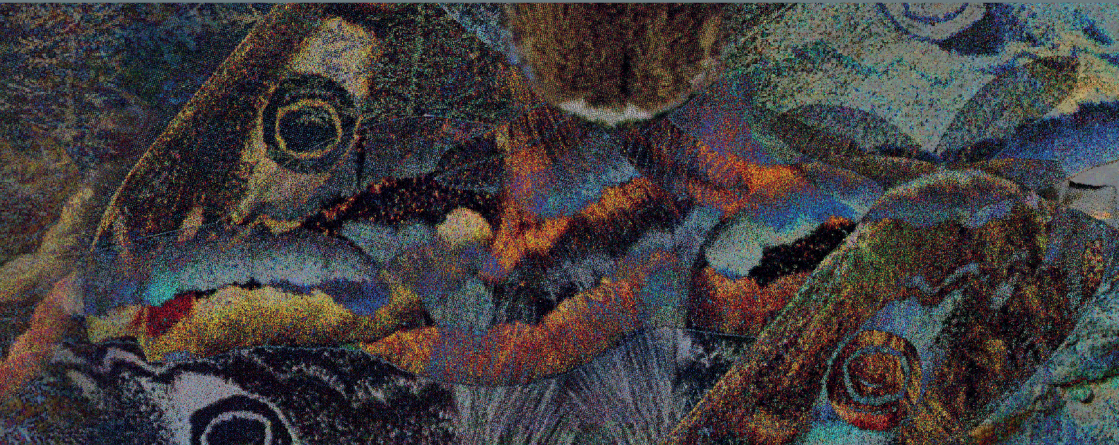




Foreign Rights Guide
Spring 2022



Matthes & Seitz Berlin



Matthes & Seitz Berlin is a German independent publishing house founded in 2004 by Andreas Rötzer. It was established in the tradition of Matthes & Seitz Munich, a publishing house founded by Axel Matthes and Claus Seitz in 1977. Matthes & Seitz Berlin publishes about 80 titles per year in fiction and non-fiction.

The **fiction list** includes contemporary authors from Germany, like Frank Witzel (winner of the German Book Prize 2015), Anne Weber (winner of the German Book Prize 2020), Esther Kinsky, Angela Steidele, Philip Schönthaler, and Joshua Groß. Matthes & Seitz Berlin is not only known for **German literature**, but also for the translations of contemporary and classic **French literature** like Antonin Artaud, Emmanuel Carrère, Céline Minard and Éric Vuillard, the winner of the Prix Goncourt 2017. Among the strong list of **Russian literature** you find Warlam Schalamow, Iliazd, Alexander Ilitchevski and Alexander Goldstein.

Non-fiction has always had a central place in Matthes & Seitz's program, especially philosophy, political theory, and art and cultural studies. Translations from the French and English play a large part, as do prominent German authors like Jürgen Goldstein (winner of the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2016). The series **Fröhliche Wissenschaft** (The Joyful Wisdom), with its short essays, is a prominent stage for presenting audacious new philosophers. Its authors, who include Byung-chul Han and Marcus Steinweg, have been translated into numerous languages.

In 2013 Matthes & Seitz Berlin established a new cornerstone in its program with the series **Naturkunden** (Natural Sciences), which publishes books whose design matches nature's beauty, bringing nature writing, movement, space, ecology, and humanity into focus. In order to stimulate German literary voices writing about nature Matthes & Seitz Berlin donates the „German Prize for Nature Writing“.

In 2020 Matthes & Seitz Berlin has taken over two other publishing houses as imprints: **Friedenauer Presse**, founded in 1963 and specialized in Russian literature, and the academic press **August Verlag**, founded in 2009.

Fiction

Lola Randl	<i>Fearful Beast</i>
Yevgenia Belorusets	<i>Lucky Breaks</i>
Eva Raisig	<i>Rare Earth</i>
Kior Janev	<i>The Southern Mangaseja</i>

