

# FOREIGN RIGHTS CATALOGUE 2025

**Welcome to our Foreign Rights Department.**

Edition Nautilus is an independent publishing house founded in 1974 and located in Hamburg. We publish German and international fiction and political non-fiction as well as biographies and art books.

In this list you will find a range of titles from the current program as well as selected titles from our backlist. If you are interested in any of these, we will be happy to send you a copy.

At [www.edition-nautilus.de](http://www.edition-nautilus.de) you can find updated information on each book and author. If you have any requests or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards

Katharina Picandet

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## Recent deals:

- Barbara Peveling, "Gewalt im Haus", French World Rights sold to Éditions Les petits matins
- Mithu Sanyal, "Vergewaltigung. Aspekte eines Verbrechens": Italian rights sold (Lit edizioni), also published in English (Verso), Spanish (Reservoir Books), Danish (Tiderne Skifter), Swedish (Ordfront), and French (Ecosociété)
- Stephanie Haerdle, "Spritzen. Geschichte der weiblichen Ejakulation": English world rights sold (MIT Press), French world rights sold (Lux Editeur)
- Christopher Wimmer, "Land der Utopie? Alltag in Rojava", English rights sold to Brill
- Sven Recker, "Der Afrik", Film rights (cinema) under option, die film gmbh WEST

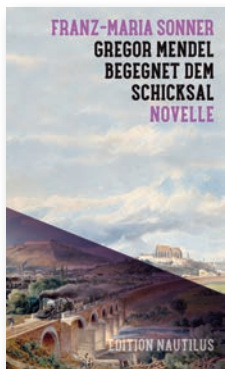
## Top titles:

### Fiction



**Katharina Bendixen**  
**EINE ZEITGEMÄSSE FORM DER LIEBE**  
 (An Appropriate Form of Love)  
 Parental prose  
 184 pages, hardcover  
 to be published in March 2025

»Katharina Bendixen shows the absurdities of modern motherhood that affect us all in a snappy, stylish and entertaining way.« Slatia Roschal



**Franz-Maria Sonner**  
**GREGOR MENDEL BEGEGNET DEM SCHICKSAL** (Gregor Mendel's Encounter With Fate)  
 Novella  
 136 pages, hardcover  
 published in September 2024

A literary gem and a sensitive portrait of a complex figure in the history of science.

### Non-Fiction



**Alex Abmann**  
**IM GEFÄNGNIS FREI. ANDREAS BAADER, DER BRANDSTIFTERPROZESS UND DIE POLITISCHE GEWALT** (Imprisoned And Free)  
 288 pages, softcover  
 to be published in March 2025

A new biography of Andreas Baader, focusing on his radicalization, based on the prison diaries from the arson trial, which have been evaluated for the first time by the author.



**Barbara Peveling**  
**Gewalt im Haus. Intime Formen der Dominanz** (Violence at Home. Intimate Forms of Domination)  
 320 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2024

»Barbara Peveling finds a language for domestic violence that made me understand what it means for those affected. She skillfully combines personal narrative with feminist theory. Read this book!« Bettina Wilpert



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World rights available

New title!

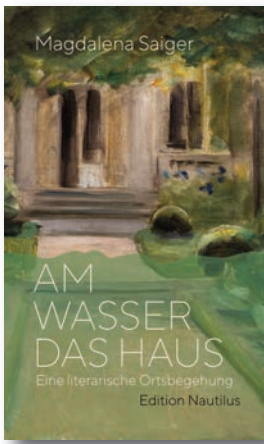
»Katharina Bendixen shows the absurdities of modern motherhood that affect us all in a snappy, stylish and entertaining way.« Słata Roschal

A lion cub annoys the nursery teachers in the daycare center and undergoes various measures to stimulate his anthropogenesis. A young woman has had a sunflower growing in her ear since she was a child, but she refuses to cut off the shoots. When she gets pregnant, things get complicated. A mother by choice, who deliberately raises her son without a father, smells contempt everywhere. In a scientific lecture, a program is presented in which overwhelmed mothers can swap their children and thus find an appropriate form of love.

Katharina Bendixen writes about parents and their children, about conflicts and overload, about the demands of motherhood and its contradictions. For that, she finds a wide variety of literary approaches: classic short stories as well as magical-surreal stories, experimental forms such as fictional therapy reports, exam tasks or the absurd minutes of a parents' chat group. She plays with the types of text that surround parents in everyday life, and checks out our stressed society.



**Katharina Bendixen**, born in Leipzig in 1981, writes books for children, young readers and adults. She has received numerous awards, including the Kranichsteiner Literature Prize (2014), the Heinrich Heine Scholarship (2017) and a work scholarship from the German Literature Fund (2020/21). She is a co-founder of the initiative »other writers need to concentrate«, which deals with the connections between authorship and parenthood. The story »My Time with Rosa« contained in this book was on the shortlist for the W. G. Sebald Literature Prize 2024. Katharina Bendixen lives with her family in Leipzig.



**Magdalena Saiger**  
**AM WASSER DAS HAUS**  
**(And By The Water, The House)**

A literary site visit  
 192 pages, hardcover  
 to be published in March 2025

**World rights available**

**New title!**

»Magdalena Saiger's language cautiously approaches the past, painting images of a place that is in turn painted by Liebermann. That is as haunting as it is beautiful.« **Katrin Seddig**

At the beginning of the 20th century, painter Max Liebermann purchased a piece of building ground on the banks of Lake Wannsee and, together with his friend Alfred Lichtwark, designed a house and a garden - a place to escape from the obligations of a life in public, but also a place of inspiration for numerous paintings.

Liebermann's villa will continue to change over time, and this fact is the starting point of Saiger's literary text, a local panorama captured in fleeting images and scenes that fan out into a variety of figures and voices:

After Liebermann's death and the forced sale of the villa – Liebermann was Jewish –, his upper-middle-class summer retreat is occupied by attentive employees of the Nazi Reichspost, who are sent to the countryside to relax in times of war. In the post-war period, the operating room of the municipal hospital is set up in the former studio. In the 1970s, an underwater club moves into the building, build an aquarium in the hallway and spends evenings with music and entertainment at the bar in the former salon. And time and time again, hustle and bustle is followed by vacancy - until finally a cultural association develops the ambition to restore everything »as it was«.

Despite all the changes, the place always remains recognizable; it offers space for everyday incidents, life changes and dreams, it is the destination for lonely walks and a reference point for restlessly flickering memories.



**Magdalena Saiger**, born in 1985, studied German and history in Berlin and Madrid and received her doctorate from the University of Hamburg. With the manuscript for her debut novel *What You Don't See or The Utter Uselessness of the Moon* (2023), she was the winner of the Hamburg Literature Prize 2020. In 2023, the novel was nominated for the Franz Tumlér Literature Prize, the Droste Prize and the blogger prize »Das Debüt«. In 2024, Magdalena Saiger was again awarded the Hamburg Literature Prize for an unpublished novel manuscript. She lives in Hamburg.

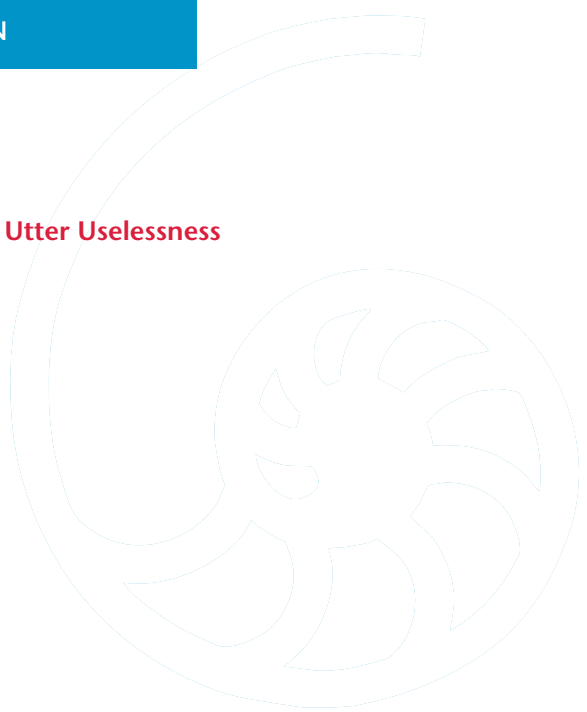


**Magdalena Saiger**  
**WAS IHR NICHT SEHT**  
**(What You Don't See, or The Utter Uselessness**  
**of the Moon)**

Novel

168 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2023

**World rights available**



**This poetic and philosophical debut is the story about an estrangement and two unequal men.**

»What you don't see« accompanies an anonymous narrator who is leaving out of the blue, into the open. The existence of the text itself is a paradox, addressing an audience that was never supposed to exist. Written in Nowhere, an untraceable old coal mining area close to the highway. This is where the narrator finds an abandoned storage hall. It seems perfect for his plan to build a paper labyrinth that nobody should ever lay eyes on. He is driven by anger and fed up with the art industry, he aims for something bigger: a work of enormous dimensions, so big that it seems doomed to fail. But he is taking up the challenge with a fierce enthusiasm and the knowledge that perfection can only grow and exist in complete futility. Eventually, he meets his counter figure who he calls Giacometti. Giacometti is a rugged old man from the village that had to give way for the coal mining. He shows resistance against the course of things, keeping the village awake by telling its story while staring into the emptiness of the mine. The two men keep a close watch, searching for each other, but some distance always remains. Both dwell in and around the mine, becoming allies in the protection of the place against its discovery by outsiders. But the uncertainty if the presence of one will become too much for the other stays. This book is the literary exploration of the question of how far one goes.

