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# FICTION



**Dirk Brauns**

**Die Unscheinbaren**

*The Inconspicuous Ones*

Novel – 280 pages  
ISBN 978-3-86971-188-1  
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication: February 2019**

**English sample translation available in due course**

**Every family has its secrets but only in few of them the parents turn out to be spies – a novel inspired by the author’s true family story**

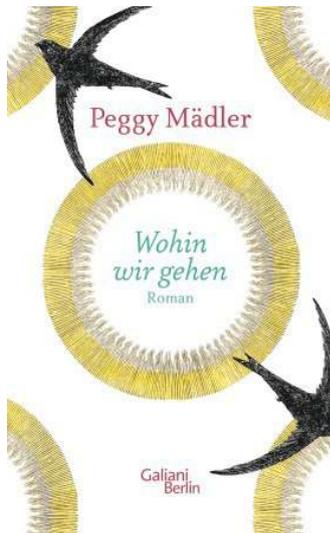
It is the turning point of his life: On a cold dark night in 1965, 18-year-old Martin Schmidt, has to watch as the Stasi arrests his parents: For many years, they had been working as spies for the West German Intelligence Service. For Martin, after that night, life in socialist East Germany is a living hell: He is bullied at school, mocked on the street, and his neighbors avoid the “traitor child.” Unable to bear the shame, his grandmother soon dies. When, years later, his mother is released, Martin follows her to the West – leaving behind the love of his life, Angelika...

Decades later, these traumatic experiences catch up with him and he decides to get to the bottom of his family’s story. When he immerses himself in the archival records, the world of intelligence agencies and dead drops, he discovers contradictions and inconsistencies that lead to shocking information about who betrayed his parents and who benefitted from it. Martin embarks on a journey to his roots, not least finding a way back to Angelika in the process.

**Dirk Brauns** was born in Berlin in 1968. He was a newspaper correspondent in Warsaw, Beijing and Minsk for many years before moving to the Munich area. In 2013, he published his debut novel *Im Inneren des Landes* (“In the Heart of the Country”). Its radio play adaptation was voted Radio play of the Month and the novel is currently being made into a movie. His second novel *Wir müssen dann fort sein* (“We Have to Be Gone Then”) came out in 2016.



© Jan Konitzki



**Peggy Mädler**

**Wohin wir gehen**  
*Where We're Going*

Novel – 224 pages  
ISBN 978-3-86971-186-7  
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication: February 2019**

**Some friendships last longer than countries – a touching novel about friendship, loyalty and belonging**

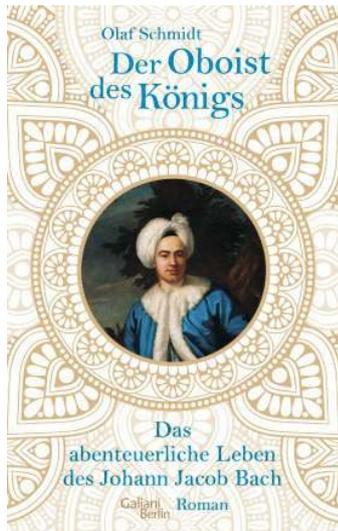
Almut and Rosa, two girls in 1940s Bohemia, are best friends. When Almut's father dies unexpectedly and her mother commits suicide, Rosa's mother, a German communist and anti-fascist, who, like all Germans after the war, is forced to leave Czechoslovakia, takes both girls with her to East Germany. They share experiences of loss and uprooting, but also a growing connection to the newly formed nation. Almut and Rosa become teachers and move to Berlin. But, at 30, Rosa decides to start all over yet again: Just a few months before the wall goes up, she hops on a subway to West Berlin with nothing but her handbag. Almut's world falls apart; she can no longer tell what's up and what's down, since she herself is in search of something that remains. Half a century later, Almut's daughter Elli has a best friend of her own, the dramatist Kristine. And, ultimately, it is she who takes care of Almut in her old age, when Elli gets a job at the theatre in Basel.

Experiences and memories settle like sediment. Life paths intertwine, between families and generations. A book about leaving, arriving or remaining – and about the moment you recognize what really matters.

**Peggy Mädler** was born in Dresden in 1976, studied theatre, education and cultural sciences in Berlin and earned a doctorate in cultural sciences in 2008. She works as a freelance dramatist and author and is a co-founder of the artists' group *Labor für kontrafaktisches Denken* (Laboratory for Counterfactual Thinking). From 2007 to 2009, she was a member of the founding board of LAFT Berlin, and she was involved in the theater collective *She She Pop*. Galiani Berlin published her first novel, *Legende vom Glück des Menschen* ("Legend of Man's Happiness"), in 2011.



