



Rights Guide Fall 2014

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NEW BOOKS – Fall 2014

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FICTION



Hanns Zischler

Das Mädchen mit den Orangenpapieren

The Girl with the Orange Paper

Novel – approx. 105 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-096-9

Hardcover (Galini)

Publication: September 2014

After her mother's death Elsa left Dresden for Bavaria with her father. It's the mid-1950s and life in an idyllic Bavarian village is very different from life in a city destroyed in the war. Although Elsa has only spent a short amount of time in the small town, she has already made some friends.

There's Pauli, with whom she travels to school; the teacher Kapuste, who assigns his students baffling riddles; and the fruit dealer who saves the exotic paper used to wrap oranges for Elsa. She had gotten the idea to collect the orange paper from Kapuste – perhaps because he suspected that she needed a place of refuge, and a bridge to help her talk about the things she had bottled up inside of her. When a new student joins the class, Elsa slowly and tentatively begins to experience a breakthrough...

Hanns Zischler's story is a literary gem with tremendous narrative power. Through the accuracy of his observations and his focus on detail, Hanns Zischler succeeds in capturing the atmosphere of a time when trauma and loss concealed a deeper dignity and strength.

A magnificent literary debut on memory, loss and moving on.

Hanns Zischler, born in 1947, has worked for many years as a publicist in addition to his career as an actor. His books include *Kafka Goes to the Movies* (1996), a work of research that was translated into many languages. His most recent books are *The Butterfly Case* (illustrated by Hanna Zeckau, 2010) and *Berlin is Too Big for Berlin* (2013). In 2013, Hanns Zischler was awarded the "Preis der Literaturhäuser".



© Julia Baier

BEAUTIFUL GIFT BOOKS

**Tilman Spreckelsen/Kat Menschik KALEVALA**

260 pages, first release August 2014

**The Finnish national epic retold by Tilman Spreckelsen
With illustrations by Kat Menschik (rights included)**

Published for the first time in the 19th century by Elias Lönnrot who travelled the remote Karelian woods gathering wisdom and stories from local Kantele singers and compiling them in one long epic poem, the Kalevala became the starting point of Finnish literature and its national epic.

In 2011, Tilman Spreckelsen and Kat Menschik traveled in Elias Lönnrot's footsteps to Finland and what is now once again Russian Karelia. Spreckelsen retells the story of the Kalevala (and Elias Lönnrot's search for it) in prose, and Kat Menschik provides magnificent illustrations to accompany this grand display of mythical stories.



© Kat Menschik

Tilman Spreckelsen works for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. He has edited many anthologies and books, including *The Arson of Örnolfsdalur* (2011), a retelling of the Icelandic sagas, illustrated by Kat Menschik. In 2014, Tilman Spreckelsen received the Fontane Prize.

Kat Menschik is a freelance illustrator. The feuilleton of the Sunday edition of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung owes its look to her. Many of the books illustrated by her have achieved cult status (e.g. Haruki Murakami's *Sleep*). Her most recent book published by Galiani in 2014 was *The Golden Cultivator: Major Moments and Minor Setbacks in the Gardening Year* which was selected by the Stiftung Buchkunst as one of the 25 most beautiful books of 2014.



© Kat Menschik

Kat Menschik DER GOLDENE GRUBBER

304 pages, first release March 2014

Selected as one of the 25 most beautiful books of 2014 / Fully illustrated (rights included)

The garden is like a family member. We invest a lot of energy, work and, above all, love in it. We experience its development. We make mistakes. There are setbacks. We learn; we start over. We fight. But we can't imagine life without it. The garden is a free spirit with a strong personality and it makes us happy. Kat Menschik opens the gates to her garden, unleashing a wild flood of images of snails, feathered parrot tulips, fire-bellied toads, blue liverwort, grass snakes bleeding fake blood, and countless other plants, animals, flowers, shrubs, grasses and hedges in an astounding range of styles. #



NON-FICTION



Karen Duve

Warum die Sache schiefgeht

Why This Isn't Working – How Egotists, Blockheads and Psychopaths Are Cheating Us out of a Future

Essay – approx. 128 pages
ISBN 978-3-86971-100-3
Hardcover (**Galiani**)

Publication: September 2014

**100,000 copies
sold of *Anständig
essen!***

“If you were to compare our cultural history with a car, then we’re not only driving with the emergency brake on, but also with flat tires, dirty spark plugs and defective steering. And now we’ve come to a standstill...” Karen Duve

In the age of climate change, species extinction, atomic bombs, overpopulation, multiresistant germs and unregulated financial markets, it’s a shame that the majority of politicians and economists calling the shots are the ones who are the least willing to take the long view. They ended up in their positions because they have qualities that, upon closer inspection, are also ideal for a life of crime: brutal assertiveness, a willingness to take risks, self-confidence and unlimited commitment. Nice, responsible and socially functional people don’t usually make it to the top management level. That’s a problem.

There’s no question that we are closer to a global collapse than most people believe. More economic growth may lead to more prosperity over the next few years, but in the long term, it just means more trash, more hunger, more tornados, more droughts and more flooding. A lot more flooding. Survive OR maintain our current lifestyle – those are the choices we now have.

Karen Duve puts her foot down and bombards her readers with facts that not only demonstrate how much more would have been possible in the hundreds of thousands of years of human history, but also that it’s finally time for the rest of us to take charge at the eleventh hour.