KARSTEN KRAMPITZ  
 GESELLSCHAFT MIT  
 BESCHRÄNKTER  
 HOFFNUNG

**Karsten Krampitz**  
**GESELLSCHAFT MIT BESCHRÄNKTER HOFFNUNG**  
**(The Cripples' Commune)**

novel  
 ca. 256 pages, hardcover  
 to be published in September 2025

**World rights available**

Upcoming title!

Krampitz tells the real story of a commune that has fallen completely out of time, or better yet, out of the country, in the middle of Actually Existing Socialism, GDR. Some get help, others get asylum - from the bone mills of the state-owned companies, from a life in the stupid cycle of working, drinking, sleeping. No collective, no brigade, no political talk on Mondays. Instead, a community of equals where all money and all books and records are pooled together – as well as all infirmities. A community of cripples that perhaps is truly free.

At the end of the seventies, in the Marienstift Foundation in Arnstadt, a home for severely disabled people. Three friends who can barely move decide: We're breaking out! If we put our money together, our three pensions and our care allowance, then we can support two or three carers. The church just has to give us a house. And that's what the church did: They gave the old community center in Hartroda, a small village in the Altenburger Land.

In this unique housing community project under the roof of the Thuringian Church, Gruns is not the boss, not a leader, but rather a kind of Spiritus Rector in a wheelchair. And Bernd Mozek acts as his left and right hand, as his feet, if you will: as his executive. Just as big as Gruns, Mozek ensures that his roommate's free will has consequences in real life. One was given life before death, the other was given a life after death. Because Mozek is a former border guard who has accidentally shot a boarder crosser.

And there ist the blues band Mischpoke, all abled bodied, but part of the commune as well, using the church as their practice rooms, and one of the carers is their roadie...

While historians tell the story of the German Democratic Republic either from the beginning, starting with the founding of the state as a failed construction project by honest anti-fascists, or much more often from the end, with the focus on the Stasi, repression and oppression, this novel comes from the middle of GDR history. It is a book about living a right life in the false one, although the injustice in the actually real life is not ignored. It might even be the first attempt to give a literary form to the work of the Protestant Church, which shaped the lives of many teenagers and young adults in the GDR in the 1980s.



**Karsten Krampitz** has, among other things, published four novels, written for the Klagenfurt Ensemble and the Berlin Theater HAU, as well as longer works for Deutschlandfunk. His most recent publication was »Pogrom in Scheunenviertel« (Verbrecher Verlag), about the anti-Semitic riots in Berlin in November 1923. He won the Audience Prize at the Klagenfurt Bachmann Competition in 2009. He holds a PhD from the Institute of History at Berlin's Humboldt University with a study on the relationship between state and church in the GDR.

For his work on this novel manuscript he has received the Berlin Senate Scholarship for Literature as well as the Literature Scholarship from the Free State of Thuringia and the Working Scholarship for Authors from the German Literature Fund.

ROBERT BRACK  
DIE NACKTE HAUT

**Robert Brack**  
**DIE NACKTE HAUT (The Bare Skin)**

crime novel  
ca. 224 pages, softcover  
to be published in March 2026

**World rights available**

Upcoming title!

Martha, a pianist, once an idol of swing youth, returns to St. Pauli in the early 1950s. Her neighborhood was bombed, German jazz is dusty. Old friends want to change that, new enemies make life difficult - and Martha's beloved double bass player has blood dripping from his sleeve...

Hamburg 1951: Jazz pianist Martha Kiesler, once the idol of the swing youth ostracized by the Nazis, returns to Hamburg. Before the war she had studied music there, master class piano, but soon rejected Bach, Beethoven and Brahms in favor of Ellington, Goodman and Basie, and a little later she rejected Germany in favor of America. She even had quite a bit of success over there, but then her career in New York didn't turn out the way she had dreamed. But gaining a foothold in the war-torn German city is difficult. At first she makes a living as a bar pianist, in dives where women have wrestling matches in a mud pit and salesmen look for girls for one evening – until she meets an old friend who opens a jazz club in St. Pauli. When she finds her dream bassist, deserted black GI Paul Davis, a new beginning seems to be in sight. But it's not just real estate speculators, drug dealers and red light gangsters who get in her way, old adversaries also appear. And the memory of a mysterious death that had something directly to do with her...



**Robert Brack** was born in 1959 and lives in Hamburg. He also writes under his pen name Virginia Doyle. He won the »Marlowe«-Award of the Raymond-Chandler-Society for »Das Mädchen mit der Taschenlampe« (The Girl With The Flashlight, Edition Nautilus) and has been awarded the German Crime Award for the novel »Gangsterbüro« (Gangsters' Office, Edition Nautilus). He has published more than ten crime novels, three of them true crime novels with journalist Klara Schindler as the main character, set in the 1920s (see next page).





**Robert Brack**  
**SCHWARZER OKTOBER (Black October)**

Crime novel  
 160 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2023  
**World rights available**

A prequel to the successful true historical crime series with journalist Klara Schindler, taking place in Hamburg in 1923, during the communist uprising that was quickly and bloodily put down.



**Robert Brack**  
**UNTER DEM SCHATTEN DES TODES**  
**(Under the Shadow of Death)**

Crime novel  
 224 pages, softcover  
 published in February 2012  
**World rights available**

February 1933 – Klara Schindler, hiding from the Hamburg police after her assassination attempt of a Nazi police officer, is in Copenhagen when the news about the burning Reichstag spread around the world.



**Robert Brack**  
**BLUTSONNTAG (Bloody Sunday)**

Crime novel  
 224 pages, softcover  
 published in June 2010  
**World rights available**

During the so-called Bloody Sunday of Altona on July 17th 1932, a NS-Stormtroopers' demonstration through the traditionally communist city of Altona turns into violent rioting. In the end, 18 people die. Klara Schindler, reporter and militant communist, sniffs out the cover-up in the police, assisted by a failed cabaret artist, a streetwalker and a respectable gangster. And Klara decides to take revenge ...



**Robert Brack**  
**UND DAS MEER GAB SEINE TOTEN WIEDER**  
**(The Sea Gave Up the Dead that Were in It)**

Crime novel  
 224 pages, softcover  
 published in June 2008  
**World rights available**

At the beginning of the 1930's, Jennifer Stevenson, from the International Association of Police Women, was sent to Hamburg, Germany, to solve a scandalous case. Two female police officers are supposed to have committed suicide, but there are rumors circulating connecting murder and political affairs. Jennifer gets deeper and deeper into the investigation until she finds herself in deadly peril. The novel is based on a true story.



**Franz-Maria Sonner**  
**GREGOR MENDEL BEGEGNET DEM SCHICKSAL**  
**(Gregor Mendel's Encounter With Fate)**

Novella  
 136 pages, hardcover  
 published in September 2024

**World rights available**

**New title!**

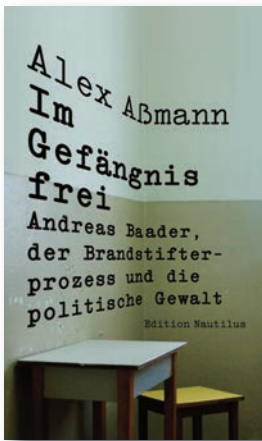
»A story with the power of a daydream that stays with you for a long time,« said Frank Witzel about this book.

The readers follow Gregor Mendel, abbot of St. Thomas' Abbey in Brno, on a train journey from Vienna to Brno, around 1883. Mendel sits alone in the first-class compartment and has a hard time with himself: his research on the rules of heredity has gone unnoticed, and hasn't everything else in his life failed? Indeed, he gained only posthumous recognition as the founder of the modern science of genetics much later, and it was, of all people, the Nazis who rediscovered his work, misappropriating it for their racist eugenics - a tragic fate for this good man indeed.

Sonner's book is a literary gem and a sensitive portrait of a complex figure in the history of science.



**Franz-Maria Sonner**, born in 1953 in Tutzing, lives in Munich and Hanover. He writes radio plays and novels and has been awarded the Glaser Prize. He has published the crime novels *Halder* and *Urs der Berserker* with Edition Nautilus under his pseudonym Max Bronski and was awarded the Radio Bremen Crime Prize 2023.



**Alex Aßmann**  
**IM GEFÄNGNIS FREI. ANDREAS BAADER, DER BRANDSTIFTER-  
 PROZESS UND DIE POLITISCHE GEWALT**  
**(Imprisoned And Free. Andreas Baader, The Arson Trial, And  
 Political Violence)**

biography  
 288 pages, softcover  
 to be published in March 2025

World rights available

New title!

**A new biography of Andreas Baader, focusing on his radicalization, based on the prison diaries from the arson trial, which have been evaluated for the first time by the author.**

In April 1968, two years before the Red Army Faction was founded, Andreas Baader was arrested in Frankfurt and taken into custody along with Gudrun Ensslin, Thorwald Proll and Horst Söhnlein for a nighttime arson attack in two department stores. Baader was barely ideologically trained or politically ambitious at this point, but he used the following 14 months in his prison cell primarily to catch up with what others in the APO (Germany's extra-parliamentary protest movement) were ahead of him: he read Wittgenstein and Marcuse, Marx and de Sade, he wrote a diary, reading excerpts, letters and script drafts. His time in prison can be understood not only as a process of radicalization, at the end of which Baader is released with a pronounced hatred of the state, but also as a process of education and becoming a subject, during which the prisoner sometimes has the feeling of being freer in prison as »outside«.

Alex Aßmann was the first to view Baader's prison diaries from the arson trial - notebooks running to over a thousand pages and countless letters, primarily addressed to Gudrun Ensslin. Based on this material, Aßmann approaches the figure of Baader and his life up to the arson trial in a way that is unusual in the previous historization of the RAF, juxtaposing many depictions of the pampered boy and later notorious criminal with a different perspective, and a personal one. He also contextualizes the development of an enemy of the state in the intellectual history of the Federal Republic of Germany.



