has spent more than five years in Europe without once coming home, enjoying her life there so much that she had no time to miss America. But lovesickness makes her board an aeroplane on impulse to get over it in New York. She lands in the middle of a heated electoral spring season and while she is there it turns into summer. She has no interest whatever in politics but by chance finds herself increasingly drawn into the electoral battle. And it is in fact her complete indifference which makes her perceive things which no-one else does.

This is the celebratory edition of Irene Dische’s acclaimed debut work from 1989. The seven stories in this book are all about outsiders – emigrants, refugees, re-settlers, people who are stranded, and also with the everyday exile of old age. Irene Dische’s heroes are: the old man in New Jersey, who his own grandchildren think is Adolf Hitler; the down-at-heel Nobel Prize-winner living on ready meals; the bewildered pathologist in the confessional; the female Jewish black marketeer in Berlin. Her favourite settings for these stories are New York and Berlin – the two poles between which she moves – in her life, her language and her writings.

English edition available (Bloombury Publishing, 1991)
Love is a matter of taste. Some people like it sweet, some like it sharp and others are sour anyhow. Irene Dische has written 25 love stories and divided them into three chapters: heaven, purgatory and hell. They end sadly or finish on a happy note – but each one has a surprise in store.

A happily married couple is torn apart prematurely but their relationship continues in heaven. An old, grieving widow has also arrived, missing her dead husband painfully and wanting to give away her money, but no-one takes her seriously. In purgatory, on the other hand, a couple who bore each other to death just carry on as before and nothing changes. Then there is the narcissistic beau in the company of several ladies at once. His love affair with his own image leaves him wandering through hell on his own.

All these stories are based on true encounters and incidents and out of them Irene Dische has skilfully composed a paean of praise to love.

Sold to: Netherlands (Em. Querido’s Uitgeverij BV)

English sample translation available

At the end of what is (she cannot help observing) an extraordinary life, Elisabeth Rother has decided to write her memoirs. She brushes aside her narrow escape with her Jewish husband from the Nazis, and the perilous voyage to the New World of New Jersey. The subject that really consumes her is the waywardness of her impossible daughter, Renate, and her granddaughter, Irene.

Renate performs autopsies on the bodies of politicians whom death has harvested in the nighttime arms of their mistresses. Worse, she sleeps on unironed sheets. Irene drops out of school to roam the world, refuses to correct her nose with plastic surgery, and shows alarming signs of enjoying sex. What is to be done with such women?

A curiously touching love letter to the difficult but sustaining love of mothers and daughters, *The Empress of Weehawken* is a masterpiece of comedy with an unexpected lilt of redemption at its close.

Sold to: Denmark (Tiderne Skifter), France (Editions du Seuil), Italy (Neri Pozza), Korea (By Books), the Netherlands (Em. Querido’s Uitgeverij BV), Norway (KA Forlag), Poland (Wydawnictwo Nisza) and Czech Republic (Nákladatelství JOTA)

A Pulsating Debut

In Max Wolf’s first novel, rave meets Why We Took the Car and Fred meets 1990s techno culture

Fancy a bit of rebellion, rave, and ecstasy? Then Max Wolf’s reading is just the thing. In Glücksreaktor, his novel about electronic music, friendship, freedom, and the eternal search for what’s real in life, Wolf, an evolutionary biologist and behavioural scientist, has written himself up into a frenzy that rouses readers and leaves them fully energised.

Glücksreaktor takes place in the summer of 1994 in the provinces of Germany’s Franconia region. An electro wave is rippling across Germany to the pulse of a 4/4 beat. Fred is 17. He’s into physics, marijuana, and his mother’s friends. And he wants to rebel. He wants more, he wants life – he wants maximum happiness. With his best friend, Nick, he discovers the techno club Das Boot – and ecstasy. Fred descends deeper and deeper into this hedonistic scene. Until his rebellion becomes a struggle against the physical laws of nature.

