

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



© Jürgen Bauer

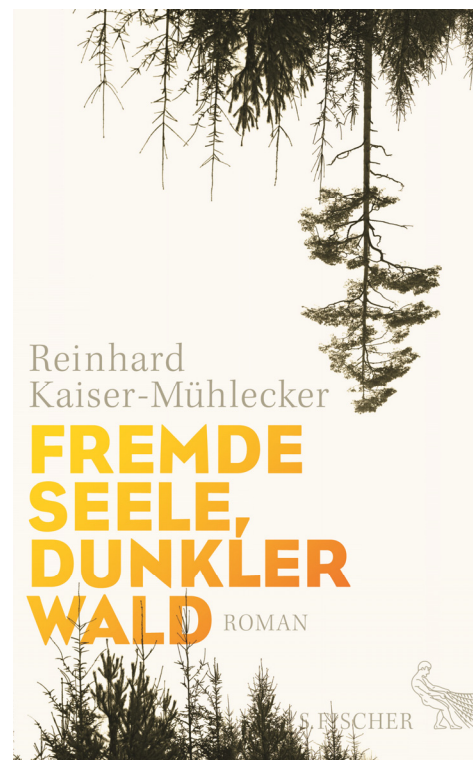
Reinhard Kaiser-Mühlecker
Fremde Seele, dunkler Wald
(Dark Forest, foreign Soul)
S. Fischer Verlag

Jury evaluation

Reinhard Kaiser-Mühlecker's characters are prisoners of their origins, their language. You can't escape your past, and the lack of alternatives in your circumstances consumes the urge to flee from the present. Kaiser-Mühlecker's characters are searching for redemption, without knowing it. External transformation occurs faster than the internal readiness for it. The result is helplessness, muteness. Kaiser-Mühlecker demonstrates a virtuosic ability to create literature from this in a profoundly Austrian way.

Biography

Reinhard Kaiser-Mühlecker, born in 1982, studied agriculture, history and international development in Vienna. His debut novel "Der lange Gang über die Stationen" was published in 2008. Most recently, he published "Zeichnungen. Drei Erzählungen" (2015). His work has received numerous awards, including the Jürgen Ponto Foundation Prize, the Berlin Art Prize, the Austrian State Prize and the Literaturpreis des Kulturkreises der deutschen Wirtschaft (Literature Prize of the Cultural Circle of the German Economy), among others.



Press contact and interview requests:

Julia Giordano
Phone: +49 (0)69 / 6062-202
E-Mail: julia.giordano@fischerverlage.de

Foreign Rights:

Myriam Alfano
Phone: +49 (0)69 / 6062 370
E-Mail: rights@fischerverlage.de

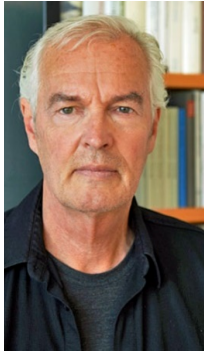
www.fischerverlage.de

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



© Laura J Gerlach

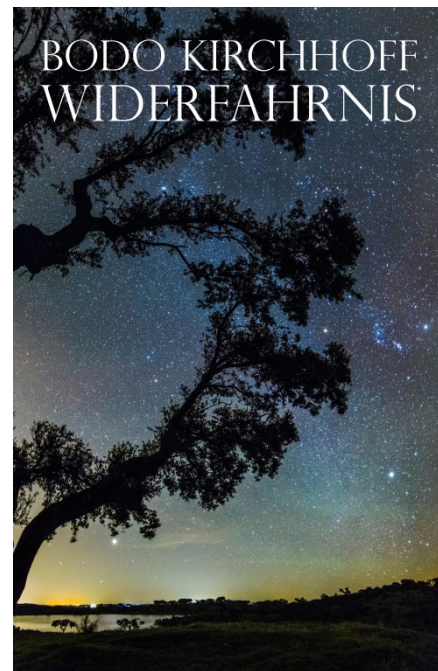
Bodo Kirchhoff
Widerfahrnis (Encounter)
Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt

Jury evaluation

"Boy meets girl" can happen at an advanced age. Anything is possible, even late great love, as former publisher Reither and former hat-shop owner Palm spontaneously get into a car and head south in the middle of the night on which they first met. A moment of truth for two people, whom wisdom and experience have made radical enough to risk everything. Bodo Kirchhoff is a great storyteller, whose precision stimulates rather than satiates the reader's imagination. In this linguistically virtuoso, humanely touching and yet unpretentious work of prose, he successfully creates a connection – entirely improbable yet literarily necessary – between a melancholy love story and the anything but romantic reality of present-day Europe. A flawless book.