**Alex Aßmann**, born in 1977, is an educational scientist. He published, among other things, biographies of Klaus Mollenhauer and Gudrun Ensslin. Alex Aßmann lives in the Odenwald.



**Lisa Bendiek**  
**LESBEN SIND DIE BESSEREN VÄTER. REGENBOGENFAMILIEN  
 ALS VORBILD FÜR GLEICHBERECHTIGTE ELTERN SCHAFT**  
**(Lesbians Make Better Fathers. Queer Families as a Role Model  
 for Equal Parenting)**

320 pages, softcover  
 to be published in March 2025

World rights available

New title!

**Why are lesbians better parents? What goes wrong in the heteronuclear family? And why do the state and society find it so difficult to recognize queer families as full-fledged families?**

This is not a guide. This book is a plea to no longer view queer families as deficient, but to recognize the fact that they actually do better than the classic hetero nuclear family. It explores queer parenthood and its diverse realities, which still have to contend with legal and societal discrimination and fear the right-wing backlash more than others. This book is also an analysis of the mechanisms that cement inequality in heterosexual families, even if self-image and aspirations claim not to. And last but not least, it is an encouragement to think outside the box and leave deeply anchored assumptions about parenthood and family behind. Lisa Bendiek uses her knowledge as a queer mother, that of her environment and the findings of numerous studies to draw a well-founded picture of different family models. It shows how traditional gender roles and a logic of »no alternative« in hetero-families still prevent care work and professional activity from being shared equally.

The author responds to resentments such as a alleged concern for the well-being of children in queer families with the same »empirically based cockiness« with which she suggests that heterosexual families should follow the example of queer families in their own interest: for happier parents and children and for a more equal society.



**Lisa Bendiek** was born in 1988 in Rüdeshcim am Rhein as the daughter of a fulltime working mother and a househusband. She studied ethnology and psychology in Hamburg, Halle (Saale) and Paris. She works, among other occupations, as a trainer for feminist rhetoric and as an interpreter for the mobile victim counseling service for those affected by right-wing violence in Saxony-Anhalt. Her main job is as a speaker for anti-discrimination educational work, currently with a focus on raising awareness of racism-critical sensi-

tization for educators in Saxony. She lives in Leipzig.



**Lars Distelhorst**  
**DEKONSTRUIERT IDENTITÄTSPOLITIK. EIN NEUANSATZ**  
**(Deconstruct Identity Politics. A New Approach)**

ca. 224 pages, softcover  
 to be published in April 2025

World rights available

New title!

### Identity politics revisited – time for an emancipatory criticism

Just a few years ago, identity politics and its criticism of racism and other forms of discrimination were at the center of public attention. Discriminated groups came together and demanded equal participation in society. Topics such as German colonial history or the racism in everyday language were on everyone's lips, and previously valid classification criteria were called into question.

Then the political balance began to shift. »Woke« became a slur from the right, and weaknesses became apparent in the practice and methods of identity politics: an under-complex understanding of the performativity of language, the disregard for scientific standards, the exclusion of economic contexts and the reproduction of central neoliberal ideas. Since the Hamas massacre in Israel on October 7, 2023 and its anti-Semitic relativization, parts of the movement appear to be heading for political and ethical bankruptcy. How could this come about? Lars Distelhorst examines the basic philosophical assumptions and methods of identity politics and takes a new approach. A reversal in thinking is worthwhile, because neoliberal economization and its power mechanisms have not only penetrated deeply into our subjectivity, but have also successfully pocketed the previous achievements of identity politics. In contrast, it is important to re-politicize identity – as a tool for emancipatory criticism.



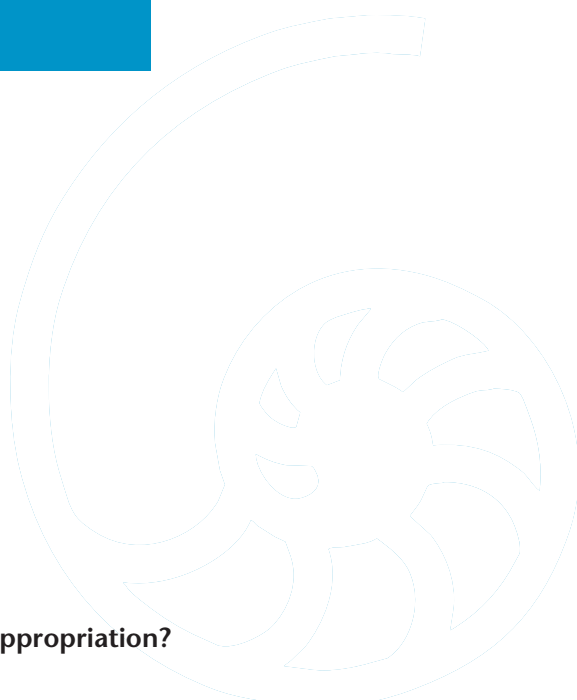
**Lars Distelhorst**, born in Georgsmarienhütte in 1972, studied political science at the University of Bremen and received his doctorate on gender politics at the Free University of Berlin. He is a professor of social sciences at the Berlin University of Applied Sciences. Most recently published was Cultural Appropriation (2021).



**Lars Distelhorst**  
**KULTURELLE ANEIGNUNG**  
**(Cultural Appropriation)**

248 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2021

**World rights available**



### **What are we talking about when we discuss cultural appropriation?**

Yes, there have always been adoptions and appropriations of techniques, skills, motives etc. in arts and culture throughout history. We learn from each other, of course. That is not the point though. Cultural exchange is not the same as cultural appropriation.

Lars Distelhorst – from a white male perspective consciously so – writes about a subject that is as omnipresent as it is inadequately theorised, with an extraordinary potential to polarise. Ethnic party-costumes or dreadlocks, white soul music or yoga – are those cultural appropriations? Discussions tend to escalate quickly here.

Distelhorst demonstrates how the macro and micro levels of cultural appropriation are connected. He discusses various definitions of the term, including the alleged assumption of essentialist cultural concepts. He analyses three dimensions of cultural appropriation: looted art and artefacts from colonised people, the unasked-for representation of other cultures, and the consumption of culture as commodity.

Finally, Distelhorst relates cultural appropriation to anti-racist and anti-capitalist perspectives to use it in fighting against persisting systems of power and domination.



**Michael Hirsch / Kilian Jörg**  
**DURCHLÖCHERT DEN STATUS QUO! AUTONOME ZONEN, RA-  
 DIKALE DEMOKRATIE UND ÖKOLOGIE**  
 (Holing the Status Quo - Autonomous Zones, Radical Demo-  
 cracy and Ecology)

ca. 128 pages, softcover  
 to be published in April 2025

World rights available

New title!

**A book that encourages for future struggles and shows, behind the gloomy lethargy of capitalist realism, the existing possibility of a variety of other worlds.**

The political present is paradoxical: While it is clear to most actors in politics, society and movements that it is impossible to continue as usual in the face of the climate catastrophe, an alternative to the status quo is more unimaginable today than ever before. The political imagination seems desolate, the vacuum of disenchantment with democracy is being exploited by the right.

Michael Hirsch and Kilian Jörg attempt to reforest the left-wing imagination - inspired by the concept of the »zone to be defended« (Zone à défendre - ZAD), which is notorious in France. The famous ZAD in Notre-Dame-des-Landes has existed for over fifteen years, an area that has been removed from exploitation contexts and in which people experiment with new social relationships, new relationships to work and ecology. Can these experiences be transferred to larger scales?

This book is a radical speculation: What if the state recognized and promoted the potential of autonomous zones - instead of fighting it? What would have happened if the 30,000 demonstrators in the forest of Lützerath had been offered a real say instead of police violence? What if we counter growing fascism with a new, serious form of democracy?



**Michael Hirsch**, born in 1966, is a philosopher, political scientist and art theorist. He teaches political theory and history of ideas at the University of Siegen and lives as a freelance author in Munich.



**Kilian Jörg**, born in Vienna in 1990, works theoretically, artistically and activistly on ecological catastrophe. Publications on club culture, the automobile, the political backlash and other religions of the toxic.



**Barbara Peveling**  
**Gewalt im Haus. Intime Formen der Dominanz**  
**(Violence at Home. Intimate Forms of Domination)**

320 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2024

French rights sold to Éditions les petits matins,  
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New title!

»Barbara Peveling finds a language for domestic violence that made me understand what it means for those affected. She skillfully combines personal narrative with feminist theory. Read this book!«

*Bettina Wilpert*

Every third day, a woman in Germany is killed by her (ex-)partner. But that's just the tip of the iceberg. Violence is an issue that affects us all - it is a fundamental human experience. While violence in the public sphere is subject to strong social control, it escapes this in the private sphere. The home as a social unit, as a social space of intimacy, does not always offer the protection expected, but often becomes an - intimate - arena of violence and dominance.

Barbara Peveling tells her story with unsparing openness. She has experienced domestic violence as a child in her family and as an adult in partnerships, which gives her social analyses a convincing urgency. In telling the story, she becomes an ethnologist of herself, and the writing of the book becomes a record of a process of realization.



**Barbara Peveling**, born in Siegen in 1974, holds a doctorate in ethnology and is an author and journalist. Together with Nikola Richter, she published in 2021 *Kinderkriegen. Reproduktion reloaded*. She lives near Paris and in Cologne.



ISABEL FARGO COLE

FORTSCHRITTS-  
PARADOXIEN**Isabel Fargo Cole****FORTSCHRITTS-  
PARADOXIEN (Paradoxes of Progress)**

ca. 250 pages, softcover

to be published in September 2025

**World rights available****English sample translation available**

Upcoming title!