Non Fiction

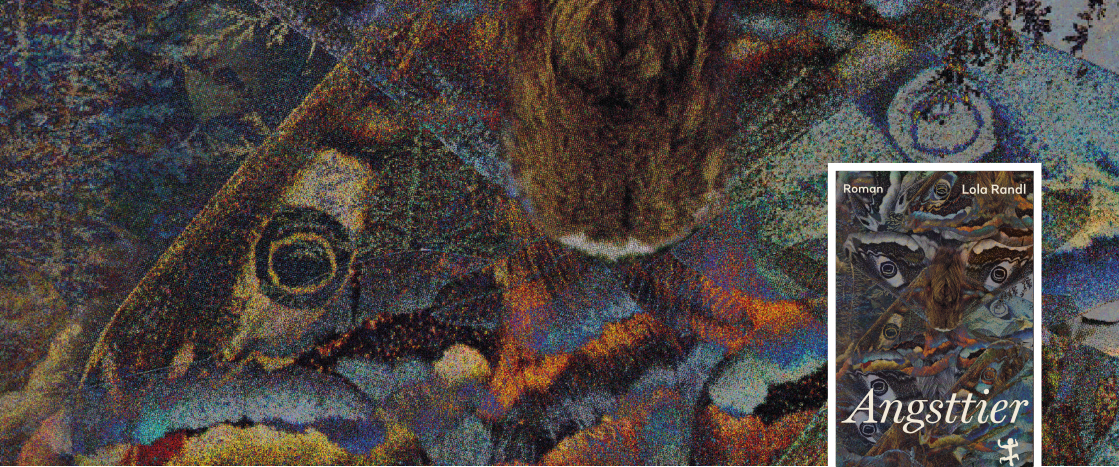
Karin Harrasser	<i>Surazo</i>
Karin Wenger	<i>Jacob The Prisoner</i>
Irina Rastorgueva	<i>The Russia Simulacrum</i>
Doris Byer	<i>White Skin Black Soul</i>
Daniel Strassberg	<i>Spectacular Machines</i>
Stefan Rieger	<i>Reduction and Participation</i>
Panajotis Kondylis	<i>Conservatism</i>
Bernhard Laum	<i>Holy Money</i>

Series Fröhliche Wissenschaft

Manfred Geier	<i>Philosophy of the Races</i>
Jule Govrin	<i>Political Bodies</i>
Hartmut von Sass	<i>Atheist Faith</i>
Madame Nielsen	<i>The World & Time Encompassing One Sentence</i>

Series Naturkunden

Matin Haubenreißer	<i>Minerals</i>
Samuel Hamen	<i>Jellyfishes. A Portrait</i>
Andreas Möller	<i>Pikes. A Portrait</i>



Lola Randl

Fearful Beast

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

With inimitable humor and a fine sense of human contradictions, Lola Randl reinvents the horror genre

The little house in the countryside was a real stroke of luck, Friedel is pregnant and Jakob finally has the peace he needs to write his second novel. Everything is perfect. Well, almost. Of course, first they have to renovate and build a changing table and maybe a bed, because bought beds wouldn't fit into this idyll at all. Then it can finally be the way Jakob always wanted it to be when he was a child. The neighbors are helpful, but they have their own ideas about life in the country. It's not normal that Ramona, the overweight mother of Denny, who must have had the hots for the house long before them, turns Jakob's head like that. Fortunately, there are still the woods and nature. After Jakob is attacked and bitten by an animal one night, however, his own nature comes to light more and more often. He discards the work on his book, it does not harmonize with his engaging daydreams and harsh escapades anyway. Much more interesting to him now seem the legends from the surrounding area. What is the story about the hairy villagers and the talking horse's head all about? Has everyone here always been crazy?

Novel
Hardcover
174 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Lola Randl, born in 1980 in Munich, works as a screenplay writer and filmmaker.

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www.matthes-seitz-berlin.de/foreign-rights



Yevgenia Belorusets


Lucky Breaks

Powerful, off-beat stories about women living in the shadow of the now-frozen, now-thawing war in Ukraine

Out of the impoverished coal regions of Ukraine known as the Donbass, where Russian secret military intervention coexists with banditry and insurgency, the women of Yevgenia Belorusets's captivating collection of stories emerge from the ruins of a war, still being waged on and off, ever since the 2014 Revolution of Dignity. Through a series of unexpected encounters, we are pulled into the ordinary lives of these anonymous women: a florist, a cosmetologist, card players, readers of horoscopes, the unemployed, and a witch who catches newborns with a mitt. One refugee tries unsuccessfully to leave her broken umbrella behind as if it were a sick relative; a private caregiver in a disputed zone saves her elderly charge from the angel of death; a woman sits down on International Women's Day and can no longer stand up; a soldier decides to marry war. Belorusets threads these tales of ebullient survival with a mix of humor, verisimilitude, the undramatic, and a profound Gogolian irony. She also weaves in twenty-three photographs that, in lyrical and historical counterpoint, form their own remarkable visual narrative.

