



## **Rights Guide Fall 2010**

For more information please contact:  
Verlag Kiepenheuer & Witsch GmbH & Co. KG  
Iris Brandt  
Foreign Rights & Contracts  
Ph: +49-221-376 85 22 • Fax: +49-221-376-85 88  
E-mail: [ibrandt@kiwi-verlag.de](mailto:ibrandt@kiwi-verlag.de) • [www.kiwi-verlag.de](http://www.kiwi-verlag.de)

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## GALIANI BERLIN

### NEW BOOKS – Fall 2010

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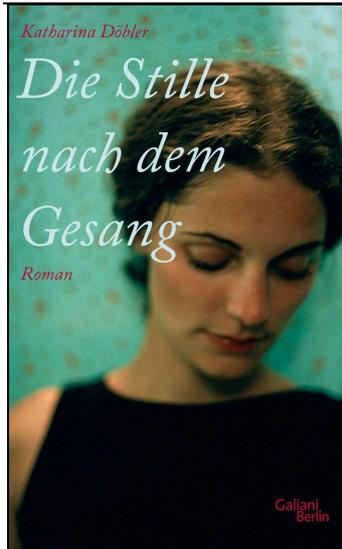
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# FICTION



**Katharina Döbler**

**Die Stille nach dem Gesang**  
*The Silence after the Singing*

Novel – approx. 256 pages  
ISBN 978-3-86971-021-1  
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication date: August 2010**

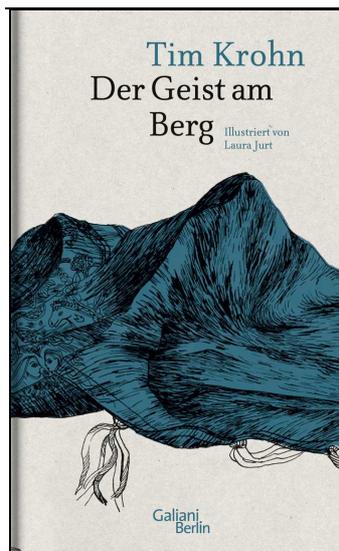
Falk Margraf is famous: as the recalcitrant offspring of a traditional and aristocratic Bayreuth family, he traded in Wagner for rock music, and composed a song which encapsulated and even shaped the zeitgeist of a rebellious generation. So it is hardly surprising that the young female singer Alex regards it as the chance of a lifetime when she runs into him in the early 80s and clearly catches his eye. Alex decides to abandon her attempt to scale the treacherous ladder of success in favour of a considerably more comfortable life with Falk.

Seventeen years later she is much the wiser: Falk is dead and she is sitting alone in Berlin with her two illegitimate children, nursing a fully-fledged trauma and devoid of any real purpose in life. She is now ostracised by Falk's sister, Isolde Margraf, who blames her for her brother's death; only Falk's mother, the head of the now heavily decimated Margraf clan, maintains contact with her. After all, Alex's daughter Wanda is her only grandchild.

In her exquisitely structured novel *The Silence After the Singing* Katharina Döbler presents a vivid portrait of an entire generation whose idealistic and rebellious principles became buried beneath endless pragmatic compromises and charts the downfall of an educated bourgeoisie elite which once represented Germany's cultural alternative aristocracy. A brilliant literary debut about a woman, who gives up everything for a man, and who, following his death, struggles to find her true identity.

**Rights sold to:**

**Katharina Döbler** was born in Gunzenhausen and graduated in theatre studies. She writes plays for radio and the stage, and works as a journalist for *Le Monde diplomatique* and as literary critic for *Die Zeit*. Katharina Döbler lives in Berlin.



**Tim Krohn**

**Der Geist am Berg**  
*The Ghost on the Mountain*

Novella – approx. 80 pages  
Illustrated by Laura Jurt  
ISBN 978-3-86971-022-8  
Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication date: July 2010**

