FOREIGN RIGHTS
SPRING 2020
FICTION

LITERARY FICTION

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Since his childhood, Simon Leyland has been fascinated by languages. In defiance of his parents, he becomes a translator and single-mindedly pursues his goal of learning all the languages spoken around the Mediterranean. From London he follows his wife Livia to Triest, where she has inherited a publishing house. In this city of important literary figures he believes he has found the ideal place for his work – until a medical error throws him off course. However, this apparent catastrophe turns out to be a turning point and an opportunity to once again completely reinvent his life. After an interval of several years, Pascal Mercier’s *The Weight of Words* is about the freedom that literature gives us and explores the question of how free we are in the choices we make in our lives.

**The time spent reading this book is a rich and fulfilling experience.**

*DIE WELT*

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**Pascal Mercier**

was born in Bern in 1944 and lives in Berlin. After *Perlmanns Schweigen* (1995) and *Der Klavierstimmer* (1998), his novel *Nachtzug nach Lissabon* (2004) became one of the biggest bestsellers of recent years and was translated into many languages. It was followed by the novella *Lea* (2007). *Das Handwerk der Freiheit* (2001) and *Eine Art zu leben* (2013) were also published by Hanser under his real name Peter Bieri. Pascal Mercier was awarded the Marie Luise Kaschnitz Prize in 2006 and the Premio Grinzane Cavour for best foreign novel in Italy in 2007. In 2007 he received the Lichtenberg Medal of the Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen.

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- Nothing says more about who we are than the stories we read – a philosophical novel as haunting as the *Night Train to Lisbon*

*Sales*
- Finland (Tammi), Korea (Gimmyoung), Netherlands (Wereldbibliotheek), Slovakia (Premedia), Turkey (Sia Kitap)

Pascal Mercier

Das Gewicht der Worte

Roman

HANSER

576 pages

January 2020

# 1 on the SPIEGEL bestseller list

English sample translation available
Abbas Khider was born in Baghdad in 1973. At the age of 19 he was arrested for his political activities. After his release, he fled Iraq in 1996 and stayed as an »illegal« refugee in various countries. He has lived in Germany since 2000 and studied literature and philosophy in Munich and Potsdam. Abbas Khider lives in Berlin. His novel Ohrfeige (2016) and most recently Das endgültige Lehrbuch (2019) were published by Hanser Verlag.

»Abbas Khider writes slender books. They are purified. Reduced to the essentials. No knick-knacks, no bits and pieces, like the luggage of a person who is on the run.« Iija Trojanow

Shams Hussein is an ordinary boy with ordinary dreams. Hoping for a more peaceful life, his parents move with him and his sister from the south of the country to Baghdad. Soon they are living in the »Tin Quarter« next to a huge garbage mountain. These are the years of the economic embargo against the country under Saddam Hussein. The quest for a better future quickly turns into a life of existential struggle. Shams has no time to grow up: he works as a plastic-bag seller at the bazaar, as a bus driver’s assistant, as a carrier. And he loves books. But at a time when one wrong word can mean death, he enters a world whose dangers he does not see coming. This is the story of a boy from the slums of Baghdad – up to the moment when his life falls apart forever.

A personal, vivid novel filled with unforgettable characters. Both existential and immediate, as only Abbas Khider is able to spin a yarn.
There are many family sagas, but this one is something very special – a book to be remembered! In just 160 pages the author develops an impressive, rich story about the make-up of families and relationships. A wonderful novel that inspires readers to think about their own family constellations. — Denis Scheck

Josef and Maria Moosbrugger live with their children on the outer edges of a mountain village, far away from the other inhabitants. They are outsiders, marginalised, poverty-stricken – the riff-raff. It is the time of the First World War, when Josef is drafted into the army. It is the time when Maria and her children are left behind and become dependent on the protection of the mayor. It is the time when Georg from Hanover comes to the area, a man who is not only beautiful and speaks High German, but who one day also knocks on Maria’s door. And it is the time when Maria gets pregnant with Grete, the baby of the family, with whom Josef will never speak a word: the mother of Monika Helfer. She tells the story of her own origins, of a family that is only ever referred to by everyone as the “riff-raff”.

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A powerful and poignant portrait of a woman and mother at the beginning of the 20th century.
Arthur, 22, quiet and intelligent, spends 26 months in prison. When he is finally released, he realises he won’t simply be given another chance. Without the right papers and references, he won’t be able to reintegrate into the real world. Together with his unconventional therapist Börd and his glamorous substitute mother Grazetta, he comes up with a clever plan. A small lie that could lead to absolute freedom…

With humour and empathy, Birgit Birnbacher, winner of the Bachmann Prize, tells the story of how somebody like Arthur could end up in prison at all, and explores the big question of what constitutes a »useful« life.
»Barta manages to succinctly capture the tough, delicate, beautiful and terrible sides of country life. A great debut.«
Ariane Heimbach, Brigitte WOMAN

»When interpersonal relationships become political – an impressive debut from Dominik Barta.«
Imogena Doderer, 3sat Kulturzeit

When Theresa, around sixty years old and a farmer’s wife, suddenly feels ill, all certainties crumble. Her grown-up children have to travel from wherever they have ended up in order to finally talk to each other again. Theresa’s husband has to learn to accept help and feelings. And even twelve-year-old Daniel has to confront his stubborn uncle Max in order to protect his only real friend. But Theresa is silent, finds no words, no way out.

Dominik Barta continues a great tradition of Austrian literature. With precision, archaic power and empathy, his debut novel is about ordinary people and circumstances.

- Strong, socially relevant debut
- This novel takes us to the today politically charged provinces
- An Austrian Édouard Louis

Sales
All rights available

Dominik Barta
Vom Land
From the Countryside
176 pages
January 2020
Maria has disappeared. Herwig, to whom she has been married for almost thirty years, hasn’t heard from her in months. The fact that she quit her job and took his Volvo at least gives reason to hope that she is still alive. But what happened to their marriage, their love, their life together? Hubert Achleitner sends his protagonists on an adventure that takes them from the Austrian mountains across Europe to Greece. And for both of them it is first and foremost a highly emotional journey into themselves. A wise and very musical novel about love and longing, fate and fleeting happiness.