"Belorusets's stories work their way under your skin. A tender strength and Gogolian wryness emerge from "insignificant, trivial things", like the inability to let go of an umbrella. Their inconclusive endings have a Chekhov-like knack of stepping off the page into a shifted new plane of survival and real, bewildered life." *The Times Literary Supplement*



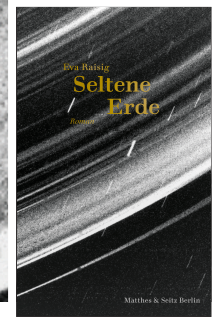
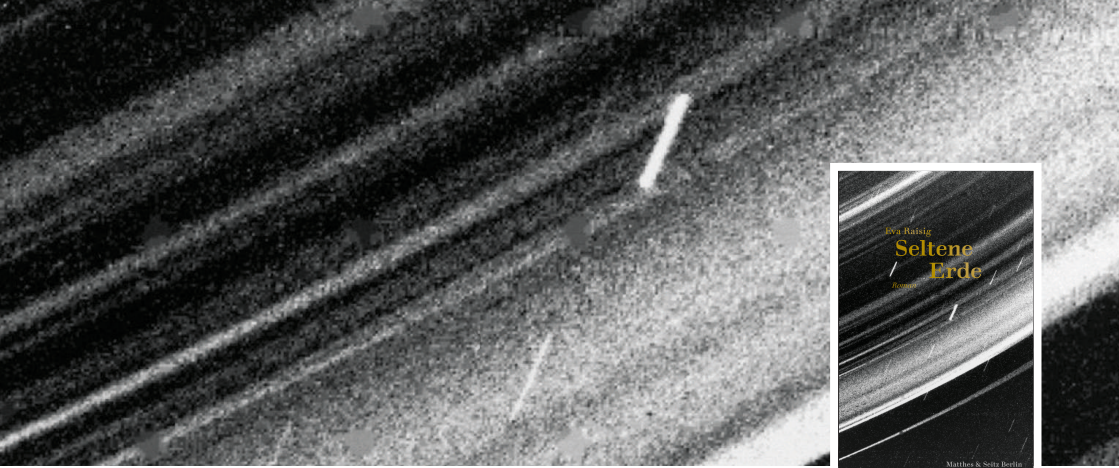
 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Hardcover
154 pages
English translation available
Russian original text available

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English World Rights (New Directions)
Bulgarian (Janet 45)
Norwegian (Oktober)
French (Bourgois)
Italian (Piemme)

Yevgenia Belorusets is a Ukrainian photographer who lives between Kyiv and Berlin. *Lucky Breaks* is her first novel.

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Eva Raisig

Rare Earth

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

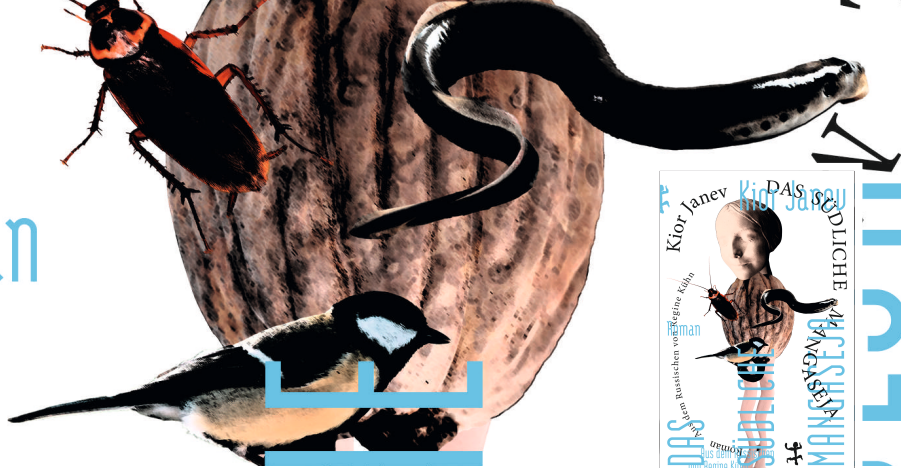
How do you tell the unknown, the other of the world, the other of your own family history?

When Voyager 1 looks back at Earth many years after its launch from interstellar space, the world has long since become a different place. All that remains for the space probe is its carefully selected cargo of images, music and greetings in 55 languages to tell possible aliens about life on Earth. But the absolutely alien can possibly not only be found in distant galaxies. Also in a South American village Ufos should be as frequent as the stray dogs there. After the death of her grandmother, Therese unceremoniously follows Lenka, an astrophysicist disappointed by science, who is looking for answers to the question of what contact with alien civilizations would mean. But while Therese observes Lenka's longing for another world, she increasingly senses the strangeness in the voids of her own family history: What remains of the hungry winter of 1946/47? What of her grandmother's sister, who threw herself into the half-frozen Main River at night? And how could an honest picture of our planet be drawn at all in a world in which stories can be irretrievably lost within two generations?

Novel
Hardcover
368 pages
2022
English sample available

Eva Raisig, born in Frankfurt am Main in 1984, studied physics and lives as a freelance writer and editor in Berlin. For her literary work, she received, among others, a working scholarship from the Berlin Senate and the Authors' Workshop Prose of the Literary Colloquium Berlin. In 2020, she was an Alfred Döblin Fellow of the Akademie der Künste.