Biography

Bodo Kirchhoff, born in 1948, lives in Frankfurt am Main and on Lake Garda. Most recently, the Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt published his novels "Verlangen und Melancholie" (2014) and "Die Liebe in groben Zügen" (2012).



FRANKFURTER VERLAGSANSTALT

Press contact and interview requests:

Anne Michaelis
Phone: +49 (0)69 / 74 30 55 96
E-Mail: michaelis@frankfurter-verlagsanstalt.de

Foreign Rights:

Nadya Hartmann
Phone: +49 (0)69 / 74 30 55 97
E-Mail: hartmann@frankfurter-verlagsanstalt.de

www.frankfurter-verlagsanstalt.de

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



André Kubiczek

Skizze eines Sommers (A Sketch of Summer)

Rowohlt Berlin

© Susanne Schleyer /
autorenarchiv.de

Jury evaluation

"Skizze eines Sommers" is a late-era-GDR novel and panorama of the period – presented using the techniques of young adult novels for adults. With the knowledge of maturity, we read about the troubles of youth. There is a magic inherent in youth that never emerges again later in life. In passing, we learn about two social classes in the former German Democratic Republic: the privileged and the common people. The protagonist tells his story ever so innocently – which is exactly the book's narrative approach as well. A lightly told coming-of-age story with wonderfully drawn characters. A lovely book, full of wit and depth, that is a pleasure to read.

Biography

André Kubiczek, born in Potsdam in 1969, lives and works as a freelance writer in Berlin. In 2002, he published the novel "Junge Talente" and, in 2003, "Die Guten und die Bösen". They were followed by "Oben leuchten die Sterne", "Kopf unter Wasser" and "Der Genosse, die Prinzessin und ihr lieber Herr Sohn". In 2007, André Kubiczek won the Candide Prize. Most recently, he published "Das fabelhafte Jahr der Anarchie" (2014).



Press contact and interview requests:

Wendy Kerstan

Phone: +49 (0)40 / 7272-428

E-Mail: wendy.kerstan@rowohlt.de

Foreign Rights:

Gertje Berger-Maaß

Phone: +49 (0) 40 / 7272-222

E-Mail: gertje.maass@rowohlt.de

www.rowohlt.de

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



© Dagmar Morath

Thomas Melle

Die Welt im Rücken (The World at Your Back)

Rowohlt Berlin

Jury evaluation

This book talks about the vulnerable human condition in our day and age. This book hurts, disturbs and is incredibly funny at times. Thomas Melle reports on the illness of his mental disorder. With will-o'-the-wispy precision, he describes his self, gone mad amidst neuronal fireworks. He congenially translates the insane heightened awareness of his paranoid psychosis into magnificent literature. In chronicling his manic-depressive episodes, which drive him through clubs, concert halls and clinics, Melle also – almost incidentally – paints an atmospheric picture of the pop-culture present.

Biography

Thomas Melle, born in 1975, studied comparative literature and philosophy in Tübingen, Austin (Texas) and Berlin. He is the author of frequently performed plays and the translator of, among others, William T. Vollmann's novel "Whores for Gloria". His debut novel "Sickster" (2011) was nominated for the German Book Prize and won the Franz Hessel Prize. In 2014, he followed it up with the novel "3000 Euro", which was shortlisted for the German Book Prize. In 2015, Thomas Melle, who lives in Berlin, won the Berlin Art Prize.