For decades, Achleitner has been a firm fixture on the German-language cultural scene."

Süddeutsche Zeitung

“A unique artist in the best sense, a fantastic musician, a fantastic writer and quite simply a likeable guy."

Sandra-Isabel Knobloch, Donaukurier

The first novel by the musician Hubert von Goisern

Hubert Achleitner

known as Hubert von Goisern in 1952. He is regarded as a prominent exponent of New Volksmusik and inventor of Alpine Rock. His interpretation of Alpine music spans many styles and is inspired by other cultures. The »Linz Europa Tour 2007 – 2009« is regarded to this day as one of the largest cross-border music projects of our time. Flüchtig is his first novel.

HUBERT ACHLEITNER

Flüchtig

ROMAN

Zsolnay

Sales

All rights available

Hubert Achleitner

flüchtig

Fleeting

304 pages

April 2020
MARKUS ORTHS

The novel is set in the dark: two men in complete and utter darkness make their way along endlessly long corridors. Staying put is not an option. They urgently want to reach the light. They grope their way forward, have bizarre conversations and share memories of their spectacularly different lives. These two men are Stan Laurel and Thomas Aquinas. The talented comedian meets the great philosopher of the Middle Ages. Why here? Why now? Why the two of them, in particular? That’s exactly what they have to find out in order to finally reach the light. Markus Orths draws us into an adventure of ideas, into a fantasy about meaning and nonsense, about dying and laughing. An improbable and extraordinary encounter that spans more than seven hundred years of world history.

Sales
Max: Croatia (OceanMore), Serbia (Glasnik)

When Stan Laurel and Thomas Aquinas meet in the dark – an uproariously funny and deadly serious story

»Orths makes heaviness light and darkness bright. In his highly concentrated chamber play, everything remains in a delicate, light-footed limbo between absurd parable and divine slapstick. With Orths, pulling faces in the dark turns into a conversation between the dead, full of wisdom and good humour.«

Martin Halter, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Markus Orths was born in Viersen in 1969, studied philosophy, Romance studies and English in Freiburg and now lives in Karlsruhe. His novels have been translated into sixteen languages. His most recent novel was Max (2017). He is also the author of radio plays and children’s books.

English sample translation available
Selected by New books in German
Turek works for a company that builds ‘smart cities’. His boss is obsessed with an old plan: if the Egyptian Qattara Depression could be flooded with water from the Mediterranean, sea levels could be lowered, climate change slowed - and billions could be earned. Technophobia is a story about the beauties and absurdities of the digital world, and about the people who are building the future or trying to escape it. A sharp look at a society that has given up its freedom for comfort and security, and an unusual love story that takes us around the world, to gorillas and robots, anarchist communities, talking houses and server farms - and to people who have as little control over their lives as over love.

NIKLAS MAAK

Our future has already begun – A story about the beauties and absurdities of the digital world

Niklas Maak
born in 1972, studied art history, philosophy and architecture in Hamburg and Paris and lives in Berlin. Since 2001 he has been an art and architecture editor for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and has also taught as a visiting professor of architectural history. He received several prizes for his work. Most recently published by Carl Hanser Verlag: Wohnkomplex. Warum wir andere Häuser brauchen (2014), Atlas der seltsamen Häuser und ihrer Bewohner (2016) und Durch Manhattan (2017, with Leanne Shapton).

• A wild, melancholic and enchanting novel covering the big questions of our time

Sales
All rights available

Niklas Maak
Technophobia
256 pages with illustrations
March 2020
Cihan Acar
born in 1986, studied law in Heidelberg and Heilbronn. His most recently published books were about hip-hop and the Istanbul football club Galatasaray.

• An explosive debut on homelessness and tolerance in our divided society

»A great novel! Entertaining, often weird, full of unusual ideas and brilliant stories.« Abbas Khider

Some people believe that the hottest days of the year, dog days, bring heavy misfortune. Kemal Arslan walks through Heilbronn, a football star who had to give up his career following an accident and now has to start all over again. He loiters on the sidelines of a Turkish wedding, goes into a strip club and a betting shop, gets caught up in a street fight between Far Right radicals and migrants, meets his ex-girlfriend Sina and visits his parents, who like most Turkish people in the city, live in Hawaii, a tough neighbourhood of dilapidated high-rises with a violent street life that has absolutely nothing in common with the holiday paradise.

Cihan Acar tells the story of two days and three nights in the life of a young man as he passes through the various stages of illusion, longing and loneliness. A book about all the homeless people, night owls and romantics who live their lives in an in-between zone.

Sales
All rights available

Cihan Acar
Hawaii
208 pages
February 2020
The dog is exceptionally talented. An orphan boy who came crawling out of a cellar half starved, who can cook so well it breaks your heart. And for Mo he is a brother. When the two of them start working at the restaurant El Cion, the dog begins his ascent to becoming an award-winning chef.

Akiz tells the story of two underdogs in an intense and powerful voice and without pausing for breath. A brutal, unforgettable debut that steers full force towards an explosive climax.

A new sound in German literature – wild, brutal, sensual

Akiz
born in 1969, lives as a director and screenwriter in Berlin and Los Angeles. He gained recognition with films including Der Nachtmahr and Das Wilde Leben. In the 1990s, one of his friends worked in a posh restaurant in Los Angeles. There, at the point where the food is passed from the kitchen to the waiters, Akiz came up with the idea for his first novel.