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Kior Janev

The Southern Mangaseja

Cinema history as a prism of the 20th century: the powerfully spoken and hauntingly told novel of a family in the midst of turbulent Russian history

The northern Mangaseya is an area in northwestern Siberia forgotten by history. The southern one, on the other hand, is a fictional place, the Soviet-Asian variant of the historical region, the projection surface for one of the most unusual family stories in contemporary literature. In it, Kior Janev, in the guise of his protagonist, traverses a colorful kaleidoscope of the 20th century: in a kind of proesie (Sascha Sokolov), a language balancing on the fine line between poetry and prose, he narrates a century of Russian history, beginning in the 1930s, in the mirror of the description of over a hundred films from a century of film history that his protagonists have seen. The focus is on a student who moves in a world of constantly mutating figures without fixed surfaces, a world in which Ivan the Terrible also sometimes appears in Lenin's clothes and the reader is taken to the most diverse places and the remotest ends of an imagined world: from a metro to enigmatic tightrope walkers in airy spheres to the Seventh Heaven and into the brain of a fallen and shattered angel.

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Novel
Hardcover
ca. 300 pages
2022
Russian original text available
German complete translation available
English sample available

Kior Janev, born in Central Asia, is a philologist and theater director. He studied in Munich and Moscow, his literary expression moves between the most diverse fields of tension, with him "words are a strange matter, not to be explained with words", as a critic wrote. Thus he is considered an author "between Russia, the East, the Soviets, the Pamirs, the world, the cosmos and chaos".

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Non-Fiction

SURAZO

Monika und Hans Ertl:
Eine deutsche
Geschichte
in Bolivien



Karin Harrasser

Surazo

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

A story so unique and at the same time exemplary that it reveals contemporary history as it is written: in scenes and flashbacks, montages and motifs.

On May 12, 1973, Monika Ertl is shot dead by security forces in the street in La Paz during a firefight. At the time of her death, she was in her mid-thirties and a member of the Bolivian guerrillas ELN. Her father, Hans Ertl, learns of his daughter's death on his cattle farm La Dolorida in the Bolivian rainforest. The cameraman of Leni Riefenstahl and Rommel's preferred front photographer had emigrated there in the 1950s. In his environment: right-wing nationalist dictators and SS-Obersturmführer, German missionaries and Jewish emigrants, indigenous people and apparent magicians who manage to remain invisible in full view. Following in their footsteps, this research traces the lines of transatlantic extensions of Nazi careers, traces the involvement of the next generation in the international networks of the Sixty-Eighters, and branches out to the Tyrolean Alps and Linz. Surazo, the name of the cold tropical wind, should be the title of Hans Ertl's last film; Surazo, instead, is a deep drilling that tells, as if in passing, of historiography in an entangled world; Surazo, that is the search for answers to questions that we still have to ask ourselves.

Narrative Non-Fiction
Hardcover
270 pages
2022
English sample available

Karin Harrasser is a cultural scientist who researches the body, technology and science fiction. She has translated Donna Haraway into German and has been involved in various artistic and curatorial projects. She lives in Linz, where she holds a professorship at the Kunstuniversität Linz; Harrasser is also co-director of the International Research Center for Cultural Studies (ifk) in Vienna.

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Bolivia · Guerilla · Nazi · Family · Emigrants · Rebellion

der Gefangener



Karin Wenger

Jacob The Prisoner

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

The story of a chance encounter and years of research in the shallows of the corrupt Tihar prison world in New Delhi, of one who fell deep and reinvented himself, and of one who was there to tell us about it.

Essay
Softcover
ca. 180 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

For a long time, Jacob is the beacon of hope for his family. Born in Kerala, he grew up in Dubai, studied and had a career as a successful businessman in the USA. He loves the feeling of success, raucous parties and the high of ecstasy. Then comes the turning point: Jacob and a friend are arrested by the police for drug possession, they are released on bail and Jacob flees to Dubai, where he builds a new existence. But when he flies to Mumbai in 2008 to visit his ailing mother, he is arrested at the airport on an international arrest warrant and taken to Tihar Prison, one of the largest detention centers in Asia. There begins his endless journey through the corrupt and ramshackle Indian justice system, and it is there that Karin Wenger meets him in 2011 while doing research. From then on, she accompanies the prisoner for more than ten years. The notes, correspondence and interviews that emerge from these encounters are an impressive testimony to everyday life in Indian prisons and tell of a man who fell deep and then rose again and reinvented himself.

Karin Wenger, born in Zurich in 1979, is a correspondent and world traveler. Since 2016, she has headed the Southeast Asia office of Swiss Radio SRF in Bangkok. She has received several awards for her work as a journalist, including the Zurich Journalism Prize.