Press contact and interview requests:

Regina Steinicke

Phone: +49 (0)40 7272-234

E-Mail: regina.steinicke@rowohlt.de

Foreign Rights:

Gertje Berger-Maaß

Phone: +49 (0) 40 / 7272-222

E-Mail: gertje.maass@rowohlt.de

www.rowohlt.de

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



© Markus Gmeiner

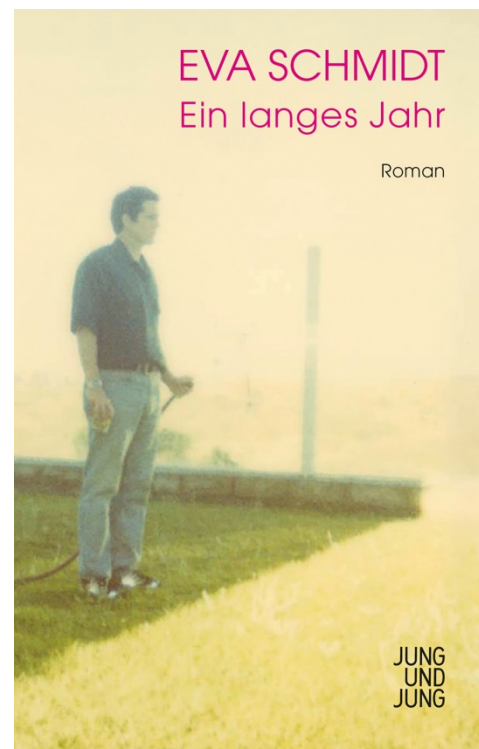
Eva Schmidt
Ein langes Jahr (A Long Year)
Jung und Jung

Jury evaluation

It has been 19 years since the multiple award-winning author based in Bregenz last published a book. And now she presents this slim novel. In 38 episodes, she writes from different perspectives about the inhabitants of her city. There are children, old people, single women, a homeless man. Relationships between these figures loom and then only materialise delicately or not at all; plans are not carried out or fail; everything here happens quietly, and time and again Lake Constance sparkles through it all. The writing is restrained, not a single word superfluous. This melancholy text requires attention – for which, however, the reader is richly rewarded.

Biography

Eva Schmidt, born in 1952, lives in Bregenz, Austria. In addition to short stories in various newspapers and magazines, she has published three books, most recently "Zwischen der Zeit" (1997). She is the recipient of various grants and literary prizes, including the Rauriser Literature Prize (1986), the Hermann Hesse Förderpreis (advancement award) (1988) and the Nicolas Born Prize (1989). "Ein langes Jahr" is her first book in almost 20 years.



Press contact and interview requests:

Anna Jung
Phone: +49 (0)171 52 77 946
E-Mail: anna.jung@jungundjung.at

Foreign Rights:

Dr. Jochen Jung
Phone: +43 (0)662 / 88 50 48
E-Mail: office@jungdunjung.at

www.jungundjung.at

German Book Prize 2016

The Novel of the Year

Shortlist-Nominee

2016
deutscher
buch
preis 



© Kat Kaumann

Philipp Winkler
Hool (Hool)
Aufbau Verlag

Jury evaluation

Heiko Kolbe is a hero unlike any other in literature so far. He comes from a broken background, but has a surrogate family: a gang of thugs who believe unequivocally in the purifying power of brawling. Heiko is a hooligan. Football? Doesn't matter. What matters is physically letting off steam, group solidarity, reliability, the unwritten rules of drubbing. In vivid scenes, Philipp Winkler describes the lust for life and adrenaline of the "Hools", and a culture of violence in which outsiders find their language. With this cracking debut, Winkler has succeeded in writing a novel about a subculture that doesn't glamorise anything and is tough, sad and sometimes funny too.

Biography

Philipp Winkler, born in 1986, grew up in Hagenburg near Hannover. He studied creative writing in Hildesheim and now lives in Leipzig. He spent time abroad in Kosovo, Albania, Serbia and Japan. His work has appeared in literary magazines and anthologies, and, in 2008, he received the Joseph Heinrich Colbin Prize and, in 2015, the Literaturhaus (House of Literature) Graz's Retzhof Prize for literature by young authors for excerpts from "Hool". "Hool" is his first novel.



Press contact and interview requests:

Silke Ohlenforst
Phone: +49 (0)30 28394231
E-Mail: ohlenforst@aufbau-verlag.de

Foreign Rights:

Inka Ihmels
Phone: +49 (0)30 / 28394-123
E-Mail: ihmels@aufbau-verlag.de

www.aufbau-verlag.de