• Indulgence, decadence, betrayal – what happens behind the scenes of Chef’s Table
• A clever outsider works his way up to become an award-winning chef
• Series filming in preparation

AKIZ

Sales
Italy (Mondadori)
Ernst Lothar

full name Ernst Lothar Müller, was born in Brno in 1890 and died in Vienna in 1974. A trained lawyer, he initially worked as a public prosecutor before he became a theatre critic, director and finally director of the Theater in der Josefstadt in 1925. In 1938 he emigrated to the USA, returning to Vienna after the end of the war. From 1948 he was director at the Burgtheater and member of the board of directors at the Salzburg Festival.

”The extraordinary story of an extraordinary man.”

DIE ZEIT

”These memoirs should be mandatory reading.”

Daniel Kehlmann

- A moving document of an erudite and compassionate man
- A sharp-witted voice of his time
- From the author of the internationally successful Der Engel mit der Posaune (The Angel with the Trumpet)
»André Heller could become a Maupassant, a Schnitzler, even a Joseph Roth of tomorrow.«
Süddeutsche Zeitung

»Heller is a master of precise human observation and situational descriptions.« Gerhard Metzler, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

André Heller

- Written with a light hand
- Profound, enigmatic and imaginative

A world championship in hand folding, Shlomo Herzmansky’s miraculous survival thanks to Himmler, and the nightly tumult of Lipizzan horses in the middle of Vienna. Anything is possible, even the abolition of death is unsurprising when you immerse yourself in the narrative world of André Heller.

Like in his bestseller Das Buch vom Süden, André Heller mixes the anecdotal with the autobiographical, creating images and portraits of his world that brings the past into the present and the far-away near.

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Christoph Meckel
was born in Berlin in 1935 and died in 2020.
He was awarded the Rainer Maria Rilke Prize,
the Joseph Breitbach Prize and the Hönty
Prize in 2016. Hanser most recently published
Tarnkappe. Gesammelte Gedichte (2015) and
Kein Anfang und kein Ende. Zwei Poeme
(2017).

The collected prose of »a courageous Romantic and a virtuoso of language.«
Manfred Papst, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

85th birthday on 12 June 2020
**Quint Buchholz**

born in 1957 in Stolberg, studied art history and later painting and graphics at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich. Today he lives in Ottobrunn. With his picture book Schlaf gut, kleiner Bär he achieved his first international success in 1993. For Hanser he has illustrated books by Elke Heidenreich, Jostein Gaarder and Amos Oz as well as numerous texts of his own. 1997 saw the publication of Der Sammler der Augenblicke, which was awarded many national and international prizes. Most recently Hanser published Im Land der Bücher (2013) and the songbook Sonne, Mond und Abendstern by Dorothée Kreusch-Jacob (2017), which he illustrated.

> The power of eternally relevant truths – with illustrations by Quint Buchholz

**A Time for Everything**

The verses in Ecclesiastes are among the most beautiful and famous in the Bible: »Everything has its time. For everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven ...« The lines offer comfort and assurance on all kinds of occasions. Timeless words of wisdom that are deeply rooted in our culture.

With his illustrations, Quint Buchholz sets the familiar lines in surprising contexts: for »there is a time to weep« he depicts a lonely boy on a strangely distorted house. Beside »a time to laugh« is a man doing a somersault in his motorboat. A masterful artist invites us to see this ancient text with new eyes. A lesson in serenity.

**A writer who quietly brings stories to life with his pen.»** Udo Watter, Süddeutsche Zeitung

**QUINT BUCHHOLZ**

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Oskar Pastior's poems are legendary, his poetic abilities sweeping. The new volume of his Complete Works includes *Das Hören des Genetivs* and the famous *Gimpelschneise in die Winterreise*: the creative transformation of the other to fulfil his own, new objectives.

When Oskar Pastior was awarded the Büchner Prize in 2006, a wider audience became aware of who he was for the first time: the most linguistically possessed, playful and original German-language poet of our age. His life's work is now being compiled in the Complete Works, of which this is the latest volume. Once again, Pastior draws the reader in with his inimitable use of language, forms and traditions. The volume includes not only famous poems such as *Das Hören des Genetivs*, but also his Frankfurt lectures *Das Unding an sich*, as well as many previously unpublished texts.

»An onomatopoeic poet of the universe, radiant with the joy of words.«
Benedikt Erenz, Die Zeit
Brothers tells the story of two men, born in the same year to the same father, a man they never met, and who gave them nothing except their dark skin, which separates them from everyone else at the time. The issues the two men face are the same. But their lives couldn’t be more different. **Brothers** is a novel about whether we are able to determine our fate – or whether our background and character have an irrevocable effect on us.

Here is what the jury of the German Book Prize says:

> “Brothers is a sweeping novel that can be situated in the American narrative tradition. With utter nonchalance, the book tackles topics such as skin colour, success, love, the question of living right and, above all, the meaning of fate, origins and influence. **Brothers** is an incredibly gripping read, but Jackie Thomae also manages to weave existential questions and themes into it with great ease, almost in passing.”

**Paulus Hochgatterer**

**Fliege fort, fliege fort**

**Fly, Fly Away**

Deuticke Verlag

288 pages

September 2019

A literary crime novel and a psychological portrait of a fictitious small town: A series of worrying events frightens the inhabitants of Furth am See. Violent acts against older people are perpetrated in increasingly gruesome ways. At first glance, the victims seem to have only one thing in common – the desire not to talk about their experiences.

> “Lean, incredibly vivid sentences ... the tension never lets up from chapter to chapter.” Ulrich Weinzierl, Die Welt

**Katja Oskamp**

**Marzahn, mon amour**

**Stories of a chiropodist**

128 pages. July 2019

Katja Oskamp is in her mid-forties when life grows dull: Her child has left home, her husband is ill, and her writing, which was her passion up till then, is a source of disappointment. She does something that would amount to failure for others: she becomes a chiropodist. And starts to record what she hears in stories full of humanity and wit.