© Jan Konitzki



**Olaf Schmidt**

**Der Oboist des Königs – Das abenteuerliche Leben des Johann Jacob Bach**

*The King's Oboist. The Adventurous Life of Johann Jacob Bach*

Novel – 544 pages  
ISBN 978-3-86971-185-0  
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication: March 2019**

**A novel about Johann Sebastian Bach's brother whose time in the service of the king of Sweden led him to Russia and to the Ottoman Empire where he discovered new musical worlds**

Their parents' early deaths leave Johann Jacob Bach and his brilliant little brother Johann Sebastian orphaned. Faster than anyone else in the extensive musical Bach family, Johann Sebastian manages to secure a lucrative position as choirmaster – Johann Jacob, on the other hand, opts out: He travels across the country as a wandering minstrel, meets Händel, Telemann and others, and becomes a member of the Collegium Musicum in Leipzig.

He is then swept up by the geopolitical upheavals that were shaking up all of Europe at the time: The reckless, adventurous king Charles XII of Sweden is conquering large swathes of Central Europe, including Saxony – and, through a twist of fate, Johann Jacob finds himself a regimental musician in the king's personal guard. As a result, he ends up in the Russian campaign, which collapses in the vast expanses of Russia amidst the Russian winter and ends with the devastating Battle of Poltava, in which the starving Swedish army is wiped out almost completely and the injured King Charles and his personal guard just barely manage to save themselves – escaping to Turkey, where the powerless and destitute Charles dreams of revenge and tries to cure his depression through music; and where the musician Johann Jacob Bach discovers new musical worlds.

**Olaf Schmidt** was born on the island of Föhr. Today, he lives in Leipzig, is editor of the Leipzig city magazine *Kreuzer* and an authority on music, literature and history – not just the Baroque. Among other books, he has published the novel *Friesenblut* ("Frisian Blood", 2006).



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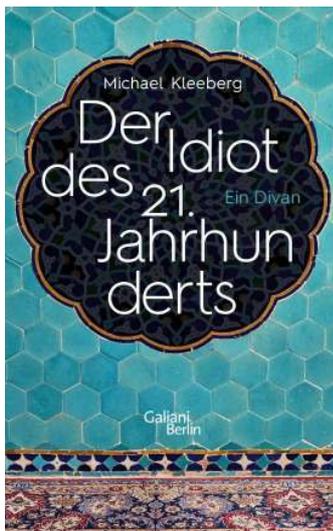
## BACKLIST LITERARY FICTION

**Karen Duve FRÄULEIN NETTE'S SHORT SUMMER**

592 pages, first release September 2018

**English sample translation available****SPIEGEL bestseller**

The mercilessly realistic account of Annette von Droste-Hülshoff's life story: Twenty-three years old, fierce, stubborn and sassy, Fräulein Nette is the black sheep that refuses to fit in with the herd of her aristocratic relatives. While her aunts and cousins sit dutifully by the fireplace embroidering, she ventures into the marl pits armed with a pickaxe to quarry for minerals. The hems of her dresses are basically perpetually soiled. But the worst thing is her sharp tongue. When her uncle August's artist friends visit to talk about art and politics, she weighs in, uninvited. The mere sight of her sends some men into a panic. She is an enfant terrible – though apparently not in everyone's eyes. Heinrich Straube, a brilliantly eccentric poet, for one, finds his best friend's niece extremely compelling. And his overtures to her in the family greenhouse remain anything but unreciprocated. But he isn't the only one. What ensues is a romantic catastrophe with a familial conflagration.

**Michael Kleeberg THE 21ST-CENTURY IDIOT**

464 pages, first release August 2018

**English and Arabic sample translations available****Recommended for translation by New Books in German**

In a kaleidoscopic novel composed of 12 books and inspired by classic oriental and occidental texts, Michael Kleeberg tells the stories of a group of friends from very different cultural backgrounds: Hermann, a German philosophy teacher; Maryam, an Iranian singer; Younes, a Lebanese pastor; Zygmunt, a Polish handyman; Bernhard, a director of an association for youth social work; Ulla, his wife; and Kadmos, an Arab poet.

Kleeberg's book is set in the West and in the East as well as in the realm of myths; he combines different points-of-view and genres into a big, multi-perspectival whole that does justice to the questions and insecurities of the present.