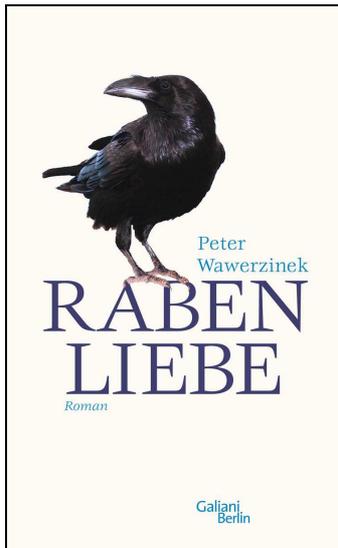
Stine lives high up in the Swiss alps on a rugged peak, together with her mother and the young lad Severin. Stine hates the valley, and wishes to remain on her Alpine mountain forever. She loves chasing the shadows as they creep over the ridges of an evening. But the mountain is eroding, pitching rubble down into the pastures below where grazing goats are frequently being crushed by huge boulders. To make ends meet, she takes a job in a bar in the nearby Grand Hotel. Here she runs into Bruno, who becomes captivated by her unrefined singing and almost feral wildness. When Bruno returns to his fiancé in Geneva, Stine takes the bus into the city for the very first time. Stine's attempt to cast off the shackles of her previous existence, in which she has remained trapped in another time, confronts her with feelings and emotions which hitherto were utterly alien to her. In her struggle to win over Bruno's heart, she draws on all the means at her disposal – and ultimately pays a bitter price.

The atmospheric novel relates the story of a headstrong young woman, couched in a language which is as evocative and as raw as the mountains on which Stine lives. Poignant and caustic in equal measure, he paints a picture of a mountain world which appears to lie in the past. *The Ghost on the Mountain* is like a modern fairytale, a love affair as turbulent as a mountain storm by the bestselling Swiss author Tim Krohn.

**Rights sold to:**

**Tim Krohn** has won numerous awards and academic grants. He lives in Zurich. Since the first release of his novel "Quatemberkinder" (Eichborn, 1998) he has achieved cult status in Switzerland. His book "Vrenelis Gärtli" topped the Swiss bestseller list. His last novel "ans Meer" was published in 2009 by Galiani Berlin.

**Laura Jurt** was born in 1979 and graduated from the College for Design and Art in Lucerne. She lives and works as a free-lance illustrator in Zurich. Rights for the illustrations are with Kiepenheuer & Witsch.



**Peter Wawerzinek**

**Rabenliebe**

*Motherless Child*

Novel / Memoir – approx. 300 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-020-4

Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Sample translations available in Croatian, Czech, English, French, Italian, Spanish and Slovenian**

**Publication date: August 2010**

Her absence appeared to him a black hole, the all-consuming negative pole in the life of Peter Wawerzinek. How could his mother have treated him this way, deserting him as a small child in the GDR when she fled to the West? Passed around various children's homes, the young boy remained mute until his fourth year. Painfully shy, he sought solace by listening to the birds, lying on his back, tweeting and chirping as he imitated their calls. But where was his home? Where were his roots? Where did he belong? He didn't discover he had a sister until he was 14 years old. No one had thought to tell him, not even his unbeloved adoptive mother. As a border guard in the GDR, he attempted to flee to the West, but turned back just as he had passed the frontier fence. Did he really want to meet those who had abandoned him and broken off all contact with him?

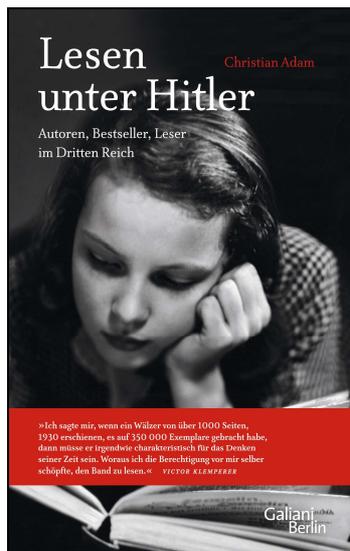
Throughout his life Peter Wawerzinek had struggled to come to terms with his motherless existence and with the question of why his mother abandoned him as an orphan in the GDR. When, many years after the wall had come down, he visited her, the larger-than-life image he had constructed of his mother throughout the intervening decades failed to match reality. It was to be their one and only meeting. This is the shattering account of a motherless child struggling with his loss.

**Rights sold to:**

**Peter Wawerzinek** was born in 1954 in Rostock. Since 1988 he has worked as a freelance writer, director, radio dramatist and singer. He won the Berlin Prize for Literature (1991), and the Radio Prize of the Berlin Academy of the Arts (1993).