> “Katja Oskamp only needs a few words to tell the stories of entire lives. Normal people, a barely acknowledged place – spectacular stories.” Böw-Sörg

> “One reads that and is delighted with the robust poetry with which Katja Oskamp describes this world of the elderly and those who are left behind. She writes about the nobility of the people, and their stories are true, also because they are funny and beautiful.” Hinner Kuhn, Süddeutsche Zeitung

**Bettina Baláka**

**Die Tauben von Brünn**

**The Pigeons of Brno**

Deuticke Verlag

190 pages

August 2019

This exciting, atmospheric novel follows the dramatic journey through life of a young woman who falls victim to a con man. It is amazing how well Baláka catches the spirit of the Viennese Biedermeier and brings the social, cultural and historical conditions to life.

> “All of Baláka’s stories have a deeper undercurrent; there are never just ripples on the surface.” Ruth Klüger

**Sales**

Croatia (Leykam International)
# NON-FICTION

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Karl Schlögel

With his new book, Karl Schlögel has written a historical pièce de résistance: two perfumes, the French Chanel N° 5 and the Soviet Red Moscow, provide him with the material to explore the dramatic events of 20th-century European history from an unusual perspective. The turmoil of the Russian Revolution brought the formula for a fragrance, which had been created for the 300th anniversary of the Romanovs, to France. It provided the basis for Coco Chanel’s N° 5 and its Soviet counterpart, which is still produced today under the name >Red Moscow<. Polina Zhemchuzhina, wife of Foreign Minister Molotov, was director of the state-run perfume industry. She later fell victim to a cleansing campaign while Coco Chanel collaborated with the German occupiers. An apparently insignificant coincidence leads Karl Schlögel to a series of astonishing discoveries about an epoch we thought we knew well.

An original approach to European history in the 20th century

From the formula for a perfume, Karl Schlögel develops a panorama of the modern world in East and West

Coco Chanel and Polina Zhemchuzhina: the lives of two women in the age of extremes

Sales
Italy (Rizzoli), Slovenia (Beletrina), Spain (Acantilado)
Jan Mohnhaupt was born in 1983 in the Ruhr area. He works as a freelance journalist and author for a variety of magazines and newspapers including Spiegel Online, Zeit Online and PM History. In 2017 Hanser Verlag published his book *Der Zoo der Anderen*, which was translated into several languages. He lives and works in Munich.

*Jan Mohnhaupt tells a previously neglected chapter of Nazi history*

*Horses, cats, silkworms: animals between heroisation and hate*

Potato beetles as weapons of war and pigs for educating the masses – under National Socialism, animals weren’t exempt from (mis)appropriation. Jan Mohnhaupt tells their stories vividly and with an eye for everyday detail. Dog breeding served the Nazis as a model for their racial fanaticism. In primary school, insects were used to prepare children for war. And the stag was used to buttress the myth of the »German forest«. Mohnhaupt discovers animals and their unique role in National Socialism in diaries and specialist journals, school textbooks and propaganda material. In the style of a historical reportage, he follows in their footsteps, from horses on the Eastern Front to cats in German living rooms. And he makes clear: »The Nazi perspective on the world is reflected with surprising clarity even in this aspect of the Third Reich.«

Sales

Der Zoo der Anderen: China (Fonghong), English World (Simon & Schuster), Japan (CCC Media House), Taiwan (Ecos)
We live in the best of all worlds: never before has there been so much peace, never before have we been so rich, so safe. These are the stories we tell ourselves. But what if they don’t correspond to reality? What if democracies crumble, hatred between social groups grows, economic growth stagnates, the threat of a climate catastrophe increases?

In his expansive essay, Philipp Blom argues that the West may be in a crisis because of, and not despite, peace and prosperity. Nothing in our past has prepared us for this. The signs are there that a storm lies ahead, and that the struggle for the future will also be a struggle between narratives, before all eyes, on the stage of the global theatre.

»The great global theatre is a place where the world can reinvent itself.«

**Philipp Blom**

*Das große Welttheater*  
*Von der Macht der Vorstellungskraft in Zeiten des Umbruchs*

160 pages  
April 2020

Sales  
Italy (Marsilio), Netherlands (Bezige Bij)

• A historically substantiated analysis of current-day upheavals  
• New ideas for our lives in times of democratic crisis and climate catastrophe

Sales  
Italy (Marsilio), Netherlands (Bezige Bij)
Why do we want our own children? Should we be able to decide which children to have and which ones not to have? Is it too late at some point to have children at all? Which technologies are acceptable to use in order to have a child, and at what point do they become ethically questionable? The philosopher Barbara Bleisch and the professor of law Andrea Büchler explore the intimate as well as socially fundamental subject of having children. Whether we have children, when we have children and which children we have: in the past these decisions were made by fate. Today they are increasingly controllable. Taking into account a range of perspectives and arguments, and in an accessible style, this book examines the extent of our autonomy in reproduction and what responsibilities this new-found freedom entails – for future mothers and fathers, for our children and for us as a society.
Our public conversations have become toxic. Rumours and fake news are spreading faster than ever before, and being mobbed and slandered has become the norm. Media expert Bernhard Pörksen and communications psychologist Friedemann Schulz von Thun, two prominent representatives of their respective fields, analyse the communication crisis and show ways out of the polarisation trap. They explain what makes a successful conversation and develop an ethic of talking to each other that combines empathy and esteem with a willingness to argue and to clear the air through confrontation. In concrete terms and with clear examples, they show how conversations and discussions can be improved. A book that we urgently need in an age of flaring tempers and populist simplifications.

Bernhard Pörksen and Friedemann Schulz von Thun are Germany’s most important experts on media and communication

Hate and lies are threatening our free society

How can we make a stand against the collective furor?
Technology is more than silicon, metal and energy. Technology is a way of thinking.

Georg Diez was a journalist and columnist for publications including the Spiegel, Spiegel Online, Zeit, Frankfurter Allgemeine and Süddeutsche Zeitung. Recent political essays include Das andere Land (2018), Martin Luther, mein Vater und ich (2016) and Der Tod meiner Mutter (2009). Today he works as Director of Strategy and Media for a think tank.