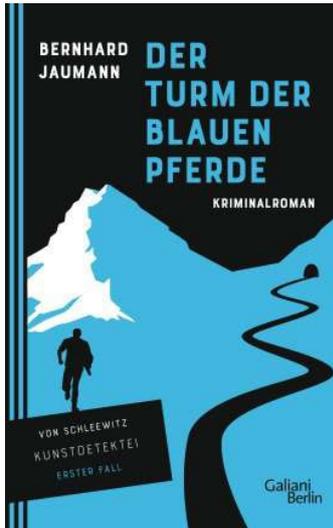
**Hilmar Klute WHAT FLIES SO NICELY AFTERWARDS**

368 pages, first release August 2018

Volker Winterberg works as a community service volunteer in a retirement home and writes poetry in his spare time. He dreams of becoming a poet like Peter Rühmkorf and the writers of Group 47. But, for now, he still has to spend the early mornings preparing his seniors for the day. He spends the rest of the time drinking, smoking and writing in bars, his nights often in strangers' beds. A short hitchhiking trip to Paris without money inspires him to write his best poems yet – and then he wins a chance to participate in a meeting for emerging writers in West Berlin. In the divided city, he meets Heiner Müller, the young, peculiar poet Thomas and, most importantly, Katja, who joins Volker on excursions to the Wall and writes him love letters after he returns home. When Volker travels to Berlin a second time, he embarks on a turbulent adventure with Katja and a convoluted Odyssey through the old West Berlin.

An atmospherically dense novel about the passion for literature and writing that paints a unique panorama of postwar German literature.

# CRIME/THRILLER



**Bernhard Jaumann**

**Der Turm der blauen Pferde**

*The Tower of Blue Horses*

Crime Novel – 336 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-141-6

Flexcover

**Publication: February 2019**

**English sample translation by John Reddick available**

**Recommended for translation by New Books in German**

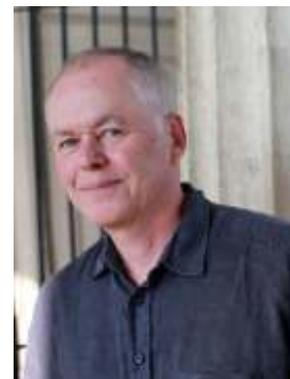
**An art detective agency sets out to discover the secret around Franz Marc's lost masterpiece *The Tower of Blue Horses***

A filthy rich art collector claims to have bought Franz Marc's legendary missing painting *The Tower of Blue Horses* from a mysterious stranger for only three million Euro. The painting had never been seen again since the Nazi's declared it "degenerate art" and it was made part of Göring's private property. Where has Marc's painting been since the Second World War? The art detective agency von Schleewitz is given the assignment of finding out whether the resurfaced painting is a fake or the real thing. If it was the original that would be a global sensation.

The team from the detective agency, Rupert von Schleewitz, Klara Ivanovic and Max Müller, not only lead completely different private lives – from daughters in the throes of teenage crises, to careless affairs with suspects, to an ageing action-artist father who causes tremendous headaches – but also have very distinct investigative methods. Soon, the three find themselves caught up in a web of forgeries, mysterious deaths and made-for-Hollywood art heists. And suddenly it seems that there are half a dozen copies of the painting. Which is the real one?

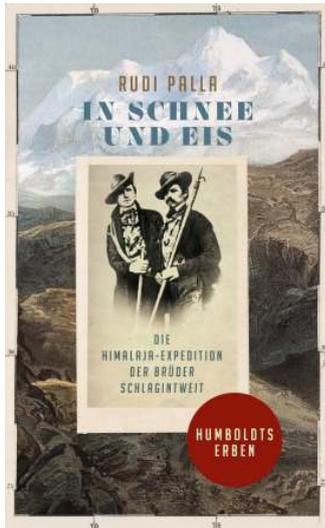
**Bernhard Jaumann**, born in Augsburg in 1957, worked as a high school teacher in Munich and currently lives in Bavaria and Italy. He has written several crime series, which have won multiple awards, including the Friedrich Glauser Prize for best German-language crime novel in 2003 and for best short story in 2008. In 2011, he won the German Crime Fiction Award for his novel *Die Stunde des Schakals* ("The Hour of the Jackal").

**Rights to his previous novels have been sold to France, Great Britain and Poland.**



© Heike Bogenberger

# NON-FICTION



## Rudi Palla

### In Schnee und Eis – Die Himalaja-Expedition der Brüder Schlagintweit

*In Snow and Ice. The Himalaya Expedition of the Mountaineering Brothers Schlagintweit*

Biography – 192 pages  
ISBN 978-3-86971-187-4  
Hardcover (Galiani Berlin)

**Publication: February 2019**

**The breathtaking adventure of three brothers who in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century led an expedition to the Himalaya**

The brothers Schlagintweit were protégés of Alexander von Humboldt and led an East India Company expedition to the Himalayas. They were the first Europeans to stand at the base of Nanga Parbat and the first people ever to scale a height of 6,785 meters, and they surveyed the country – and its people – with great precision. Disguised as locals, the brothers forged ahead into areas whose entry is under penalty of death – and one of them actually did pay for it with his life. Yet what they brought back from the expedition is impressive: 14,777 items in 510 wooden boxes – more material than they'd ever be able to appraise in their lifetimes. Yet the experts remained largely unmoved by their research; envious Brits ridiculed them and refused to take them seriously at all as researchers because of one mistake. Nevertheless, the brothers persisted: Virtually to their very last breath, they continued to take stock of and process the greatest adventure of their lives.