Even as “growth” and “progress” are increasingly fetishized – as in the hype around AI – there is a nagging sense of going around in circles, repeating past mistakes. In this collection, Cole reflects on subjects as disparate as East German post-growth utopias, the failed promise of the 1990s, the fraught stasis of the lockdowns, the paradox of Zeno, the fever dreams of Big Tech and the “word machines” of Large Language Models. The lively dialogue between past and present can help tease out the snarled roots of current predicaments and open up new ways to move forward. Cole’s essays, analytical, autobiographical and lyrical, have appeared in publications such as the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. Her recent venture into nature writing, *The Gold Coast* (*Die Goldküste*, Matthes und Seitz, 2022), was described by *Die Zeit* as “one of the year’s finest non-fiction books.”



**Isabel Fargo Cole**, born in 1973 in Galena, Ill., USA, grew up in New York City and graduated with honors from the University of Chicago in 1995 (AB General Studies in the Humanities). Her novel »Die grüne Grenze« (»The Green Frontier«, published in 2017) was shortlisted for the Klaus-Michael-Kuhne-Preis (first novel award) and for the Leipzig Book Fair Award.

Cole has been working in Berlin as a freelance writer and translator since 1995, writing mainly in German since 2003, and has published stories in various literary magazines. She has translated, among others, major German literary works by Rainer Maria Rilke, Gustav Meyrink, Hermann Ungar,

Annemarie Schwarzenbach, Franz Fühmann, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Klaus Hoffer, and Wolfgang Hilbig (long-listed for the 2015 Best Translated Book Award, a finalist for the CLMP Firecracker Award in Fiction.) In 2013, she was a co-organizer of the initiative »Writers Against Mass Surveillance« along with Ilija Trojanow, Juli Zeh, Priya Basil and others.

SONJA EISMANN  
SEXISMUS IN DER  
MUSIKINDUSTRIE

**Sonja Eismann**  
**SEXISMUS IN DER MUSIKINDUSTRIE**  
**(Sexism in Music Industry)**

ca. 205 pages, softcover  
to be published in September 2025

**World rights available**

Upcoming title!

Why are young women's bodies extremely fetishized in our society, on one hand, but on the other hand seen as a free resource that can always be assessed, that is available and to be consumed like a disposable commodity? In the world of the music (industry), it seems unthinkable that young women could simply be fans of the music, like the guys who might be hoping for a musical discussion backstage. No, in the general imagination the young women cannot be seen as anything other than sexually available groupies.

And: Why is it completely normal in our society that the fastest and most efficient career path for young women is through a relationship with an older powerful man? Why can old powerful men show off young women like a new Rolex? Admittedly, there is no other way for women to gain wealth and fame so quickly, and not just in pop - but is their decision really a voluntary one?

Now don't say, well, that's just capitalism – first of all, it rather smells like feudalism anyway; but if it were just that, then gender wouldn't play a role and young men could rise alongside older women in a similar way. But that almost never happens. Because these sexist and ageist scripts are so deeply inscribed in all of our ideas, that they can hardly be questioned – because their monstrosity is hardly ever even recognized. This leads to a tolerance of abuse and pedocrime, and conversely to massive age discrimination among female musicians.

Sonja Eismann's anger and rant about these conditions is extremely constructive and fruitful: a clear, critical cultural-scientific-historical-philosophical pamphlet has emerged of it, with well-researched examples.



**Sonja Eismann**, born 1973 in Heidelberg, is a journalist and cultural scientist. Eismann studied comparative literature in Vienna, Mannheim, Dijon and Santa Cruz (USA). In 1998 she co-founded the magazine *nylon* and has been a co-founder and co-editor of *Missy Magazine* since 2008. She has written as a freelance author for various magazines (including *Spex*, *taz*, *Jungle World*, *Beton*, *Freitag*, *Deutschlandfunk Kultur*), edited various feminist books, and has been teaching at various universities since 2007. As an academic, her research focuses on representation of gender in popular culture, third-wave feminism, gender-sensitive (pop) journalism writing, do-it-yourself cultures and fashion theory. From 2016 to 2022 she was a member of the music advisory board of the Goethe Institute.

**TIMO DAUM**  
**LOB DER ÜBERWACHUNG**

**Timo Daum**  
**LOB DER ÜBERWACHUNG (In Praise of Surveillance)**

ca. 112 pages, softcover  
 to be published in March 2026

**World rights available**

Upcoming title!

Surveillance does not have a good reputation. We think of the Stasi's sleuthing, or of surveillance in the current capitalism of tech companies, or of Michel Foucault's *Discipline and Punish*, and reject it unanimously with any data-based biopolitics. We have defended privacy, upheld data protection and shouted »my data belongs to me!«

What if we were wrong? Hasn't surveillance become the core activity of digital capitalism – perhaps the core of Shoshana Zuboff's surveillance capitalism thesis – and thus, in Marxist terms, a productive force? Our activity monitoring is primarily used to make a profit from it – and not to spy on and discipline us. As Chat GPT has impressively shown, all the data and information generated by humanity now tends to be fed into huge machines that continually spit out new applications. The appropriation of the fruits of this data extractivism continues to be private.

Do we really want to return to an unmonitored world – a world without the features of Google, Facebook, and Chat GPT? Is such an attitude of refusal a sort of first reaction to abuse and exploitation – as was the Luddite movement from the early days of capitalism? Wouldn't it be more important to bring these surveillance machines under our control, to explore their social potential, and even to expand it?

This essay advocates a change of perspective, it advocates a »positive surveillance policy«. Daum argues for seeing surveillance as a productive force that, rather than simply being abolished, should, on the contrary, be liberated from the shackles of capital.



**Timo Daum** is professor for Media Studies and Digital Economy. He studied physics and worked in the IT-sector for a long time. He holds lectures and seminars about digital capitalism, for example at the Re:publica 2017.



**Timo Daum**

**AGILER KAPITALISMUS. DAS LEBEN ALS PROJEKT**  
**(Agility In Digital Capitalism. Life As A Project)**

With an afterword by Phoebe Moore

Illustrations by Susann Massute

208 pages, paperback

published in October 2020

**World rights available**

Agility is demanded by everyone in an increasingly project-oriented society under all circumstances. The new spirit of capitalism goes hand in hand with technologies and practices of measuring the self. The worker-entrepreneur or franchisee of digital-capitalistic business models becomes the role model. UBI becomes the more or less social social system of digital capitalism.

Today, software is being developed with agile methods: short sprints, working prototypes, new roles replacing traditional project management methods. This also has effects far beyond the industry: life itself is increasingly becoming a project. In the course of the “new spirit of capitalism” (Boltanski), self-optimization, lifelong learning, entrepreneurial validation of one’s own workforce and biography, and indeed of the entire self, are managed with agility.

It used to be different. At the time of the normal working day, linear work and life biographies, the pre-recorded linear sequence of school, education, professional life and pension, life spluttered like that. Today, on the other hand, the old waterfall model, in which successively different phases of the project take place, building on each other, not only in software development, has become obsolete. Setting milestones and being an achiever, a performer – not only has the wording become part of the subjectivity of the Digital Generation – we have become the product owner of our own life project, one sprint chasing the next.

*“Timo Daum’s book offers a history and critique of agile methods, puts them in context both historically as part of management’s history in both dominating the workforce and increasing its productive output. (...) The book gives an inside view on how highly collaborative code production in the agile factory is taking place, explores its predecessors from the division of labor through Taylorism and lean production, and concludes that the agile revolution has led to a kind of digital Taylorism for the general intellect producing mind-workers, in the global digitally connected sweatshop, what he calls the cogni-facture or cognifactory. Cybernetic management reaching a new stage in making human capital available for capital in an unprecedented way: Agile Capitalism.”*

Phoebe Moore



**Timo Daum**  
**DIE KÜNSTLICHE INTELLIGENZ DES KAPITALS**  
**(The Artificial Intelligence of Capital)**

Nautilus Flugschrift  
 192 pages, paperback  
 published in March 2019

**All rights available**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is everywhere: the biggest web firms have invested huge sums in Alexa, Siri etc. What is intelligence, though? Can it be an appropriate term to describe software whose reactions we are tempted, intuitively, to call "intelligent"? Are chatbots who post racist comments in the internet really AI? How can algorithms "learn"? With technical questions come political questions: Who owns the algorithms and data, the means of production of AI-economy? Who controls them? And who controls the controllers? Timo Daum explains the technical, economical, political and social aspects of a technology that is about to become the next big market.



**Timo Daum**  
**DAS KAPITAL SIND WIR**  
**ZUR KRITIK DER DIGITALEN ÖKONOMIE**  
**(We Are Capital. Critique of Digital Economy)**

192 pages, paperback  
 published in August 2017

**Spanish language rights sold for Costa Rica and Honduras (Uruk)**

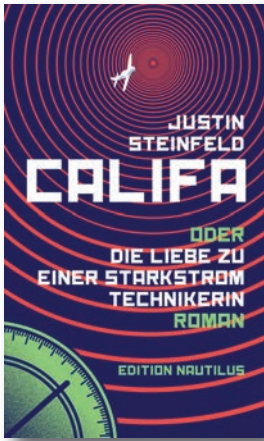
**Winner of the »Best Political Book« award by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung**

What would Karl Marx make of Facebook and Twitter? If Marx were to return today, he would be faced with a paradoxical situation. On the one hand, there is the internet, a worldwide supranational infrastructure for communication and production, free and accessible for everyone; there are Unions, equal rights for women, free school education and progressive income taxes.

On the other hand, we would have to tell him, much to our regret, that capitalism still rules, that issues of political representation, social equality and fair distribution of resources still appear on the agenda. We would have to tell him that the admirable digital infrastructures are in perfect accord with a new capitalism that does not produce and sell industrial manufactured goods anymore, but organizes access to digital data.