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Detention · Tihar Prison · Mumbai · Corruption · Justice · Testimony

Russland- simulakrum



Irina Rastorgueva

The Russia Simulacrum

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Russia as a mirror cabinet of the political: a revealing book about the reality between repressive politics and unbending opposition.

In this essay, written with great intensity, playwright and essayist Irina Rastorgueva tells facts and stories about the impossible, yet very much alive, current Russian opposition. She names and describes the parliamentary repressive apparatus, fabricated cases and trials, political satire, Internet trolls, and guerrilla warfare. She thus puts the absurd, Kafkaesque and dystopian Russian reality into the glare of reflection and takes a look behind the endless production of facades, signs and labels: Behind it, there is desperate emptiness. The Duma passes unnecessary laws, non-existent enemies are invented, a pseudo-opposition sits in parliament, the real opposition is in prison on false charges, and the police themselves ceaselessly produce terrorists. "Nothing in Putin's Russia is real," no matter what you touch. Here, elections are just a simulation, and protests just a pretext for repression. And Russia's past is even more unknown than its future.

Essay
Softcover
ca. 160 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Irina Rastorgueva, born in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in 1983, worked as a cultural journalist for several Russian magazines and radio stations. She is the author of numerous scientific articles on the theory and history of literature and journalism of the 20th century.

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Doris Byer

White Skin Black Soul

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

A risky autobiographical admission on his own behalf: racism, anti-colonialism and Europe's history

In times of heated discussions, Doris Byer, historian and cultural anthropologist, dares to take a different perspective on racism and shows that this astonishingly persistent phenomenon is by no means due to an "unfinished Enlightenment," a general human disposition, or merely an individual malignancy. Rather, it is a supporting element of European cultural history that accompanied the author throughout her life in all its idiosyncratic premises and opportune mutations - not only because of her brief but momentous marriage to a nuclear physicist from the Caribbean. In a way that transcends the academic rules of classification and systematization and embraces the attitude toward life, full of abysmal contradictions and occasional comedy, Byer paints a picture of old and new elites who, despite the fundamental changes in the world, believe they can celebrate the civilizational superiority of "white" skin - and thus keep the specter of racism alive as the basis for Europe's greatness and disaster.

Non-Fiction
Hardcover
ca. 280 pages
2022
English sample translation
available


Doris Byer, born in Vienna in 1942, habilitated in historical anthropology, lived and worked in Jamaica, the Solomon Islands, Morocco, Marseille, Mali and again and again Vienna. She has published numerous academic and literary works on the history of science, racial ideologies and racism, on migration and the transformation of post-colonial societies.

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Eine Affektgeschichte der Technik



Daniel Strassberg *Spectacular Machines*

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

If there is a way we can understand the machine, it is through this unheard-of access: via the affect it triggers in us

The Icarus legend already tells of man's desire to be like God and his fear of being punished for doing so. This irresolvable contradiction of longing and fear determines the Western man-machine relationship to this day - heart-stirring wonder and frightening monster, inscrutable magic and coldly calculated mechanics: What is it that we have created? While the theatrical machines that brought life to the stage as mechanical songbirds, descending deities, or artificial wind produced comforting shivers in the audience, the mechanical loom and other useful machines seemed to make themselves subservient to man. The machine inspired medieval monks, who reinvented time with the clock, and met with the disapproval of the popes, who could not tolerate a time independent of God.

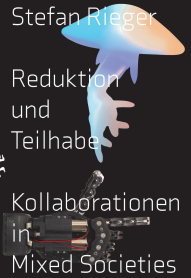
Machines captivate our attention and are capable of changing everything: how we work, how we think, how we love. Tracing the human search for the machine that will make him equal to God, this book itself becomes a cabinet of curiosities in which one can lose oneself without ever falling out of context.

Non-Fiction
Hardcover
ca. 300 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Daniel Strassberg, born in 1954 in St. Gallen, lives as a psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and philosopher in Zurich, where he taught, among other things, philosophy of technology at the ETH and works on the border areas of psychoanalysis and philosophy.

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und Teilhabe



Stefan Rieger

Reduction and Participation

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Being human in a more than human world: for an ethics of making oneself related

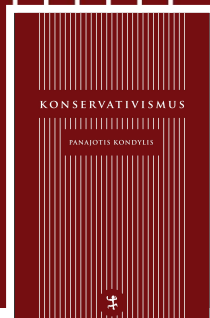
Whether dog or amoeba, algorithm or artificial pet, whether virtual or materialized, whether perceptible or in the background - man is not alone. He shares the world with entities and beings in a way that can hardly be foreseen in its diversity. Only one thing is already clear: the modalities of living together in multispecies societies no longer conform to the usual notions of subject and object, of inside and outside, of mastery and servitude, of rationality and emotion. Rather, the realization is breaking through that man is dependent on other species. And he does well to enter into new forms of kinship without merely falling prey to dreams of enhancement. It is only through gestures of reduction, as Stefan Rieger shows, that a more comprehensive participation becomes possible. And only in the form of changed cooperations and collaborations, in recognition of other powers of action and an ethics that does not exclusively focus on the human being, can an appropriate response to the new world of humans and non-humans be found.

