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For more information please contact:

Verlag Kiepenheuer & Witsch GmbH & Co. KG
Iris Brandt: ibrandt@kiwi-verlag.de
Aleksandra Eraković: aerakovic@kiwi-verlag.de

NEW BOOKS – Spring 2013

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Linus Reichlin

Das Leuchten in der Ferne
A Light in the Distance

Novel – approx. 320 pages
ISBN 978-3-86971-053-2
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

Publication: February 2013
English sample translation available

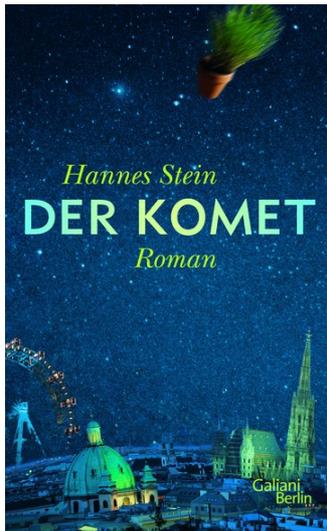
Moritz Martens, once an in-demand war reporter, hasn't received any new assignments in months. He's tired, his bank account is almost empty, his marriage fell apart many years ago and his affairs only make him feel lonelier. Then fate brings a woman into Martens' life – the fascinating and exotic Miriam Khalili. Her father had once fled Afghanistan, while she herself grew up in Berlin. Miriam tells Martens an incredible story. She knows of a young Afghan girl who moves through the mountains with a Taliban group dressed as a boy. The leader of the group is known well beyond the country's borders for his brutality and misogyny. It seems to be only a matter of time before the girl will be unmasked. To save herself, she is prepared to give an interview to the tune of 10,000 dollars. Through a contact, Miriam can arrange a meeting at a secret location.

But as they travel to Feyzabad, Martens already starts to have his doubts about the authenticity of the story. Miriam has quite obviously never been to Afghanistan and begins to contradict herself more and more. But Martens loves the unpredictable and gets caught up in the adventure in spite of all this. He cannot imagine how much his life will be changed by what awaits him in Afghanistan.

An adventurous novel about a war correspondent, love under extreme conditions and an addiction to danger.

Rights sold to:

Linus Reichlin was born in 1957 and lives and works as a freelance author in Berlin. His first novel, *Die Sehnsucht der Atome* (*The Desire of Atoms*) was awarded the 2009 German Crime Fiction Prize and nominated for best debut novel for the Friedrich Glauser Prize. His second novel, *Der Assistent der Sterne* (*The Stars' Assistant*), was published in 2010 and chosen as Science Book of the year in the entertainment category. His most recent novel was *Er (He)*, which capped off the Jensen trilogy in 2011. **Rights to his novels have been sold to Denmark, the Netherlands and Spain.**



Hannes Stein

Der Komet
The Comet

Novel – approx. 272 pages
ISBN 978-3-86971-067-9
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

Publication: February 2013

“I’m not daft – I’m going home.”

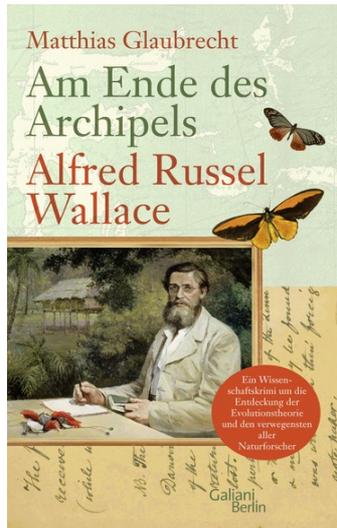
Had the heir to the Austrian throne, Franz Ferdinand, spoken these words on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo, after the first failed attempt on his life, before the second attempt proved to be successful, the world would have looked different – maybe like in this novel:

World War I never happened, without the First World War there is no Second – nor the Cold War, decolonisation or the clash with Islam. Instead America is a backward continent teeming with cowboys, gold-diggers and backwoodsmen and Europe maintains its position as the – predominantly monarchically ruled – measure of all things. Germany is mainly known for its engineers and Vienna is still the centre of the world.