Left-wing criticism focusing on mass surveillance and Big Data, or lamenting the loss of hard-won workers' rights is too short-sighted. Digital Capitalism is often criticized from a pre-digital position and either denied or trivialized as being bound to fail by itself.

# RECENT BACKLIST



**Justin Steinfeld**  
**CALIFA ODER DIE LIEBE ZU EINER STARKSTROMTECHNIKERIN**  
**(Califa or The Love For Anna, The Power Engineer)**

novel  
 336 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2024

**World rights available**

**The very first publication of a newly discovered typescript from 1952 – an astonishing satire about the nuclear arms race, the logic of preemptive strikes, and propaganda by Justin Steinfeld (1886-1970), a communist jew exiled in Czechoslovakia and England.**

What sounds like a novel plot is the true story here: »Califa or The Love for Anna, The Power Engineer« is the previously completely unknown second novel by the exiled author Justin Steinfeld, whose »Ein Mann liest Zeitung« (A Man Reads a Newspaper, published posthumously in 1984, reedited in 2020) was considered his only novel so far. Jo Hauberg, editor at Neuer Malikverlag, had received the two typescripts from Steinfeld's nephew for publication thirteen years after his uncle's death. Hauberg published one of them – and forgot the second one in a drawer for decades. But with a new war haunting Europe, with gas shortage and propaganda, he was reminded of this old manuscript, typed in London on an English typewriter on carbon copy paper, tied up with a paper cord. He found it and kindly sent it to Edition Nautilus, perhaps knowing what enthusiasm it would find. Because »Califa«, probably written around 1951/52, under the impression of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki and against the background of the nuclear arms race and the escalating Korean War, is not only a historically interesting document. It is also an astonishing political satire, a financial and military thriller. The story begins with the collapse of the American Stock Exchange after the currency standard was unceremoniously switched from gold to »C.L.F.«, quickly dubbed »Califa« – which happens to be the new material for atomic bombs – and ends with a nuclear inferno in Central Europe after a preemptive strike by Western powers due to the (false) assumption that the communist opponent also had the atomic bomb.

Steinfeld wrote in a kind of socialist realism that is sarcastic about Politburo meetings under Stalin, with a keen eye for propaganda, information policy, and so-called practical constraints, but with a bitter lesson: as long as there are nations and therefore nationalism, there will be war.



**Justin Steinfeld**, born in 1886 in Kiel, died in 1970 in Baldock, England. He spent his childhood first in Kiel and later in Hamburg. After completing a commercial apprenticeship, he switched to journalism and theater and was a magazine editor, theater critic and dramaturge in the 1920s. Steinfeld was a member of the Jewish community in Hamburg and close to the German Communist Party, although never a member.

In 1933, Steinfeld was taken into »protective custody« and was briefly interned in the Fuhlsbüttel concentration camp. In 1934 he managed to escape to Prague where he wrote for various papers of the German exile press. After the Munich Agreement in 1938, he fled via Poland and Sweden to Great Britain, from where he was interned in Australia with a number of other German exiled authors when the war began. However, he was soon able to return to Britain, where he lived until his death. His novel »Ein Mann liest Zeitung« – so far considered his only one – describes the fate of German emigrants in Prague in the 1930s and is an important document of German-language exile literature.



**Sven Recker**

**DER AFRIK (Afric)**

Novel

160 pages, hardcover

published in September 2023

World rights available

Film rights (cinema) under option: die film gmbh WEST

French sample translation available

»Sven Recker has written a very concentrated, laconic, mean, thrilling and somehow wise book about this true story – that is the great art.« Tobias Rüther, WDR Radio

Afrik – that's what they call him, the old man who lives in a hut above Pfaffenweiler. In times of bad harvests and hunger, this winegrowing village in Baden, south of Germany, had hoped to get rid of its poor once and for all when it financed their emigration to Algeria in 1853. They were promised a paradise there – in a land of no return. In order to raise the money for the crossing, the municipality had a forest cut down and sold the area to winegrowers. They named the vineyard Afrika. But in Algeria nothing but hunger, disease and war awaited the emigrants. Among them was Franz Xaver Luhr with his mother.

He is the only one who has returned, and he is now preparing his revenge: for decades he has been driving a tunnel into the vineyard in order to blow it up. He's almost done. But one winter's day, there is a boy sitting on the bench in front of his hut, with only a note with him that says: My name is Jacob. You are family.



**Sven Recker** was born in Bühl/Baden in 1973 and lives in Berlin. »Der Afrik« is his third novel. His previous books »Krume Knock Out« and »Fake Metal Jacket« were staged in theatres and made into radio plays. In 2015 an excerpt from »Krume Knock Out« was selected for the Festival of German Language Literature in Klagenfurt.





**Sven Recker**  
**FAKE METAL JACKET**

Novel  
128 pages, paperback  
published in March 2018

World rights available

English sample translation available

Peter Larsen (39) is a famous next-generation war correspondent. One of those smart guys who get really close, deep into the stories of refugees, war victims and catastrophes. He fearlessly interviews warlords and sends live footage of bombings – always online and as close to the action as possible. Renowned editors love his unfiltered reports and interviews. But it is all fake news. He produces his stories in Berlin. The “cast” of his improvised mobile videos consists of refugees; his “new” is pieced together from internet content. But business is going rather too well. Larsen has long since lost touch with reality. He has grown careless: he drinks too much and makes silly mistakes. He is about to be unmasked when he is lured into a trap – by a fake.



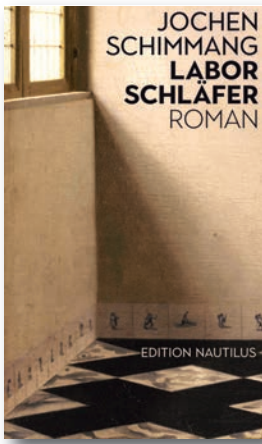
**Sven Recker**  
**Krume Knock Out**

Novel  
112 pages, hardcover  
published in August 2015

World rights available

**»What next? You never know. Jobs on call, better than nothing. That's the center of life, after all. Get up. If there's a bang, get up again.«**

If you want to get to paradise, you have to get past life first. »Krume Knock Out« shows nine characters' teetering steps, each of them on the edge of their private abyss, looking for a passable way between their own dreams and the slogans of an achievement-oriented society: »Imagine you are an elephant and want to fly.« The characters are loosely linked, like in an episodic film, until their trajectories cross in a Great Finale.



**Jochen Schimmang**  
**LABORSCHLÄFER**  
**(Lab Sleeper)**

Novel

328 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2022

**World rights available**

Rainer Roloff leads a secluded life. If you asked him about his employment history, he would describe himself as a private scholar. Structure and routine are added to his life thanks to a long-term study on the influence of sleep on memory, in which he takes part as a test subject. He regularly travels from Cologne to Düsseldorf, even during the pandemic, to record his thoughts in the laboratory after waking up.

Roloff, one year older than the Federal Republic of Germany, is an ideal and productive subject, with an elephant's memory and an awareness of the connection between the collective unconscious and individual memory. Doctor Meissner, the director of the study, finds most of what his test subject tells him »very felicitous«, a mixture of historical and personal memories and playfully absurd still-dream logic. But then the memory of the sleep researcher Dr. Meissner himself gets out of balance...



**Jochen Schimmang**, born 1948 in Northeim, grew up in Leer, Northern West-Germany. He studied political sciences and philosophy at the Freie Universität Berlin from 1969 until 1974. Afterwards he worked as a professor at different universities in Germany and in adult education. Since 1993 he lives in Oldenburg and works as an author and translator. He has published seven books at Edition Nautilus.

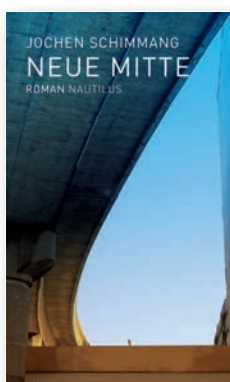


**Jochen Schimmang**  
**ALTES ZOLLHAUS, STAATSGRENZE WEST**  
**(Old Customs House, Western Border)**

Novel. 192 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2017

**World rights available**

Jochen Schimmang tells stories about life at disappearing borders, a quarter of a century after the end of the Bonn Republic. Gregor Korff, the protagonist of the much acclaimed novel »Das Beste, was wir hatten«, moves to the countryside in search of solitude.



**Jochen Schimmang**  
**NEUE MITTE**  
**(The New Centre)**

Novel. 256 pages, hardcover  
 published in August 2011

**Russian language rights sold (Ivan Limbakh)**

Jochen Schimmang creates a future Germany in the finest post-modern manner, celebrating the pure pleasure of the text. But the novel is also a suspense-filled political thriller with ironic distance towards its own genre. And, in passing, it tries to answer the question of how to live together.



**Jochen Schimmang**  
**DAS BESTE, WAS WIR HATTEN**  
**(The Best We Had)**

Novel. 320 pages, hardcover  
 published in June 2009

**World rights available**

It was not only the German Democratic Republic that collapsed after the Berlin wall was torn down, but also the old Federal Republic of Germany. In his novel »Das Beste, was wir hatten«, Jochen Schimmang portrays the life of Gregor Korff and Leo Münks, two young men who are studying in West Berlin and happen to get involved with the Leftists in the 1970's, and then respectively become a minister consultant in the (former) German capital Bonn and a federal homeland-security agent in Cologne.

Also published by Edition Nautilus: *Adorno wohnt hier nicht mehr* (2019), *Der schöne Vogel Phönix* (2013) and *Grenzen, Ränder, Niemandsländer* (2014).