Non-Fiction
Hardcover
ca. 300 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Stefan Rieger, born in 1963, studied German and philosophy and was a staff member in the Collaborative Research Center for Literature and Anthropology in Konstanz. He was a Heisenberg Fellow of the German Research Foundation and has been teaching at the Ruhr University Bochum as a professor of media history and communication theory since fall 2007. He also heads the Institute for Media Studies.

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PANAJOTIS KONDYLLIS



Panajotis Kondylis

Conservatism

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

The long overdue rediscovery of a classic of the history of political thought and ideas

In this interpretation, long out of print and still novel and startling, philosopher and historian of ideas Panajotis Kondylis turns against the notion of conservatism as a reaction to the French Revolution. In brilliant lines of thought that take him from Bonald and Burke to Carlyle and Chateaubriand to Fénelon, de Maistre, and Schlegel, he demonstrates that conservatism as a social and political force had existed since the Middle Ages, when the nobility and its system of estates fought emerging egalitarian interpretations of the law. But Kondylis goes a step further and shows how conservatism adapted to the particular reality of the modern sovereign state, which was inconceivable without it, and analyzes it as a political force that recurs in surprising forms. He succeeds, for example, in showing how the central themes of the socialist critique of capitalism emerged in the ideological sphere of counterrevolution and circulated idealized images of a pre-capitalist reality up to the present day. Conservatism is the necessary contribution to better understand the political and cultural debates of our time.

Non-Fiction
Hardcover
ca. 500 pages
2022
Complete English translation available

Panayotis Kondylis, born in Olympia in 1943, lived as a philosopher in Athens, where he died in 1998. He studied philosophy in Heidelberg, where he received his doctorate under Dieter Henrich. He translated Marx, Cassirer, Carl Schmitt and Machiavelli, among others, into Greek and worked on the concept and premises of the Enlightenment, philosophical polemics and the unquestioned presuppositions of European world views.

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Bernhard Laum

Holy Money

Holy Money is the long out-of-print study that for the first time, and to this day unrivaled in its wealth of sources and ideas, explores the theory of the religious origin of money and its extra-economic significance. In it, twenty years after Georg Simmel's philosophy of money, the scholar of antiquity and economic historian Bernhard Laum comprehensively develops the idea that money developed out of a kind of "religious trade" and that any reflection on the phenomenon of money only makes sense if it traces its history. He finds the birth of money in the cult of sacrifice, examines premonetary forms of money, and the nature and origin of coinage. He proves that money is a "creature of the legal order" and that the payment property of money is older than its medium of exchange function. "Step by step, Laum develops his story, which sometimes reads like an archaeological detective novel: one layer after another is peeled away until finally a chain of events becomes visible, all of which together bring about what can probably be called the grand illusion of modernity." (Christina von Braun).

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Non-Fiction
Hardcover
320 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Bernhard Laum, born in Velen in 1884, studied archaeology and classical philology before working for the German Archaeological Institute. After his habilitation, he taught classical studies and, from 1920, economics in Frankfurt am Main. From 1923 he taught philology and archaeology in Braunsberg and in 1936 moved to the University of Marburg as professor of social and economic history, where he worked until his retirement in 1953. He died in Marburg in 1974.

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Manfred Geier

Philosophy of the Races

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Racism and Enlightenment - A Basic Investigation

Was Immanuel Kant, key figure of the European Enlightenment, a racist? Are the great Kantian values - scientific objectivity, moral autonomy, rational religiosity, freedom and pacifist cosmopolitanism - only masks behind which a Eurocentrically reduced worldview is concealed, which appears with a global claim to power? Manfred Geier does not want to absolve Kant and his work of this accusation across the board. Rather, he attempts to place Kant's racist statements in their historical context and traces what was at stake in the debates of the time, what we can learn from them today, what needs to be criticized and what needs to be defended.

Essay
Softcover
ca. 100 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Manfred Geier, born in Troppau in 1943, received his doctorate with a thesis on Noam Chomsky's linguistic theory. His work focuses on philosopher biographies and cultural-political currents. Manfred Geier lives as a freelance nonfiction author in Hamburg.