***Motherless Child* won the renowned Ingeborg-Bachmann-Prize and the Audience Award in Klagenfurt in 2010.**

# NON-FICTION



**Christian Adam**

**Lesen unter Hitler. Autoren, Bestseller, Leser im Dritten Reich**

*Reading Under Hitler. Authors, Bestsellers and Readers in the Third Reich*

History / Literature – approx. 300 pages

ISBN 978-3-86971-027-3

Hardcover (Galiani Berlin)

**Publication date: August 2010**

It is not surprising to learn that under Hitler “Mein Kampf” was to be found in the bookshelves of millions of German households, or that a book entitled “Darüber lache ich noch heute. Soldaten erzählen heitere Geschichten” (*I’m still laughing about it today. Soldiers tell amusing stories*) sold over 2 million copies. But who could have imagined that Huxley’s “Brave New World” was freely available during the thirties, or that “Wind, Sand and Stars” by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, who as a pilot was actively involved in fighting the Nazis, proved to be a great success during the war, and escaped censorship. Writers such as Lichtenberg, Rilke, Goethe and even Ernst Jünger were also widely read.

Despite the persecution of countless authors, despite the book burnings and the literary blacklists, the book industry experienced a veritable boom in war-time Germany. But what did the Germans really read?

Christian Adam examines the conditions under which books were written during the Nazi dictatorship and how – in the face of opposition from the regime’s leadership – they became bestsellers, and he discusses which books were actually read. He identifies the political institutions and the key protagonists who wrestled for control of the book industry, compiles a survey of bestsellers during the darkest epoch of German history, opens up a new perspective on the mentality of the German population between 1933 and 1945 and sheds light on a forgotten chapter of German cultural history.

**Rights sold to:**

**Christian Adam** studied German literature and journalism at Berlin Free University. Since 2007 Adam has been Head of First Releases in the Department of Education and Research at the Office of the Federal Commissioner for the Records of the GDR Ministry for State Security in Berlin.



**Karen Duve**

**Anständig essen**  
**Wie ich versuchte, ein besserer Mensch zu werden**

*Eating Properly*  
*How I tried to become a better person.*

Ethics / Ecology – approx. 280 pages  
 ISBN 978-3-86971-028-0  
 Hardcover (Galiani Berlin)

**Publication date: January 2011**

*The most pressing question at the beginning of my 'organic phase' was: can I continue to drink Coke Light? I assumed I could. After all, Coke Light is made up exclusively of chemicals which renders the issue of organic content entirely redundant.*

Karen Duve hardly qualifies as a health freak: Sausages and jellybabies were a permanent fixture in her shopping trolley, alongside bars of chocolate and 1-litre-bottles of curry-flavoured ketchup. Then she moved in together with someone, who quickly earned the nickname of Jiminy Cricket – after the personified conscience of the wooden puppet Pinocchio. For Jiminy would cry out in protest whenever Karen Duve reached for the Grilled Chicken dish for 2.99. Consequently, whenever she stood in front of the deep-freeze cabinet she was plagued by a catalogue of ethical questions: Should we really be eating animals? And if not animals, then what about plants? Where does human empathy begin, and why? What are we prepared to sacrifice out of consideration for our fellow creatures? And can we even derive some personal benefit from altering our eating habits?

Eventually Karen Duve decided to find out for herself: Since then she has been experimenting with different, ethically-sound dietary regimes for two months at a time: organic, vegetarian, vegan and finally even fruitarian, i.e. eating only what the plants yield "voluntarily". At the same time, she began analysing the underlying weltanschauung – which led inexorably to verbal battles with Jiminy Cricket.

Uncompromising, embellished with her typical bone-dry humour and free of any ideological constraints, in *Eating Properly* she explores the question of "How far can I indulge myself at the expense of others"?

**Rights sold to:**

**Karen Duve**, born 1961 in Hamburg, lives with a mule, a horse, a donkey, two cats, and two chickens in the rural region of Northern Germany. She has garnered many prizes for her work. Her novels "Regenroman" (1999), "Dies ist kein Liebeslied" (2002), "Die entführte Prinzessin" (2005) and "Taxi" (2008), all published by Eichborn, have become bestsellers and have been translated into 14 languages.