This capital of the multi-national empire, this city abounding with Jews, psychoanalysts and Wiener Schmääh (the distinctive Viennese sense of humour) is where the young and somewhat simple protagonist gets involved in an affair with a socialite whose husband resides on the moon – a German colony – where he works in his capacity as Imperial and Royal Court Astronomer. Yet the news that he conveys from there is dramatic: a hurtling comet, on a direct collision course with Earth, is expected to strike in just a few months’ time.

Rights sold to :

Hannes Stein was born in Munich, grew up in Austria and has been living with his wife and child in the United States since he won in the green card lottery. In addition to his work as a culture journalist for various media outlets (FAZ, Spiegel, Die Welt – whose NY-correspondent he currently is), he has written several books, including *Endlich Nichtdenker (Non-Thinker, Finally!)*, *Immer Recht haben! (Always Be Right!)* and, together with Norman Manea, *Gespräche im Exil (Conversations in Exile)*. **Rights to his books have been sold to Finland, Korea and Romania.**



Matthias Glaubrecht

Am Ende des Archipels – Alfred Russel Wallace

At the End of the Archipelago – Alfred Russel Wallace

Biography – approx. 300 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-070-9

Hardcover (Galiani Berlin)

Publication: May 2013

The most daring of natural scientists – and first discoverer of evolutionary theory

His life was tremendously exciting, the range of his scientific research breathtaking, his social commitment legendary – and he discovered the principle of evolution. Compared to the cautious Charles Darwin, he was an Indiana Jones of the natural sciences and an Ernest Hemingway of natural description. Craters on the moon and on Mars, flying frogs and entire geographical regions have been named after him. So why do so few people know about him today?

On his first adventurous voyage, this school dropout and autodidact carried out research in Brazil for four years – but, on his way back, the ship caught fire in the middle of the ocean and sank. Wallace only managed to save his own life – his extraordinary scientific collection was lost.

His second expedition took him throughout the Malay Archipelago, where he singlehandedly collected 125,000 natural specimens, including over 1,000 previously undescribed animal and plant species. During the journey, he also developed a theory about the origin of species, which he wrote about in a letter to Charles Darwin. One year later, *On the Origin of Species* was published and Darwin became world famous – and has been considered the sole father of the theory of evolution ever since.

For some time now, a debate has been raging amongst experts: What some consider coincidence or the result of collaboration between two important scientists, others see as the most egregious case of plagiarism in the history of biology. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Wallace's death, Matthias Glaubrecht examines the facts and rumours surrounding the least well-known titan of the history of science.

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Matthias Glaubrecht is an evolutionary biologist at the Museum of Natural History in Berlin. In addition to writing numerous articles for newspapers and magazines (*Die Welt*, *Geo*) and consulting for films about scientists, he has authored several books, including a biography of Charles Darwin.



Hanns Zischler

Berlin ist zu groß für Berlin
Berlin is too big for Berlin

Cultural History / Travel – approx. 180 pages
ISBN 978-3-86971-071-6
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

Publication: March 2013

“Learning by walking” is his motto: For over forty years Hanns Zischler has been on the move through Berlin on foot or by bike and through time he has developed a particular view of the city and its history.

One observation stands out: this city that was once built on sand and swamp has always had a certain mixture of thirst for expansion, delusions of grandeur and the desire for self-destruction. Or how else can one describe it when almost all of the existing Baroque ensemble “Unter den Linden” falls prey to architect Schinkel’s plans? Or Hitler/Speer’s office and their Germania Plan – if the war had not happened, following their orders the demolition ball would have wreaked just as much havoc.

Hanns Zischler transports his readers into a less known Berlin, when he entangles his walks with the likes of the poet Gertrud Kolmar and the passport forger Oskar Huth, and looks through their eyes at a Berlin that has since disappeared.

He lets you feel the spirits and history of the city when he walks on the Teufelsberg where you only have to dig into the earth slightly to come across broken fragments, zinc plates and bricks – the remains of Berlin’s tenements destroyed in the war. Who knows what even larger secrets lie dormant within Teufelsberg?

Rights sold to:

Hanns Zischler, born in 1947, has worked for many years as a journalist beside his main profession as an actor. Among his many books, his research work *Kafka geht ins Kino* (*Kafka Goes to the Cinema*) has been translated into many languages. His latest book *Der Schmetterlingskoffer*, illustrated by Hanna Zeckau, was published in 2010.

CONTACT

Rights Director: Iris Brandt

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aerakovic@kiwi-verlag.de