Emanuel Heisenberg is the founder of ecoworks, a technology start-up offering CO₂-neutral industrial renovations. He advises ministries, political parties and NGOs on climate change and energy transformation. He studied history and economics in Munich and Cambridge.

- For anyone who wants to shake things up
- Technology as an opportunity for a different kind of politics and society
- Digitalisation as an answer to climate change, inequality and disillusionment with democracy
Kübra Gümüşay is one of the most important new political voices. Her book is a coup: for a language that liberates people from their prescribed roles.

Language opens up the world and diminishes it at the same time. But as a society, how can we talk about our problems without fuelling the hate of the Far Right – respectfully, benevolently, without fear of making mistakes? How can we speak freely?

This book is driven by a strong desire: for a language that does not reduce people to categories. For a way of speaking that allows them to exist in all their facets. For truly communal thinking in a polarised world. For some time now, Kübra Gümüşay has been fighting for equality and discourse at eye level. In her first book she explores how language shapes our thinking and determines our politics. She shows how people become invisible as individuals when they are always seen as part of a group – and are only allowed to express themselves as such. But how can people really speak as themselves? And how can we all – in these times of increasingly harsh and hate-filled discourses – communicate differently with one another?

Kübra Gümüşay
born in 1988, is one of the most influential intellectuals and political activists in Germany. She studied political science in Hamburg and at the London School of Oriental and African Studies. In 2011, her blog Ein Fremdwörterbuch was nominated for the Grimme Online Award. She was a columnist for the tageszeitung and has given several TEDx talks. The campaign #ausnahmslos, which she founded in 2016, was awarded the Clara Zetkin Women’s Award. Her core concerns are racism, feminism, online culture, and questions of social diversity. After many years in Oxford, she now lives back in Hamburg with her husband and son.

- Calling for a new, free way of speaking: about the real problems in our society today
- One of the most important political books of the year
Karl Heinz Bohrer’s opinions on politics are always aimed at the whole picture. He is particularly interested in the way in which day-to-day politics illuminates disavowed, repressed or forgotten conflicts. Germany’s refusal to play a front-line role in the world, its reticent handling of its Prussian past, the way it remembers the two World Wars: issues like these show that a historical perspective, philosophical arguments and literary memory are intrinsic to a substantiated political position.

In six essays, Bohrer analyses the European power play of the last 150 years – an emphatic lesson on spiritual independence.

«One of the greatest travellers through the intellectual life of the republic.»
Thomas Steinfeld, Süddeutsche Zeitung
At the age of 25 he founded Die Fackel, which he wrote alone from 1911 to 1936; Die Letzten Tage der Menschheit was a radical reckoning with the First World War, Die Dritte Walpurgisnacht took issue with Hitler. According to Elias Canetti, Karl Kraus was ‘the greatest and most caustic man living in Vienna today.’ Kraus, born in 1874 in Jičín in Bohemia, died in 1936 in Vienna: for some he was God, for others the devil incarnate. His name has remained legendary, but what he represented is beginning to fade. Jens Malte Fischer now brings him into the present with this comprehensive biography. Kraus’s personality and work, his friends and enemies, aphorisms and antagonisms are brought to life to reveal one of the greatest writers of his time and beyond.

JENS MALTE FISCHER

»Much of what Kraus wrote is even more relevant to our times than his own.« Jonathan Franzen

Jens Malte Fischer
born in 1943, studied German language and literature, musicology and history and was Professor of Theatre Studies at the University of Munich. Zsolnay published Jahrhundertdämmerung, Ansichten eines anderen Fin de siècle (2000), Gustav Mahler. Der fremde Vertraute (2003), Vom Wunderwerk der Oper (2007) and Richard Wagner und seine Wirkung (2013).

• The first major biography in decades
• A unique personality and his epoch
• Sharp-tongued criticism of politics and media – more current than ever

BIOGRAPHY

KARL KRAUS
Der Widersprecher

Biographie / Zsolnay

Jens Malte Fischer
Karl Kraus
Der Widersprecher
Karl Kraus
The Dissenter
1104 pages
March 2020
Matthias Henke
born in 1953, was Professor of Historical Music at the University of Siegen from 2008 to 2019. Since 2019 he has been a research professor at the Danube Private University in Krems. His most recently published books are Arnold Schönberg (dtv, 2001), Joseph Haydn (dtv, 2009), Die Sieben letzten Worte unseres Erlösers am Kreuze von Joseph Haydn (Katholisches Bibelwerk, 2017). And as an editor: Arnold Schönberg: Die Prinzessin (Hanser Children’s Book, 2006).

- 2020 is Beethoven year: his 250th birthday is in December
- A new picture of Beethoven, free of idealisation
- Matthias Henke is one of the leading Beethoven experts

Hero, revolutionary, national idol: in the past, Ludwig van Beethoven had to serve idealistic notions that had nothing to do with his music. On the composer’s 250th birthday, Matthias Henke’s biography shines a light on a person who didn’t make things easy for anyone – particularly not for himself. But his music still touches us today as if he were our contemporary.

It is music from a period in history when the world changed radically; music that liberated itself from the constraints of classical music and found new forms of expression. Matthias Henke portrays Beethoven between Bonn and Vienna caught up in these tensions, but also explains how his music was used for political purposes and how it would even become the epitome of »classical music«: an updated biography for our times.
Zeina Nassar
born in 1998 in Berlin, has been boxing since she was fourteen. She lives in Berlin and studies sociology in Potsdam as a scholarship-holder of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes. Since 2018 she has also been on tour with the Maxim Gorki Theater play Stören.