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JULE GOVRIN Politische Körper Von Sorge und Solidarität



Jule Govrin *Political Bodies*

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Vulnerability of bodies as a horizon for policies of common good and global solidarity: Innovative political perspective through a universalism from below

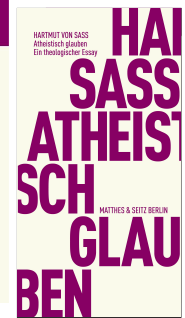
In our everyday lives, we suppress the vulnerability of our bodies wherever we can. But the pandemic has painfully reminded us of this fact: If even breathing in and out becomes a danger, every interaction appears threatening. At the same time, it becomes visible and even more tangible how much we depend on encounters and contact. Thus an ambivalence emerges that becomes the philosophical starting point for Jule Govrin's reflections on the body and politics: Being vulnerable unites all bodies, in our corporeality thus a moment of radical sameness appears. Yet the present and history are governed by mechanisms that aim to make bodies unequal. Govrin's stirring essay draws attention to how political images and economic practices shape bodies. At the same time, this view opens up prospects for a universalism from below, as is emerging in current feminist protest movements. Starting from the recognition that our bodies are vulnerable and interdependent, caring for them becomes the linchpin of global solidarity.

Essay
Softcover
ca. 180 pages
2022
English sample translation

Jule Govrin is a political philosopher researching at the intersection of feminist philosophy, political theory, social philosophy, and aesthetics. She also works at the academic magazine *Geschichte der Gegenwart* and is active as a journalist.

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ATHEISM SCHEITERN



Hartmut von Sass

Atheist Belief

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

The original, highly topical and urgently needed draft of a new theology

God is dead! Only which one? Already for a long time the funeral announcements for a God are in circulation, whom we imagine as a superior agent or as a sovereignly existing spirit in the quasi-spacetime beyond. A theology that sees itself as atheistic is serious about the burial of God against all contemporary attempts at theistic revision. At the same time, it opposes programs that reduce religious faith to a moral way of life, a state of mind, or a self-relationship that remains entirely with itself. The atheistic alternative becomes visible when religious faith is understood as a concrete perspective on everything that surrounds us. Nothing new beyond the world is then asserted, but a completely new view of this one world is practiced. What this can mean in concrete terms is illustrated by this essay, which makes clear that atheism does not deny the meaning of faith - on the contrary: atheism and faith in God are not mutually exclusive. Rather, atheism specifies what God can still be today.

Non-Fiction
Softcover
ca. 120 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Hartmut von Sass, born in 1980, studied Protestant theology and philosophy in Göttingen, Edinburgh, and Berlin; assistant professor, doctorate, and habilitation in Zurich; subsequently deputy director of the interdisciplinary research institute Collegium Helveticum there; visiting fellow in Claremont, Oxford, Pasadena, and Berkeley; since 2019 titular professor of systematic theology and philosophy of religion and holder of a Heisenberg position at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

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Madame Nielsen

The World & Time Encompassing One Sentence

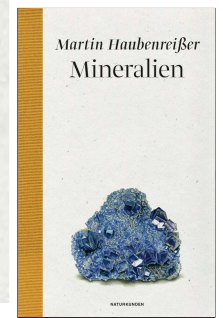
To expose oneself to the foreign. Dare to become the stranger and the stranger. And thus to become a stranger to oneself. Risking never becoming oneself again. Risking this requires not only commitment - it also requires admitting to oneself the eternally unsuccessful attempt to preserve the form of a life, and to undertake a courageous leap out of one's own body into the all-encompassing work. A leap, as the Danish writer Claus Beck-Nielsen did when he left home, wife and child, lived without documents on the streets of Copenhagen, became a "nameless test subject" of the Beckwerk agency, buried himself and finally rose again as Madame Nielsen. But whether this was, is or will be an end point? "I am not Madame Nielsen," she promptly prefaces her Zurich poetry lecture, demonstrating that everything is always at stake in an existence that is continuously in the process of becoming: if one jumps out of oneself, out of one's being, a completely new, never-before-heard sentence must always come into the world, and with it and in it a new, different world in all its potentiality and world- and existence-encompassing poetics.

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Non-Fiction
Softcover
ca. 160 pages
2022
English sample translation
available

Madame Nielsen, born in 1963, is an author, singer, artist, performer. Her novels have won numerous awards, and she has been nominated several times for the Nordic Council Prize. Performances in Berlin and Vienna, among others. In 2020 she gave the Zurich Poetics Lecture.