Karen Duve was born in 1961 in Hamburg and lives in Brandenburg. Her books have all been bestsellers, she has received many awards and her books have been translated into numerous languages. She has written the novels *Rain* (1999), *This Is Not a Love Song* (2005), *The Kidnapped Princess* (2005), *Taxi* (2008) and a non-fiction book, *Eating Decently* (2011), in which she tried various diets from vegetarian via vegan to fruitarian, thus triggering a broad discussion about our consumption habits. In the same year she went on a reading tour in Germany with Jonathan Safran Foer. Her most recent work is *Grrimm*, the retelling of the Brothers Grimm fairytales, published in 2012.



© Thomas Müller

NON-FICTION

**Werner Fuld****Eine Geschichte des sinnlichen Schreibens***A History of Sensual Writing*

Culture and Literature – approx. 440 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-098-3

Hardcover

Publication: September 2014**English sample translation available in due course**

“A man who reads discovers morality. A woman who reads forgets it – fortunately.” Voltaire

Today, erotic literature is mostly written by women for women. But that’s nothing new says Werner Fuld – erotic literature was always written primarily for women. And often by women. In the Italian Renaissance, courtesans wrote poetry – and were admired by their male colleagues. In liberal England around 1670, female authors like Aphra Behn delighted their audiences with comedies and frivolous novels. There were lessons on sexual independence and statements against the convention of marriage. Long before the Enlightenment, female authors influenced French salon culture and set the tone with their liberal ideas.

It was only after the French Revolution that bourgeois morality and puritanical Christian virtues regained the upper hand. Libertine works disappeared from bookshelves all over Europe – and their authors vanished from cultural memory. Sensual literature became an under-the-counter good and lost its emancipatory clout. Women have only recently rediscovered this field for themselves and, in the words of Erica Jong, lost their “fear of flying”.

On his journey, Werner Fuld highlights the full spectrum of the art of sensual writing. Packed with verve and seasoned with wit and irony, he presents his findings and recounts the captivating and highly convoluted history of erotic literature and its, in some cases, forgotten authors.

Werner Fuld was born in Heidelberg in 1947. He worked for many years as a literary critic for the FAZ and FOCUS, among others. He has published biographies of Walter Benjamin, Wilhelm Raabe and Niccolò Paganini, as well as books on cultural history, such as *The Education Lie* (2004). He also edited a volume of love letters from famous men and women, *I Kiss You From Head to Toe* (2000), and a volume of love letters between Marlene Dietrich and Erich Maria Remarque, *“Tell Me That You Love Me...”* (2001). His most recent book, *The Book of Forbidden Books*, was published in 2012 and rights have been sold to Korea, Poland and Spain.



© H. Fuld

BACKLIST

**Exner/Kapfer HIDDEN CHRONICLES 1914**

416 pages, first release June 2014

The year 1914 as seen from below: unprecedented glimpses of the everyday lives and emotional state of Germans through their private diaries. For almost a hundred years, they remained in private hands, unpublished – then they found their way into the German Diary Archive. Voices of simple soldiers and officers, and of those who stayed behind, mothers, lovers and children, medics, field ministers, workers in munitions factories, wives.

Through private accounts of individual destinies, *Hidden Chronicles 1914* recounts everything from the complicated lead-up to the war to the great euphoria that welcomed its outbreak, from the early victories to the first setback, when the war got bogged down in the West, in the trenches by Somme and Marne, and in the East.

**Tim Krohn THE LIFE OF A TOP-QUALITY MATTRESS**

128 pages, first release February 2014

The real protagonist of Tim Krohn's book is a mattress. Many destinies cross its path. In 1935, there's Immanuel Wassermann, who, on the occasion of his marriage, buys a mattress and, against the advice of his friends – he's Jewish – sets off for Berlin. Then there are Mirtha and Simon, who – it's the postwar period now – have only ever slept on spread-out newspapers. They pick up the mattress at the Red Cross bazaar and sleep so well that night that they decide the next morning to take a day off for the first time in a long while. And 30 years later, Giacomo Neri travels to a beach resort near Rome in the hopes of once again meeting the nameless woman to whom he once almost proposed. When he falls overboard during a fishing trip, the mattress, floating in the sea, saves him – for a while, at least – granting him one last night filled with dreams that reunite him with the beautiful stranger.

»What Tim Krohn composes here is sheer brilliance. [...] Masterfully, he evokes the spirit of the ever changing times through one object.« (Die Zeit)

Rights sold to: Italy (under negotiation)

**Sven Regener****MAGICAL MYSTERY or THE RETURN OF KARL SCHMIDT**

512 pages, first release September 2013

70,000 copies sold**English sample translation available**

Years after Karl Schmidt suffered a nervous breakdown and disappeared into depression on the day the Berlin Wall came down, his old pals stumble across him living in a rehab facility, which leads to an unusual collaboration. His old friends, who have achieved fame and fortune in the meantime, want to take their record label on tour in Germany to try to reconcile 90s rave culture with the hippie spirit of the 60s, and they need someone who will stay sober the whole time. This suits Karl Schmidt just fine since he's no longer interested in immersing himself in a parallel world of drug-using roommates, the role of assistant caretaker, and weekend trips ruled by group dynamics. And so begins a journey through a country in transition, undertaken by a handful of techno freaks and supervised by a psychologically fragile former artist, for whom this is supposed to be the path that leads him back to an independent life.

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