Max Wolf

The Happiness Reactor

Novel, August 2018
240 pages, Hardback, € 20,-
ISBN 978-3-455-00439-7
German title: Glücksreaktor

MAX WOLF,
born in 1976 in Switzerland, grew up in Southern Germany. He studied economics and biology in Mannheim, Heidelberg and Berkeley and completed his doctorate in evolutionary biology in the Netherlands. He has been working for a Leibniz research institute in Berlin since 2011 and has been awarded numerous international prizes for his work in the field of behavioural research. The Happiness Reactor is his first novel.
The new face of right-wing terror

- A danger we finally have to take seriously
- Hatred of our society – the underestimated danger of autonomous right-wing assassins.

In recent years, our liberal society has been confronted with a new form of hatred. Extreme right-wingers no longer make do with words: individual, so-called ‘lone wolves’ carry out concrete, perfidious planned attacks. German authorities have ignored this new form of terrorism for too long. Florian Hartleb has written an evocative book about how people get radicalised until they are prepared to kill for the ‘white race’.

‘I wanted to kill her as a favour to Germany!’ Frank S. called out after his attack on the mayoral candidate for Cologne, Henriette Reker, in autumn of 2015. In the following summer, David S. caused a state of emergency in Munich. He hunted down ‘sub humans’ – youths with migrant backgrounds. He killed nine, injured five more and left behind extensive recordings of his ideology. Not only in Germany has right-wing terror reached a new dimension. This book initiates the necessary debate about the new form of right-wing terror that is developing in our midst. It shows the role the Internet plays. From Breivik to the Malmö laser man, to the massacre of African migrants in Macerata – Hartleb is familiar with the perpetrator’s personal offence ideology, he knows where they were radicalised, and which ideologies form the basis of their attacks. He shows which measures authorities and civil society have taken up in other countries, while Germany prefers to blend out the danger. An alarming, precisely researched book that demonstrates the consequences of right-wing thinking.

FLORIAN HARTLEB, born in 1979 in Passau, completed his doctorate at the TU Chemnitz on the subject of right and left-wing populism. This was followed by several teaching posts in Potsdam, Bonn, Eichstatt and at the Command and Staff College. He furnished an expert opinion on the attack carried out by David S. He lectures throughout Europe on his specialty subjects Terrorism, Populism and Digitalisation and is in great demand with the media (e.g. ZDF Heute, ARD Fakt, Wiener Zeitung, Die ZEIT, Report Mainz).
Daniela Dröscher has written a unique portrait about social background, which holds surprising responses to the issue of the growing disparity of society and the fundamental problems of political commitment. Using her own story as an example, she demonstrates why background still defines our social interaction to this day and why we still feel embarrassed to talk about it – regardless of whether we come from the top or the bottom.

Show Your Class examines the political conditions from a radically subjective perspective. Dröscher works out which differences are determined by our background and why we have lost the social ‘we’ feeling. She tells of power structures and the powerlessness that she experienced from early childhood to the current time, which characterised her awareness for class affiliation. Show Your Class casts a shrewd glance into the interior of our social interaction with one another – angry about our current political disenchantment and disarming in the frankness of naming the disagreeable. A book we’ve been longing for ever since Didier Eribon’s Returning to Reims.

Why our class background characterises us more strongly than we acknowledge

Throughout my youth, I was trapped by three things: An overweight mother, a small village and my dialect.

Daniela Dröscher, born in 1977, grew up in the Rhineland. Following her studies of German, philosophy and English in Trier and London, she completed her doctorate in media science at the University of Potsdam on Yoko Tawada’s poetics. She has been published in magazines and anthologies. She studied scenic writing from 2008 to 2011 at the University of Graz. Her first novel, Die Lichter des George Psalmanazar, a novelistic double biography about Samuel Johnson and the imposter George Psalmanazar, was called a ‘baroque cabinet of wonders, full of marvellous fata, heart-wrenching melancholia and cleverness’ by Martin Halter from the FAZ. She is a member of the PEN Centre Germany. Daniela Dröscher lives in Berlin.
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