**Rudi Palla**, born in Vienna in 1941, works as a freelance writer. His publications include *Verschwundene Arbeit* (1994, new edition 2014), *Unter Bäumen. Reisen zu den größten Lebewesen* (2006), *Kurze Lebensläufe der Narren* (2008) and *Der Kapitän & der Künstler. Die Erforschung der Terra Australis* (2013), among others. Galiani Berlin recently published *Valdivia* (2016), in which he tells the story of the first German deep-sea expedition and its aftermath in a book that Frank Schätzing praised for being “as suspenseful as a thriller.” Rudi Palla was himself a mountain climber and is well versed in the subject.



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## BACKLIST NON-FICTION



### Marie Haller-Neverymann **BERLIN CLASSICISM AND ITS PROTAGONISTS AROUND 1800**

480 pages, first release March 2018

Marie Haller-Neverymann offers the first overview of Berlin's emerging urban culture around 1800.

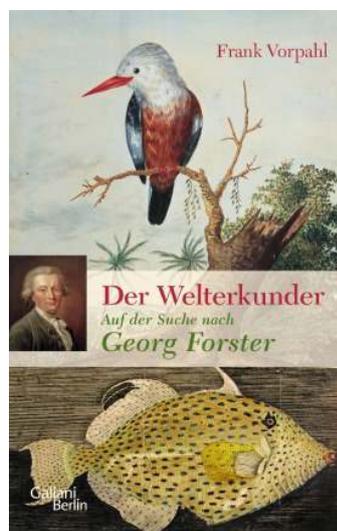
German classicism was much more than Goethe, Schiller and their satellites. Although Weimar, concentrated around the royal court, is generally known as its center, Berlin offered much greater freedom and dynamism for a multifaceted and self-searching bourgeois culture. It was in Berlin that the first national theater was built; that a lively salon and debate culture emerged, in which Jewish and Christian thinkers, merchants and officers and members of the bourgeoisie and aristocracy debated with each other in the spirit of the Enlightenment. And while intellectual life leveled off in Weimar with the death of the four greats (Goethe, Herder, Schiller and Wieland), a new generation was emerging with Wilhelm and Alexander von Humboldt, E.T.A. Hoffmann and Ludwig Tieck.



### Bruno Preisendörfer **A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME FROM 1950 TO TOMORROW**

260 pages, first release March 2018

In 1963, when the author set off to school for the first time, a rag to clean his slate dangling from his backpack, calculations were still done using a pencil and slide rule and everyone listened to music on the radio or LPs. Today, almost every member of the average family over the age of 12 owns a cell phone or tablet that can be used to make phone calls, take photographs, write, google, chat, stream and e-mail. Preisendörfer reviews the rapid changes his personal everyday life has undergone in just a few decades – sometimes with a touch of nostalgia and sometimes with wonder, but always with curiosity and the awareness that, before too long, every future will also have its past. With a sharp eye and stylistic finesse, the author also takes a closer look at what effect the respective cultural technologies have on their users and their social environment



### Frank Vorpahl **IN SEARCH OF GEORG FORSTER**

320 pages, first release April 2018

Georg Forster was a revolutionary, freethinker, naturalist and philosopher who sailed around the globe. His life was as dramatic as it was rich; already as a young man, he traveled with James Cook, joined in proclaiming the Republic of Mainz as a revolutionary and was forced to flee from the besieged city. It's no wonder that, against the background of these experiences, he saw the world differently in many ways than his contemporaries did. He died young in Paris – hollowed out by illness, while the terror of the guillotines raged around him. Frank Vorpahl has been studying Georg Forster intensively for 20 years. He researched in archives around the world and traveled systematically to the places where Forster went. He met with travel researchers such as Thor Heyerdahl, history and political buffs such as Klaus Harpprecht, biologists, ecologists, linguists, as well as fishermen on Easter Island, organic drug dealers on Tonga and the allegedly last remaining cannibals on Tanna. With a curiosity inspired by his role model, Vorpahl went to all these places in search of traces of Forster, discovering some astonishing things in the process.

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