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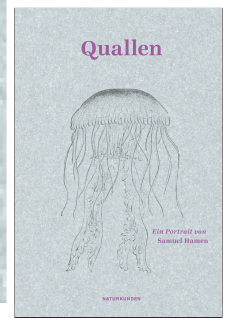
Magnificent agates and sparkling fluorites: colorful kaleidoscopes from the earth's interior

Not only since the baroque natural history cabinets have the millions of years old minerals been regarded as wonders of nature, whose crystallized geometry reveals an almost magically beautiful order of inorganic matter that has always captivated art and science. The passionate collector Martin Haubenreißer has been painting mineral specimens for three decades - true to scale and composed into impressive picture panels, in the detailed tradition of natural history illustration: the coral-red crocoite, the blue-milky agate, the shiny golden cubes of pyrite, the roundish masses of bottle-green malachite or the columns of transparent tourmaline, but above all the multicolored and multiform fluorites from mainly Saxon mines. Precisely because his true-to-life watercolors do not idealize the pieces, but show flaws as well as the labels belonging to the specimens and revealing their provenance, Haubenreißer's illustrations make the individuality and the historicity of each individual mineral specimen tangible. His masterful and sensitive plates, published here for the first time in book form, magnificently visualize the creative and aesthetic power of unimaginably slow geological processes that produced each individual element, each chemical compound. At a moment when mankind has almost exhausted the deposits and sealed most of the pits, the minerals are testimony to a superior temporality reaching back to the beginnings of the planet.

Picture Book
Hardcover
411 pages
2021

Martin Haubenreißer, born in Bielefeld in 1938, worked in the now extinct craft of chemigraphy, where he could apply his talent for drawing. He has been a mineral collector since 1977 and began drawing minerals from his own collection in 1995. His drawings, which now number over 600, have already been exhibited at the Natural History Museum in Leipzig, at the Munich Mineral Days and at the Chair Tree Museum in Rabenau.

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Samuel Hamen

Jellyfishes

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

Jellyfish, the amazing "lungs of the seas" the most enigmatic yet beguiling creatures of the animal kingdom, in a luminous, richly illustrated portrait

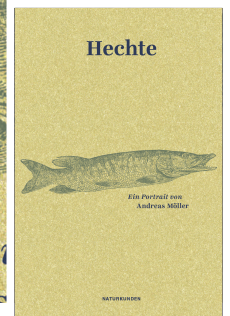
From the direct tides to the nearshore continental shelf zone, from the surface of the open sea down to its deepest, hardly explored areas, they make not only the water glow with their tremendously irritable, "like brain matter turned into skins" bodies: Jellyfish. Since time immemorial, medusae have eluded any kind of definition. They twist and turn like organized water in the waves flowing around them and make the imagination spark. But whether as a disruptive factor or symbol of the digital and immersive, as a creative idea of Art Deco, as a spineless horror, alien of the sea, queer heraldic animal, or alarmist emblem of a radical change in which even scientists sometimes reach their limits - jellyfish, as Samuel Hamen shows in this dazzling portrait, do not twitch with eyelashes but with tentacles that, depending on the species, can cause severe burns even on fleeting contact. Whoever nevertheless dares to follow their hovering movements is revealed an insight into the earliest history of the earth as well as into all conceivable futures.

Essay
Hardcover with numerous illustrations
144 pages
2022
English sample translation available

Samuel Hamen, born in Luxembourg City in 1988, is a writer, literary critic for Deutschlandfunk and ZEIT Online, among others, and president of the Luxembourg writers' association A:LL. Most recently, he was awarded the Luxembourg Book Prize 2020 and an annual fellowship from the Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg.


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Open sea · Twists · Waves · Alien · Tentacles · Burns



Andreas Möller

Pikes

 Matthes & Seitz Berlin

The fish of the hour: Hardly affected by climate change, the pike is proving to be an astonishingly robust species that has always held a great fascination for humans

It has been called the "water devil" and the "embodiment of evil and mischief". The allusions to the largest and most dangerous predatory fish of our latitudes are as manifold as they are deceptive. Henry David Thoreau paid tribute to it, as did Vladimir Putin, who poses with pike as an expression of strength and virility. But the pike is also a symbol of a lively, popular sense of humor: when there's a draught like pike soup, you'd better close your windows and doors, and a great pike is a peppy guy who gets to his destination with chutzpah. Andreas Möller traces the reasons for this ambivalence in his ravishing portrait. He shows the pike as the great loner of our waters, which consistently refuses industrial exploitation like no other edible fish. Pike catches are always individual and chance catches that cannot be calculated. Pike is a gripping and poetic portrait, richly peppered with cultural-historical observations on fishing, on everyday photography or on the preparation of pike heads. But it is also a plea for the concrete and vivid experience of nature and the reverent feeling of natural beauty.

Essay
Hardcover with numerous illustrations
160 pages
2022
English sample translation available

Andreas Möller, born in Rostock in 1974, was a journalist at Deutschlandfunk Kultur, headed the political consultancy of the German Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech) and is now head of communications at the mechanical engineering company Trumpf.

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Predatory fish · Virility · Humor · Deception · Soup · Loner

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