**Hannes Stein**

**Tschüß Deutschland!**  
**Aufzeichnungen eines Ausgewanderten**  
*Bye Bye, Germany!*  
*Reflections of an Ex-Pat*

Travelogue – approx. 204 pages  
 ISBN 978-3-86971-026-6  
 Hardcover (**Galiani Berlin**)

**Publication date: August 2010**

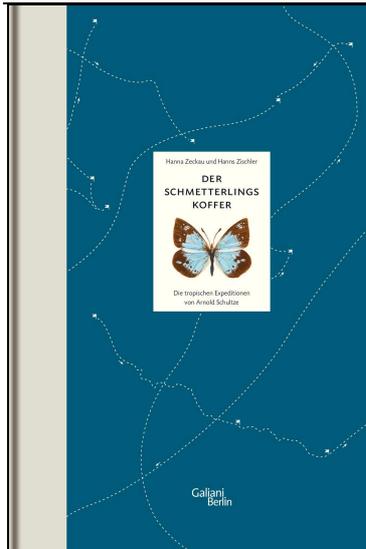
Imagine someone took part in the US lottery for a greencard. He subsequently forgets all about it and hears nothing more until one day he receives a phone call informing him that he can have a US passport, but only under one condition: to genuinely emigrate. Most people would react with wry bemusement, shrug their shoulders, consign the incident to memory as an amusing anecdote and simply get on with their lives. After all: who would be prepared to up sticks and abandon job, friends and apartment on a whim?

Well, Hannes Stein did. Three years ago – during his midday nap – he received news that he had won the green card lottery. Having already earned the reputation of an intrepid writer, Stein then morphed into a fearless “beginner immigrant” overnight. In the meantime he has an apartment in Manhattan, and everything is different. Really *different*. For nothing Stein that had previously read or heard about America matched reality. Or rather: nothing and everything was as he had imagined.

With the unswerving impartiality of an ethnologist, Hannes Stein has slowly acclimatised himself to his new world: he has learned the daily rituals of an unfamiliar environment, observed the more extreme forms of American politics (he witnessed Barack Obama’s election victory in Sarah Palin’s home state of Alaska), researched, as a participating observer, the country’s history and religion. And in the process, he has made some fascinating discoveries, also in respect of what he has left behind. For his native country continues to serve as a benchmark and surprise him in many ways.

**Rights sold to:**

**Hannes Stein** was born 1965 in Munich and grew up in Salzburg. He wrote for *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Der Spiegel* and *Die Literarische Welt*. In the summer of 2007, Hannes Stein emigrated to New York, where he lives and works as a journalist and author. His previous books were published by Eichborn.



**Hanna Zeckau & Hans Zischler**

**Der Schmetterlingskoffer**  
*The Butterfly Case*

History / Natural Science / Book Art – 256 pages  
Four-colour layout, over 150 illustrations of original butterflies  
ISBN 978-3-86971-024-2  
Hardcover

**Publication date: September 2010**

The Natural Science Museum in Berlin in 2006: Hanna Zeckau and Hans Zischler discover an abandoned sea-trunk, filled with butterflies –some 8,000 in all, originating from the Colombian Highlands, each more beautiful than the next and packed into hundreds of cigar boxes. Further enquires reveal that the trunk once belonged to the German explorer Arnold Schultze, who during the 1920s and 30s embarked on a research trip across South America – and whose entire collection and research findings sunk in 1939. Schultze himself was interned on the island of Madeira, and after his death in 1948 was completely forgotten by the world. And with him the butterfly suitcase which had been sent ahead on a different ship.

Their curiosity aroused, Hanns Zischler and Hanna Zeckau then dedicated themselves to salvaging this scientific flotsam. With meticulous care they unfolded the sheets of paper between which the butterflies had been preserved, and began to immerse themselves in Schultze's world by studying his diaries, notes and essays. In the process, they made the acquaintance of an extraordinary explorer and writer who through his unique powers of observation passed on his infectious fascination with foreign countries, plants and animals. In this exquisitely designed, four-coloured volume, Hans Zischler and Hanna Zeckau unveil to the reader a sensational find – and with it the life and work of a great explorer and butterfly collector.

**Rights sold to:**

**Hanna Zeckau**, born in 1978, is a graphic designer and illustrator. In collaboration with Carsten Aermes, she published in 2007 "Brehms verlorenes Tierleben" which in 2008 won the bronze medal in the category "Best book design from all over the world – International Competition" and was awarded a prize by the Stiftung Buchkunst as "one of the most beautiful books of 2007".

**Hanns Zischler**, born in 1947, has worked for many years as a publicist, whilst pursuing his profession as an actor for TV and film. In 2009 he received the Heinrich-Mann-Prize from the Berlin Academy of Arts.