Instagram: @zeina.boxer (80,000 subscribers)
Facebook: Zeina Nassar
http://www.zeina-nassar.com/

• Zeina Nassar pushes back against conventions – a role model for young women worldwide

• Zeina Nassar is one of the faces of the new Nike campaign

• The author trains for Olympia 2020

Anything is possible if you fight for it – a young woman steps into the ring

At the age of thirteen, Zeina Nassar already knew she wanted to box. Because she refuses to take off her headscarf in the ring, she isn’t allowed to take part in competitions for a long time. But Zeina won’t be dictated to; she forges her own path. Her parents, who are from Lebanon, don’t want her to box? Zeina convinces them with a fifteen-minute lecture. The German dress code at competitions doesn’t allow religious women like Zeina to box in a headscarf? Then the regulations have to change. On an international level, women are not allowed to enter the ring wearing a hijab? Then the rule has to be abolished. Zeina is not just an exceptional sportswoman; the sociology student travels around the world as an ambassador for education and fights internationally for equal rights. Proof of where a woman’s willpower can take her; in her compelling and inspiring memoir, Zeina writes for the first time about her struggles and setbacks. And about the importance of never losing sight of your goal.

Zeina Nassar
Dream Big
Wie ich mir als Boxerin gegen alle Regeln durchsetzte

• Zeina Nassar pushes back against conventions – a role model for young women worldwide

• Zeina Nassar is one of the faces of the new Nike campaign

• The author trains for Olympia 2020

Sales
All rights available
Michael Hampe

Born in 1961 in Hanover, studied philosophy, literature, psychology and biology in Heidelberg and Cambridge. After professorships in Dublin, Kassel and Bamberg, he has been Professor of Philosophy at the ETH Zurich since 2003. He lives in Freiburg and Zurich. Most recently published by Hanser: Tunguska oder Das Ende der Natur (2011) and Die Lehren der Philosophie (2014).

»Hampe strives to make philosophy the queen of the sciences again.«
Burkhard Müller, Süddeutsche Zeitung

- An incitement to re-examine the maxims of one’s own life
- A fascinating philosophical and literary mind game
- A reflection on what constitutes real life

How do we find real life? By retreating into untouched nature? After death, in immortality? Through the lives of our children? Michael Hampe explores these questions in order to stop them turning into existential will-o’-the-wisps. For this purpose he invents the poet and philosopher Moritz Brandt. His friend Aaron is sorting through his estate when he comes across diaries and essays in which Brandt reflects on what constitutes real life. The more he immerses himself in the texts, the more frequently Aaron asks himself: Where does this desire to change, to become real, come from? Hampe masterfully combines narrative and reflection in order to illuminate how distinguishing between appearance and reality prevents us from coming to terms with our lives.

MICHAEL HAMPE

Die Wildnis
Die Seele
Das Nichts
Über das wirkliche Leben / HANSER

Sales
Das vollkommene Leben: English UK (Atlantic Books)
Tunguska: English World (Chicago UP), Italy (Il Saggiatore)

Michael Hampe
Die Wildnis
die Seele, das Nichts
Über das wirkliche Leben
The Wilderness, the Soul, Nothingness
About What Constitutes Real Life
304 pages with illustrations
March 2020

HANSER
Boredom drives us to eat salty food, and fear is the biggest enemy of healthy eating. Our emotions influence our eating habits—and vice versa. A healthy diet doesn’t start with a perfect eating plan, but with a stable, attentive relationship with oneself. In her entertaining and scientifically grounded book, Melanie Mühl explains why it is so important to pay attention to the way we eat. So that we can thoroughly enjoy our food in harmony with our own body and well-being.

Melanie Mühl
was born in 1976 in Stuttgart and grew up in Bayreuth. She studied German literature and journalism in Karlsruhe and Kingston, Ontario. Since October 2006 she has been an editor for the features section of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. Her book Die Kunst des klugen Essens was on the SPIEGEL bestseller list for months.

• How to eat healthily is always a topical issue, especially in the spring
• Comprehensively researched, with findings from the latest studies
• An easy read, without being dogmatic and with surprising insights

Put an end to dieting – how to eat holistically to achieve physical and mental health
Salutogenesis – the art of learning to swim rather than using a life jacket

Children are healthy and resistant if they sometimes have to overcome illnesses – this is the fundamental idea behind salutogenesis.

Health is not only the absence of illness, but the complex interaction of many factors. The ability to overcome health issues is developed in the first three years of a child’s life.

Klaus-Dieter Früchtenicht is a paediatric neurologist and oncologist. Georg Seifert holds the first European chair for integrative medicine. Basing their work on case studies from many years of practice, they combine traditional holistic medicine with the newest scientific findings. Their book is suitable for everyday use, offering practical tips on dealing with childhood illnesses, infections and developmental disorders.

Dr. med. Klaus-Dieter Früchtenicht
works as a paediatrician and paediatric neurologist in Berlin. He has also worked as a senior physician at various clinics.

Prof. Dr. med. Georg Seifert
is a senior physician in paediatric oncology, and a professor of holistic medicine and paediatric integrative medicine at the Charité clinic in Berlin and University of São Paulo, where he researches Brazilian holistic treatments and traditional medicine. Seifert has three children.

- A new and unique approach to children’s medicine
- Holistic health can be learned
- A new reference book with scientific findings
- Includes a large practical part

Sales
All rights available

Dr. med. Klaus-Dieter Früchtenicht
Prof. Dr. med. Georg Seifert
Von Anfang an gesund
Gesundheitskräfte natürlich stärken für Kinder von null bis drei

Dr. med. Klaus-Dieter Früchtenicht
Prof. Dr. med. Georg Seifert
Von Anfang an gesund
Healthy from the Outset
Strengthening Health
Naturally for Children
from Birth to Three
256 pages with illustrations
January 2020
Dr. Lieschen Müller
in her mid-thirties, holds a doctorate in accident surgery and orthopaedics. After her six-year degree, she spent more than eight years working in clinics in Germany. She lives with her husband and child in southern Germany. If she were to write, tweet and blog under her real name, she would probably soon be out of a job.
unfallchirurginundmutter.de

- As a woman in a male domain, the author experiences some hair-raising situations
- Blatant sexism is a huge problem among medics: 70% of medical students are women, yet there is only a small percentage of women in management positions