**Isabel Fargo Cole**  
**DAS GIFT DER BIENE**  
**(The Poison of the Honey Bee)**

Novel  
 208 pages, hardcover  
 published in September 2019

**World rights available**

**Longer English synopsis and sample translation available**

**Selected for New Books in German**

In the mid-1990s, the recent college graduate Christina, an aspiring writer from New York City, comes to Berlin with a Fulbright scholarship to research the city's utopian histories. At the Humboldt University in the former East Berlin she meets the free-spirited Meta, who runs a "salon" in an otherwise abandoned back building behind an old tenement. Young squatters had taken over the entire complex in the final years of the German Democratic Republic; now the front building has been renovated, and the former squatters have moved back in with socially subsidized leases. For Christina, the tightly-knit alternative community revolving around Meta's salon is virtually a socialist utopia. There she falls in love with Wolfgang, a former border guard, and spontaneously moves in with him.

When a documentary film project takes Meta to Israel for six months, the utopia begins to deteriorate. With Meta gone, the salon falls into disuse, and there are rumors that Meta's back building is going to be sold. Then a stranger moves in above the salon – the young, preternaturally gifted painter Vera Grünberg ...



**Isabel Fargo Cole**  
**DIE GRÜNE GRENZE**  
**(The Green Frontier: A Fantasy)**

Novel  
 496 pages, hardcover  
 published in August 2017

**Bengali rights sold (Rritobak)**

**All other rights available**

**Longer synopsis and translation sample in English available**

**Shortlisted for the Klaus-Michael-Kühne-Preis 2017 (first novel award)**

**Shortlisted for the Leipzig Book Fair Award 2018**

1973, in a tiny village in the forests of the Harz Mountains, on the East German side of the Iron Curtain. In this heavily restricted, surreal border zone, privileged Socialist Party members vacation in the shadow of the "green frontier". Following an unplanned pregnancy and a spontaneous wedding, Thomas and Editha have moved here from East Berlin to start a new life in Editha's mysterious, reclaimed family property. For the imperturbable Editha, it is the perfect place to pursue her work as a sculptor in peace and quiet. Thomas, a would-be dissident writer, decides to write a trailblazing novel about a taboo subject: the German border. After all, the GDR's new leader has proclaimed a cultural thaw.

But Thomas finds himself drawn into deeper layers of history. The wilderness of the Harz, once at the heart of the Holy Roman Empire, has always been a contested border region between religious and political powers, Germanic and Slavic tribes, Christianity and paganism. Thomas continues to write without hope of publication, spiraling deeper into his obsessions. He and Editha drift apart, while their lonely daughter Eli navigates the space between them. Thomas feeds Eli's overactive imagination with tantalizing secrets – that her »real« mother is a woman who fled across the border long ago ... **BITTE KÜRZEN!!!**



**Marie Malcovati**  
**ALS HÄTTE JEMALS EIN VOGEL VERLANGT,**  
**DASS MAN IHM EIN HAUS BAUT**  
**(As If a Bird Had Ever Asked For a House)**

Novel  
 224 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2022

**World rights available**

Marie Malcovati's delicate, sharp-witted novel tells a story about what it means to let go of the things that destroy us. Of what it means to be a woman, a daughter, a mother — and if these roles can still hold any form of truth about ourselves.



**Marie Malcovati**  
**NACH ALLEM, WAS ICH BEINAHE**  
**FÜR DICH GETAN HÄTTE**  
**(After Everything I'd Almost**  
**Done for You)**

Novel, 128 pages, hardcover  
 published in February 2016

**World rights available**  
**French sample translation available**

Two people are sitting on a bench, observed by a third. How can a surveillance camera ever capture people's intentions? Who observes whom? Can one prevent anything that is bound to happen?



**Lena Müller**  
**RESTLÖCHER**  
**(Open Pits)**

Novel  
 128 pages, hardcover  
 published in March 2021

**World rights available**  
**French and English sample translation available**

Sando loves the Fox. The Fox, among all people. This young man with the unsettling smile who he met at a demonstration and who he cannot really get a hold of. But Sando has learned that you can't hold onto love, you have to wait until it comes back. He learned that from his mother, who twenty years ago decided to leave her social background and pursue her own goals, to not always be there for others: »The possibility of disappearance is always there. Because we are not just the ones the others want us to be,« she said. And now his sister Mili calls Sando because their mother has left their father – again. Without leaving a note. Sando agrees to go on the search with Mimi, hoping to escape his lovesickness on the way.



**Selim Özdoğan**  
**DIE MUSIK AUF DEN DÄCHERN**  
**(The Music On the Roofs)**

Short stories  
 208 pages, hardcover  
 published in September 2021

**World rights available**

**Tender and melancholic, sometimes cool, sometimes fierce:**

**Selim Özdoğan strikes the tone of our times**

All of a sudden, Latifa smells of freshly roasted coffee beans and just can't get it off her skin. A young Indian philologist cracks the IT-code to the digital legacy of a famous and much celebrated author while being observed by a rabbit inside the author's son's head. Aliens plant sunflowers into rubber boots which are arranged to look like a swastika. The Rat-Catcher of Hamelin finally gets to tell the tale from his point of view. Hillalum meets the God-machine. Şeyda is diagnosed with migration background but deals with her diagnosis in a completely different way than expected.

Virtuously juggling various narrative roles, Selim Özdoğan displays his large scope of style. His often melancholic view finds beauty in everyday details. He skillfully goes against the odds and against the expected. His small allusions to mafia movies, pop music and beat-literature make his prose a most pleasurable read.



**Selim Özdoğan**  
**DER DIE TRÄUME HÖRT**  
**(Keeping All These Dreams)**

Crime novel  
 288 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2019

**Italian rights sold (Emons)**

**English sample translation available**

A gripping and sharp novel about what is gained and what is lost in social rising. It is about the dreary glamor of the streets. About drug trafficking 2.0, which remains a dirty business even on supposedly clean internet platform – and about lost sons who we want to have a life better than ours.

**Selim Özdoğan**, born in Cologne in 1971, studied Ethnology, Philosophy and English Literature but dropped out of university. After working a lot of different jobs he became a full-time writer in 1995. His first novel "Es ist so einsam im Sattel, seit das Pferd tot ist" became a cult book. Selim Özdoğan lives in Cologne.





**Flavio Steimann**  
**KRUMHOLZ**  
**(Krumholz)**

Novel  
200 pages, hardcover  
published in March 2021

**World rights available**  
**Recommended by New Books in German**  
**English synopsis available**

In May 1914, a young woman was found murdered in the woods near Krumbach in Switzerland. The murderer, a homeless man living in the woods, was the last person executed by the guillotine in the canton of Lucerne. In his artfully composed novel, Flavio Steimann intertwines the fate of two people who could not escape their destiny.

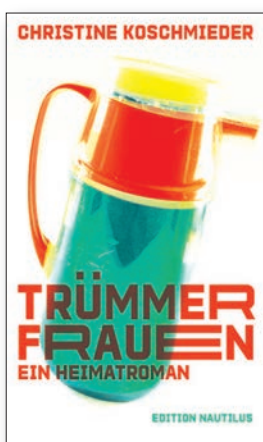


**Flavio Steimann**  
**BAJASS**  
**(Buffoon)**

Novel  
128 pages, hardcover  
published in 2014,  
Softcover edition in 2021

**French rights sold (Agone)**

Switzerland, early 20th century. Gauch is a police investigator in a small town, weary and soon to be retired. He is called to a murder scene: an old and childless couple of farmers is found in the woods, beaten to death ...



**Christine Koschmieder**  
**TRÜMMERFRAUEN. EIN HEIMATROMAN**  
**(Truemmerfrauen. A "homeland novel")**

Novel  
304 pages, hardcover  
published in February 2020

**World rights available**

The door between fiction and reality is wide open. At a tearing pace, this novel cuts affectionately and absurdly through German history and contemporary events like a literary buzz saw – without ever losing its sense of humour.



**Max Bronski**  
**URS DER BERSERKER**  
 (Urs the Berserk)

Crime novel  
 248 pages, paperback  
 published in March 2023

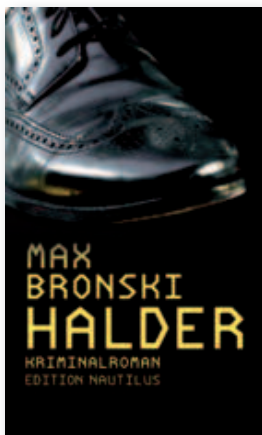
**World rights available**

»Why didn't you shoot him on top of the mountain when he lay helpless on the ground in front of you?  
 I still ask myself that today.«

Urs Zobel runs the small Hotel Swiss on Munich's Schillerstrasse. The area around the main train station is a red-light district and work zone, where people from all over the world mix and where the stranded gather. Thanks to real estate speculation and gentrification, the junk property will soon become a gem, but his owner Urs, the polite and calm oddball among all the musclemen, self-confident bar owners and shopkeepers in his neighbourhood, wants to preserve his hotel as it is.

One evening, a car skids out of the curve right in front of his building, hurtling down the sidewalk, killing several people. Social media fuels the interpretation of this event as an Islamist attack, the police post warnings. But Urs saw things differently. In the passenger seat of the Porsche Cayenne, so he believes, he has recognized the man who destroyed his life decades ago and almost killed him.

But can Urs trust his perception? Unluckily, right on the day before the accident, he tasted the toadstool pickled in vodka a strange hotel guest from Siberia recently left him, a berserk's secret recipe. As he wants to sort and check his impressions, he seems to poke a hornet's nest with his questions. Now he really wants to know, but the journey into the past has its price...