How does it feel to stick your hands into a man’s chest? Why do doctors often talk in euphemisms? Why is it addictive to work until you drop? When Dr. Müller starts working in A&E, her life becomes hell. Exhausted, she staggers around the corridors between severed limbs, body fluids and insults. Her male colleagues shamelessly bully her unless they’re trying to come on to her. With heart and humour she depicts the crazy reality of a trainee doctor.
NATURE & SCIENCE

Florian Freistetter
Eine Geschichte des Universums in 100 Sternen
A History of the Universe in 100 Stars
256 pages with index. September 2019

From mythology to science fiction, and the Star of Bethlehem to the Gaia mission, Florian Freistetter tells the history of the universe in 100 stars. And in 100 entertaining chapters, he not only reveals the past and future of the cosmos, but also the story of the people who have tried to understand the world in which we live. Freistetter’s star stories tell the reader about the universe as it has never been done before – in an original, exciting way, full of surprising insights.

Sales
France (Flammarion), Italy (Sperling & Kupfer),
Korea (Galmaenamu), Spain (Ariel/Planeta),
Turkey (Ginko), UK/US (Quercus)

Josef H. Reichholf
Das Leben der Eichhörnchen
The Life of Squirrels
176 pages with illustrations and index. August 2019

They leap acrobatically through trees tops, or hide nuts ingeniously in the garden: for many people, the squirrel is a popular figure in the animal world. Renowned biologist Josef H. Reichholf shows that there are good reasons for this. After all, it is not only fun to watch squirrels; they can also teach us a great deal about ourselves. Reichholf shows us the hidden world of squirrels and their kin. With great expertise, but never failing to entertain, he explains why squirrels also play, how dormice can help us overcome winter blues – and how he once came across a squirrel that fell from the sky.

An engaging natural history book by one Germany’s best science writers, who gives us a new outlook on these creatures.

»Terrific scientific writing.«
Denis Scheck

Sales
Italy (Aboca)

NATURE & SCIENCE

Martin Pollack
Die Frau ohne Grab
Bericht über meine Tante
The Woman Without a Grave
An Account of My Aunt’s Life
Zsolnay Verlag
494 pages with photos
August 2019

Im Brand der Welten is a great portrait of the diplomat, writer and 1961 Nobel Laureate Ivo Andrić, but also an impressive panorama of European history of the first half of the 20th century.

»Not only does Martens unveil the often confusing story of the Yugoslav region by the thread of Andrić’s life, as a gifted narrator, he also knows how to arrange and stage the material in such a way that one reads the book with bated breath.«
Neue Zürcher Zeitung

Sales
Bosnia (Buybook), Croatia (Ljevak), Serbia (Laguna)

BIOGRAPHY

Michael Martens
Im Brand der Welten
Ivo Andrić. Ein Europäisches Leben
Worlds on Fire
Ivo Andrić. A European Life
Zsolnay Verlag
494 pages with photos
August 2019

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Sales
Bosnia (Buybook), Croatia (Ljevak), Serbia (Laguna)

MEMOIR

Martin Pollack
Die Frau ohne Grab
Bericht über meine Tante
The Woman Without a Grave
An Account of My Aunt’s Life
Zsolnay Verlag
184 pages with photos
August 2019

The fate of a central European woman: born as an Austrian, a citizen of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, a German after 1941, then murdered in 1945. Told with great intensity, Martin Pollack’s account of his great-aunt’s fate exemplifies the conflicts that took place in a small border town.

»Pollack has an unerring sense of how to portray major historical events through minor stories.«

Sales
Italy (Keller), Poland (Czarne),
Slovenia (Drustvo Mohorjeva), Ukraine (Old Lion)
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A charming book for all middle children, with witty illustrations by Jacky Gleich. Lulu is the middle child. Lulu’s big brother Kaspar builds helicopters and milking machines. He’s a great inventor and is sure to win the Nobel Prize says Grandma. And everyone is always charmed by little Leo, no matter what she does. As soon as she cries, Mummy picks her up and consoles her. And Lulu? She wants to lay the table, but Papa has done it already. She wants to help with the cooking, but then the food is already on the table. Lulu’s had enough: she’s not small, but also not big. So what is she? The golden middle of the family – obviously!

»I’m not big. I’m not small. I’m the golden middle.«

Finally a book for middle children
A picture book for encouraging understanding among siblings

Sales
All rights available

Micha Friemel
Jacky Gleich
Lulu in der Mitte
Lulu in the Middle
Color illustrations throughout
32 pages
Format: 28.5 x 22cm
From age 3
March 2020
Charlotte Inden
born in 1979, studied German literature, art history, and film and TV studies. She lives with her family in Karlsruhe and works as an editor at a daily newspaper. Her novels for young adults, Anna und Anna (2013) and Operation 5 minus (2015) were followed by the children’s book Bei mir zu Hause wohnt ein Tiger – Kleine Geschichten zum Vorlesen (2019).

Pe Grigo
trained as a typescript editor before completing a degree in design in 2015. She lives with her children in an old yellow house with an apple orchard. For Hanser she also illustrated Bei mir zu Hause wohnt ein Tiger – Kleine Geschichten zum Vorlesen.

• 38 one-minute stories about children’s everyday lives

• About saying goodbye, moving house and finding new friends

• For reading aloud to kindergarten children

The latest adventures of Oskar and Tiger Theo – »perfect for bedtime reading!«

CHARLOTTE INDEN • PE GRIGO

38 little bedtime stories on the subject of moving house, delightfully told from the perspective of three-year-old Oskar.

Mummy, Daddy, tiger Theo, Oskar and his sister Klara are moving to a new house. Which means complete chaos and saying lots of goodbyes. But moving house also means you get to meet all kinds of new friends and even neighbours with rabbits! There’s no getting around the fact that for a while you have to live on a building site – with lots of packing boxes and no doors! But Oskar and Klara’s new kindergarten is so close they can get there on their scooters, almost alone. They’re also getting a playroom with clouds on the walls and stars on the ceiling, and the new bath is so big, Oskar can swim in it – well, almost.
I spend a lot of time around humans. Out of necessity – they give me food.

Original insights into the world of humans from a four-pawed point of view
Humorously written and illustrated
For all cat lovers
Humans simply don’t understand enough about life!

A delightful and intelligent cat’s-eye view on humans and their world.

I am a tomcat – a big, beautiful red tabby. For many years now I’ve been observing humans and their habits. And let’s face it – they’re rather strange! They give you food that tastes of bird or fish instead of mouse or rat. And they let that horrible wet water run straight down over their heads! Another mystery to cats is why they hold a piece of paper in front of their face instead of scratching it. Or why dark sofas aren’t considered a good place for tomcats like me to lie on. Really, it’s no wonder that humans think computers and glass tablets are great inventions, but mice and balls of wool aren’t. They simply don’t understand enough about life!
A Sunday outing with four grandchildren?  
No problem!

Friedbert Stohner
born in 1951 in Altlußheim am Rhein, worked for many years in publishing. Together with his wife Anu he also worked as a translator out of English and Finnish. And he writes children’s books, not only for his own four grandchildren. The following in the same series have been published by Hanser: Ich bin hier bloß der Hamster (2014), Ich bin hier bloß das Pony (2015) and Ich bin hier bloß das Schaf (2018).

Hildegard Müller
born in 1957, lives and works as a graphic designer, illustrator and author in Ginsheim near Mainz. She also illustrated the other books in the Ich bin hier bloß … series.

A book for all generations
• Great fun to read, full of wit and irony
• The ideal gift for Grandpa

Now it’s Grandpa’s turn to have a say!  
Because there are so many stories to tell about life as an energetic pensioner and devoted grandparent. Looking after his four grandchildren? A piece of cake! Grandpa decides to take the children to the amusement park for a Sunday family outing. He can manage that, no problem! But on the drive there, he gets an inkling that it might not be as fun as he imagined – at least not for him.

No sooner are they stuck in traffic than the children start jumping about wildly in the back of the car. But Grandpa has nerves of steel and quickly sorts them back into their seats. When they are standing in the queue for the amusement park, however, he loses his composure for the first time when he notices that his youngest grandchild has disappeared …
Inspiring a journey into the Bauhaus universe

Ingrid Kern
born in Bad Muskau in 1966, is director of media and communications for the Prussian Cultural heritage Foundation. He has authored several children’s books on the history of the Bauhaus.

Dr. Werner Möller
born in Korbach/Waldeck in 1960, has studied art history and has worked as research fellow at the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation since 1991. He is the author of several Bauhaus publications.

Kitty Kahane
born in Berlin in 1960, has worked as book illus-
trator, painter, and designer since 1990. Her work has been honored, among others, by the Stiftung Buchkunst and the Deutsche Designer Club.

The 100th anniversary of the Bauhaus – an event of international magnitude

This charmingly illustrated book introduces children and adults alike to the historic Bauhaus sites in Germany and makes the ideas behind them graspable.

Mia and Lucas Rosenstein are excited about an invitation to Chicago on occasion of their grandfather’s birthday. While exploring his apartment they discover an old suitcase with peculiar paraphernalia. About each and every object grandfather can tell them an interesting episode that is directly tied to their own family history. They realize that they themselves are part of the fascinating world of the Bauhaus.

Mia and Lucas’s enthusiasm has been sparked: Together they decide to visit the great Bauhaus sites in Germany.

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Ingolf Kern

Werner Möller

Alles Bauhaus?
Eine fantastische Zeitreise mit Mia und Lucas

Is Everything Bauhaus?
A Sensational Journey through Time with Mia and Lucas

Color illustrations by Kitty Kahane throughout
80 pages
From age 10
September 2019
Katrin Bongard

Animal-rights campaigner falls in love with a hunter? – »Feelings don’t stick to the rules!«

• A topical and dramatic love story
• A love of nature – from opposite perspectives
• Two teenagers conquer the social divide

Katrin Bongard
born in 1962, is an artist and author and has worked for the last ten years as a screenwriter. In 2005 her first children’s book Radio Gaga was developed out a screenplay, and won several awards, including the Peter Härtling Award. Since then she has written twenty books for children and young adults. Together with her husband she runs an acting agency as well as the label Red Bug Books. Painting, photography, installation work and drawing are also part of her artistic repertoire. Es war die Nachtigall is her first book to be published by Hanser.

Environmentalist versus hunter, open-mindedness versus tradition, two irreconcilable perspectives and one true love.
Together with a group of friends, sixteen-year-old Marie fights for animal rights and against climate change. At a concert by her favourite band she meets Ludwig von Brockdorff, a passionate hunter. The attraction is immediate and mutual, but at the same time, two very different worlds collide. Can an independently minded environmentalist and a young hunter with a strong sense of tradition be together despite their prejudices, their antagonistic families and the very different circles in which they move?

Katrin Bongard
Es war die Nachtigall
It Was the Nightingale
272 pages
From age 14
January 2020

Sales
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Foto:
© Uwe Carow

»Feelings don’t stick to the rules!«
They are fighting for the environment, minorities and equality, and are actively involved against the gun lobby, discrimination and corruption. 25 young people fighting for a better world.

Greta Thunberg is just sixteen when she sparks off the global climate protests with her school strike. Fourteen-year-old Netiwit Chotiphatphaisal founds a newspaper to campaign for democracy, freedom of speech and educational reform in Thailand. Malala Yousafzai writes a blog about the oppression of women in Pakistan when she is eleven years old. And in the fourth grade at school, Felix Finkbeiner comes up with the idea that children in every country on Earth should plant a million trees.

Young people all over the world are demonstrating their social commitment and bringing about fundamental change. Their pioneering spirit is an inspiration to us all.
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