**Max Bronski**  
**HALDER**  
 (Halder)

Crime novel  
 160 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2021

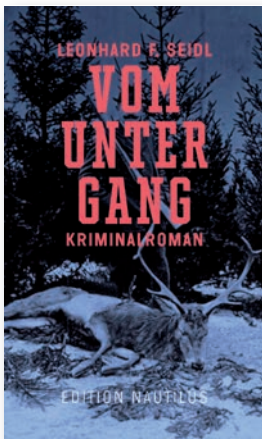
**World rights available;**  
**rights for TV series under option**

A gripping political thriller about cop culture and a security apparatus that is blind to right-wing criminality up to the highest ranks.

**Max Bronski** (Franz-Maria Sonner), born in 1953 in Tutzing, has published many crime novels. He is especially known for his legendary series featuring the antiques dealer Gossec. His novel Oscar was awarded the Glauser-Preis for best crime novel of the year. Max Bronski lives in Munich and Hannover.





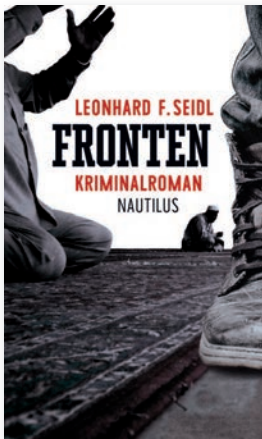


**Leonhard F. Seidl**  
**VOM UNTERGANG**  
**(The Decline)**

Crime novel  
 248 pages, paperback  
 published in March 2022

**World rights available**

*Vom Untergang* is a kind of “Babylon Bavaria” – 100 years after the assassination of Walther Rathenau, German Foreign Minister, in 1922, Leonhard F. Seidl paints a gripping portrait of the Weimar Republic. Spengler’s plot, the murder of Max Schmidtil and various figures such as Fritz Oerter are historically documented. The novel is based on intensive research and contains numerous original quotes from newspapers, meetings and letters.

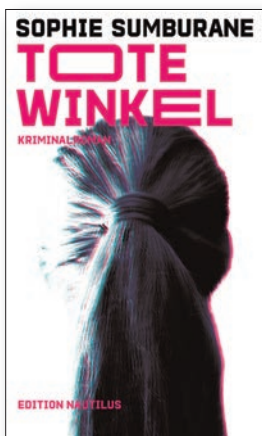


**Leonhard F. Seidl**  
**FRONTEN**  
**(Frontlines)**

Crime novel  
 160 pages, paperback  
 published in August 2017

**World rights available**  
**French sample translation available**

A Bosnian weapon collector runs amok in a Bavarian village. A Reichsbürger seeks revenge. A female Muslim doctor gets between the frontlines – a crime thriller based on a true story.



**Sophie Sumburane**  
**TOTE WINKEL**  
**(Blind Spots)**

Crime novel  
 200 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2022

**World rights available**

What if your husband was arrested for a rape that he admits to, and the victim looks exactly like you? Sophie Sumburane tells a story that pulls the rug out from under your feet: suspenseful, shattering, outrageous..



**Matthias Wittekindt**

**DIE TANKSTELLE VON COURCELLES (The Gas Station in Courcelles)**

Crime Novel. 256 pages, paperback, published in March 2018

**World rights available**

This is more than just a crime novel. Not only does it portray a violent crime, but it also sheds a new light on an entire life, all the way back to childhood.

**2nd at German Crime Novel Prize 2019**



**Matthias Wittekindt**

**DER UNFALL IN DER RUE BISSON (The Accident in Rue Bisson)**

Crime Novel. 240 pages, paperback, published in July 2016

**World rights available, Film rights under option**

A drunk driver, rain, an old street with sodden lane grooves. There has been a death on the road in Rue Bisson – but was it really an accident? Why was Michel Descombes driving so fast as if he was on the run? Lieutenant Ohayon begins his investigation within the driver's circle of friends. These people are the elite in budding Fleurville: They meet regularly to work out and drink at the Lacombe, the most exclusive club in town.



**Matthias Wittekindt**

**EIN LICHT IM ZIMMER (A Light in the Room)**

Crime Novel. 320 pages, paperback, published in October 2014

**World rights available, Film rights under option**

Bauge, a small French seaport in Brittany, in November. A huge offshore hydro power plant is under construction, the workers come from China and are virtually barracked just outside the town. When body parts wash up at the sea shore and a woman is attacked in the park, the strangers are immediately branded as suspects.



**Matthias Wittekindt**

**MARMORMÄNNER (Marble Men)**

Crime Novel. 288 pages, paperback, published in February 2013

**World rights available, Film rights under option**

In an urban legend, »Marble Men« is the name given to four men that disappeared from the small town of Fleurville in 1970. Only one of them was ever found – murdered. But now buried remains of clothing are discovered on a construction site, and soon everybody in Fleurville is curious to learn more about the case, which makes forensic scientist Marie Grenier's work difficult.



**Matthias Wittekindt**

**SCHNEESCHWESTERN (Snow Sisters)**

Crime Novel. 352 pages, paperback, published in August 2011

**World rights available, Film rights under option**

In the forest of Fleurville at the French-German border. Sixteen-year-old Geneviève is found dead after going to the forest with three drunk boys one night, one of them known to be violent. The next morning, the local newspaper receives an anonymous call, pointing towards a sexual offender from Germany. Who could have known about the murder this early? What are the intentions of the mysterious »King«? And what part does Kristina play, Geneviève's best friend?



**Julia Fritzsche**  
**Oben ohne**  
**(Topless)**

160 pages, paperback  
 published in May 2024

**World rights available**

Nipples are boring – or erotic. Normal – or scandalous. Everyday life – or court matter. What makes the subtle difference is the gender of the person whose nipples we talk about. And it is this subtle difference that repeatedly turns the nipple into a political issue.

When Gabrielle Lebreton from Berlin wanted to sunbathe topless at a water playground in 2022 next to half-naked men, the police were called and she subsequently lost her case in court. In the same year, activists in Göttingen fought for all genders to be allowed to swim topless in swimming pools, which was granted – but not on weekends. And while social media companies struggle to curb hate speech and fake news, female nipples are carefully censored. For fear of what exactly?

Julia Fritzsche looks back into the history of covering and revealing human bodies. When did the female breast become erotic, when did shame dominate and when did the urge for liberation? What makes Femen's protest a scandal, what is the concern behind #freethenipple and what do the feminist discourses about »topless« and Muslim headscarves have to do with each other? One thing is clear: dealing with nipples is political – and it's about more than just bathing regulations.



**Julia Fritzsche**  
**TIEFROT UND RADIKAL BUNT. FÜR EINE NEUE LINKE ERZÄHLUNG**  
**(Deeply Red and Radically**  
**Rainbow. For a New Left Narration)**

Nautilus Flugschrift  
 192 pages, softcover  
 published in March 2019

**World rights available**

Times are depressing, that's a fact. And it's mostly the old and the new right that cash in on that – even though it's the left that has far better and truer stories to tell. Julia Fritzsche has compiled elements to an alluring, inspiring narration that puts forward the social question and challenges capitalism, but will make no concessions in matter of diversity.

**Julia Fritzsche**, born in 1983, is a journalist and works regularly for Bayerischer Rundfunk, arte, and *analyse und kritik*, among others. Her political radio features have been awarded several prizes. Fritzsche lives in Munich.





**Hans-Christian Dany**  
**Schuld war mein Hobby. Bilanz einer Familie**  
**(Debts. Balance of Family Accounts)**

128 pages, paperback  
 published in March 2024

World rights available

»Is this really my family story? Or is this the common downfall of a complacent society that, after decades of living beyond its means, begins to falter?«

In 2021, an art gallery owner made Hans-Christian Dany the offer to write twelve texts for a lump sum, which would gradually be published online. No special topic required, no minimum number of characters. The assignment leads Dany to his own childhood, his relationship with his father, the bankruptcy of his parents' company and how they dealt and still deal with failure. The paid writing mutates from a literary journey into the disintegration of a family, which turns out to be a symptom of life in a sick country in post-war times. Dany writes about his legacy in a legal and a figurative sense, about emotional demands and liabilities between art and big money. What is ultimately written is also an attempt to determine Dany's own position in waning neoliberalism.



**Hans-Christian Dany** was born in Hamburg in 1966, where he works as an artist, writer, curator and consultant. He also published *Speed. Eine Gesellschaft auf Droge* (2008), *Morgen werde ich Idiot. Kybernetik und Kontrollgesellschaft* (2013), *Schneller als die Sonne. Aus dem rasenden Stillstand in eine unbekannte Zukunft* (2015), and *MA-1. Mode und Uniform* (2018).



**Hans-Christian Dany**  
**MA-1. MODE UND UNIFORM**  
**(MA-1. Fashion and Uniform)**

192 pages, paperback, published in September 2018

Sweatpants, bomber jackets, camouflage – whatever style is in the fashion spotlight is immediately devalued and forgotten about. Its movements unite people, create communities and dissolve them again. Fashion is beautiful and ugly, impregnated by capitalism and at the same time is haunted by protest, always beginning and always ending, from uniform to fashion, from fashion to uniform.

English translation available



**Hans-Christian Dany**  
**MORGEN WERDE ICH IDIOT. KYBERNETIK UND KONTROLLGESELLSCHAFT**  
**(Tomorrow I will Become an Idiot. Cybernetics and the Society of Control)**

160 pages, paperback, first published in August 2013

This book is a cheerfully vitriolic promenade through the intricacies, the history and the nightmares of our society obsessed with self-optimization and exercising its control no longer by power, but by feedback and self-regulation.

English translation sample available



**Hans-Christian Dany**  
**SPEED. EINE GESELLSCHAFT AUF DROGE (A Drugged Society)**

192 pages, paperback, first published in February 2008

Portuguese rights sold to Brazil, Film rights under option (Traumfabrik Babelsberg)

No drug has ever been pushed by the pharmaceutical industry on such a broad scale as amphetamine. Told with a great deal of knowledge and numerous examples, this is the story and history of why a society based on consumerism, performance enhancement and war can only function on drugs.

English translation sample available



**Hans-Christian Dany**  
**SCHNELLER ALS DIE SONNE**  
**AUS DEM RASENDEN STILLSTAND IN EINE UNBEKANNTE ZUKUNFT**  
**(Faster than the Sun.**

**Leaving the Frantic Stand Still for an Unknown Future)**

128 pages, paperback, published in October 2015

“Schneller als die Sonne” is the follow-up to the highly successful book “Morgen werde ich Idiot”. The author looks for practicable courses of action and pleads for loss of control and to open up towards the unthinkable. Therefore, takes the opposite position to technology-minded accelerationism. The book is a political interpretation of speculative realism that is much more than academic marxism.

English translation sample available



**Christopher Wimmer**  
**LAND DER UTOPIE? ALLTAG IN ROJAVA**  
 (Land of Utopia? Everyday Life in Rojava)  
 208 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2023

English world rights sold (Brill)

### Where is society in Rojava today, a decade after the revolution?

For left movements around the world, Rojava embodies the real possibility of a better society: In July 2012, the revolution began there. In the three Kurdish cantons of Afrîn, Kobanê and Cizîrê, autonomous self-government was established, based on the values of grassroots democracy, gender equality and ecology. The »Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria« now controls about one third of Syrian territory. It unites different ethnic groups, religions and languages under one roof.

Since 2012, the region has had to defend itself against numerous threats. In addition to the military, diplomatic and economic disputes with the Assad regime, the main threats are the wars with Turkey and the IS. With the Syrian civil war, the region is also affected by an embargo, which severely affects basic services. Despite all these adversities, society has evolved and built relatively stable structures.

A decade after the beginning of the revolution, Christopher Wimmer examines the ideas and the reality of this »revolutionary society« from a critical but solidary perspective. Based on more than fifty interviews with people from all parts of society – from administration, the education system, the military, medicine, etc. – he creates a polyphonic picture of everyday life, in a mixture of reportage and analysis, showing the hopes and problems of local people.



**Christopher Wimmer**, born in 1989, is a sociologist, freelance journalist and author. In 2022 he reported for several months from northern and eastern Syria for newspapers and journals (Neues Deutschland, Frankfurter Rundschau, taz, WOZ and others).



**Stephanie Haerdle**  
**SPRITZEN. GESCHICHTE DER WEIBLICHEN EJAKULATION**  
**(Squirting. A History of Female Ejaculation)**

Nautilus Flugschriften

304 pages, paperback

published in January 2020, extended and updated edition 2024

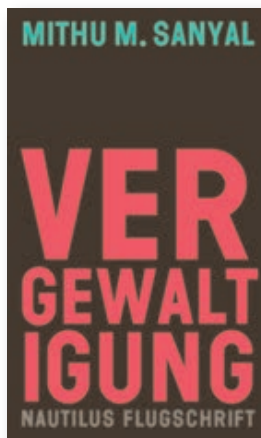
English world rights sold (MIT Press)

French world rights sold (Lux Editeur)

Do women squirt when they come? Yes, they do, there is lots of evidence!

But female ejaculation is still controversial, even today. For some it is a myth, for the other everyday sexual life, and it seems to depend very much on your political position whether you are willing to believe it or not. What do we as a society really know about this aspect of female lust, what is common anatomic knowledge and why are so many details still unknown?

**Stephanie Haerdle** studied Modern German Literature, Cultural Studies and Gender Studies (M.A.) in Berlin, where she also lives. She has published a book on female circus artists (AvivA Verlag, 2007).



**Mithu M. Sanyal**  
**VERGEWALTIGUNG. ASPEKTE EINES VERBRECHENS**  
**(Rape. Aspects of a Crime)**

256 pages, paperback

first published in August 2016, revised edition published in November 2020

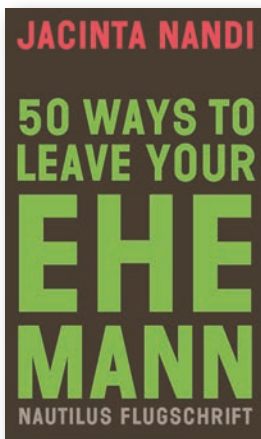
**Rights sold: English language world (Verso), French (Ecosociété), Danish (Tiderne Skifter), Italian (Lit edizioni), Swedish (Ordfront), Spanish (Reservoir Books/Penguin)**

**Winner of the Geisteswissenschaften International Award 2017**

Why do we speak and think about rape in the way that we do? Cultural critic Mithu Sanyal has written the first comprehensive analysis of the crime that shapes society's attitudes towards gender, race and vulnerability. What exactly is rape culture? Why do we expect victims to be irreparably damaged? Why is it so hard to think of men as victims of rape?

**Mithu M. Sanyal** is an award-winning broadcaster, academic and author. Her first book, "Vulva – a cultural history of the female genitalia" (Berlin, 2009) has been translated into five languages: Danish (Tiderne Skifter), Spanish (Anagrama), Italian (Marco Tropea), Swedish (Epix Bokförlag) and Hungarian (Bookart). Her debut novel "Identitti" (Munich 2021) became a longtime Spiegel Bestseller and was shortlisted for Deutscher Buchpreis. Mithu Sanyal was awarded the Ernst Bloch Prize 2021 for her literary and essayist work.





**Jacinta Nandi**  
**50 WAYS TO LEAVE YOUR EHEMANN**  
**(50 Ways to Leave Your Man)**  
 232 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2022

**World rights available**

### How to Leave Your Man: Why it's so hard for mothers to leave their partners

She's finally done it! The „World's Worst Housewife" has left her partner and moved with her two children into her own apartment, or as she puts it: been gentrified away to the outskirts of Berlin. Jacinta Nandi had always expected that as a single mom, a whole other host of problems would be awaiting her. The main problems are financial: the truth is, it's really hard for ordinary mothers – with ordinary incomes – to leave their partners and set up their own lives.

Why does society make it so hard for women to leave men? Could it be that women in general, and mothers in particular, are not expected to be free? And if they do decide to fight for their freedom, they have to pay a high price for it.

Jacinta Nandi writes about slut-shaming and pity, the pressure to constantly justify yourself and society's pesky double standards. She shows us that it's not only the violent relationships that are shitty, that being told what a great dad your ex is isn't always helpful and why Isaac Newton was certainly not a single parent. She asks why married women show a lack of solidarity by baking ridiculously good cakes, and what it means to be a single mom by choice. Why do mothers always have to be perfect while fathers are somehow always good enough? What has to change in order for mothers to no longer feel forced to stay in relationships that are not serving them? Leave your husband – things can only get better!



**Jacinta Nandi**  
**Die schlechteste Hausfrau der Welt.**  
**Ein Erfahrungsbericht und Manifest**  
**(The Worst Housewife In The World. A Field Report And Manifesto)**

208 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2020

**World rights available**

**Option on TV rights**

**English sample translation available**

Everyone wants to talk about feminism, about cool topics that appeal to young women. About the gender pay gap, for example, or pubic hair. But housework is definitely not a cool topic. Because nobody cares about the oppression of the housewife. But when feminist author Jacinta Nandi talks about housework, things suddenly get quite interesting.

**Jacinta Nandi** was born in 1980 in London and has lived in Berlin since 2000. She wrote the column "The Good Foreigner" for the tageszeitung, and she also publishes regularly in feminist Missy Magazine and Jungle World. She's a member of the Rakete 2000 reading platform. Her most recent books are »Die schlechteste Hausfrau der Welt« (The Worst Housewife in the World, Nautilus 2020) and »WTF Berlin – Expatsplaining the German Capital« (Satyr 2022).







**Georgiana Banita**  
**PHANTOMBILDER. DIE POLIZEI UND DER VERDÄCHTIGE FREMDE**  
 (Under Suspicion: Racial Profiling and Police Brutality from Slavery to the Smart Border Wall)  
 480 pages, paperback  
 published in January 2023

World rights available



**Ende Gelände**  
**WE SHUT SHIT DOWN**  
 208 pages, paperback  
 published in March 2022

World rights available



**Milo Probst**  
**FÜR EINEN UMWELTSCHUTZ DER 99%**  
 (Environmentalism of the 99 Percent)  
 200 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2021

World rights available



**Marc Thörner**  
**RECHTSPOPULISMUS UND DSCHIHAD**  
 (Right-wing Populism and Jihad)  
 184 pages, paperback  
 published in October 2021

World rights available



**Katrine Hoop / Amed Sherwan**  
**KAFIR. ALLAH SEI DANK BIN ICH ATHEIST**  
 (Kafir. Thank Allah I Am An Atheist)  
 Memoir  
 240 pages, paperback  
 published in October 2020

Greek rights sold (Lemvos)



**Ingrid Strobl**  
**VERMESSENE ZEIT.**  
**DER WECKER, DER KNAST UND ICH**  
**(The Alarm Clock, The Jail And I)**

192 pages, softcover  
 published in March 2020

**World rights available**



**Fahim Amir**  
**SCHWEIN UND ZEIT**  
**TIERE, POLITIK, REVOLTE**  
**(Being and Swine. Animals, Politics, Revolt)**

216 pages, paperback  
 first published in September 2018  
 revised edition published in November 2021

**English world rights sold (Between the lines)**  
**French world rights sold (Divergences)**



**Frank Adloff**  
**Politik der Gabe. Für ein anderes Zusammenleben**  
**(Politics of the Gift. For Conviviality)**

320 pages, paperback  
 published in September 2018

**English world rights sold (Bristol University Press)**  
**All other rights available**

