

## *Eugen Ruge In Zeiten Des Abnehmenden Lichts*

Facharbeit (Schule) aus dem Jahr 2012 im Fachbereich Germanistik - Neuere Deutsche Literatur, Note: 10 Punkte, , Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Die Bewohner der ehemaligen DDR sind heute oft geteilter Meinung über die damaligen Verhältnisse. Einige bagatellisieren den Einfluss der Partei auf den Alltag, beispielsweise in Form der Überwachung durch die Staatssicherheit, und die fragwürdige Demokratie regelrecht, während andere die Verhältnisse dämonisieren. Das liegt wohl vor allem an den individuellen Erinnerungen der berichtenden Personen. Im Gegensatz zu dieser differenzierten Betrachtungsweise sehen die meisten Westdeutschen die DDR häufig nur als Unrechtsstaat, da oft lediglich über die doch recht willkürlich erscheinende Herrschaft gesprochen wird, und somit das Alltagsleben der „normalen“ Bürger, das sich größtenteils wohl gut mit dem der Bürger in der BRD vergleichen ließe, komplett vernachlässigt wird. In der Unterhaltungsliteratur sind Geschichten, die in der DDR spielen, ein beliebtes und ebenso weitgefächertes Thema. Eugen Ruges Roman „In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts“, für den er den Deutschen Buchpreis, Aspekte-Literaturpreis und Alfred-Döblin-Preis erhielt, beschreibt ein weites Panorama einer Familie, deren verschiedene Generationen den Weg von vollster Unterstützung der Partei und des Staates bis hin zur Flucht in den Westen gehen. Dies bietet eine Vielzahl an Darstellungsmöglichkeiten, die im Folgenden mit Ausführungen der Fachliteratur verglichen und auf ihre Plausibilität geprüft werden, wobei der Schwerpunkt des ersten Teils auf ausgewählten Themen, der des zweiten Teils auf dem vermittelten Gesamtbild von Herrschaft und Alltag liegt. The Britannica Book of the Year 2012 provides a valuable viewpoint of the people and events that shaped the year and serves as a great reference source for the latest news on the ever changing populations, governments, and economies throughout the world. It is an accurate and comprehensive reference that you will reach for again and again.

This book examines the ways in which fiction has addressed the continent since the Second World War. Drawing on novelists from Europe and elsewhere, the volume analyzes the literary response to seven dominant concerns (ideas of Europe, conflict, borders, empire, unification, migration, and marginalization), offering a ground-breaking study of how modern and contemporary writers have participated in the European debate. The sixteen essays view the chosen writers, not as representatives of national literatures, but as participants in transcontinental discussion that has occurred across borders, cultures, and languages. In doing so, the contributors raise questions about the forms of power operating across and radiating from Europe, challenging both the institutionalized divisions of the Cold War and the triumphalist narrative of continental unity currently being written in Brussels.

This study reverses the question implicit in title of Christa Wolf's now-canonical 1990 novella *Was bleibt* (What remains), looking instead at what was lost during the process of German reunification. It argues that, in their work during and after the *Wende*, most literary authors from both East and West Germany responded ambivalently to the reunification. Many felt, on the one hand, a keen sense of loss as the GDR dissolved and an expanded Federal Republic summarily absorbed former Eastern Germany. They mourned the ideals of democratic socialism, tolerance, and internationalism that the GDR had held dear, as well as the country's rich cultural life. On the other hand, however, they recognized that the GDR was a fundamentally corrupt surveillance state whose industry weighed heavily on the environment while failing to buoy the country's economy. By looking at works by some of the most important authors from either side of the border, this study shows that those who unequivocally embraced the reunification were clearly in the minority.

Werte und Paradigmen zwischen Wandel und Kontinuität

Theaterstück

Parallel Stories

The Valley of Unknowing

Theory and Research

A Novel

Staging West German Democracy

**Employs research on the GDR's healthcare system along with feminist and queer theory to get at socialism's legacy, revealing a specifically East German literary convention: employment of "symptomatic female bodies" to either enforce or rebel against political and social norms.**

**This collection arises from the Fifth International Scientific Conference, "Language and Speech in Synchrony and Diachrony", held in Taganrog, Russia, devoted to the memory of Russian linguist and philosopher Professor P.V. Chesnokov. It examines the functioning of different levels of linguistic units and categories of speech with regard to intra-and cross-cultural communication in pragmatics of speech. The theory of language and speech is represented not only in synchrony, but in diachrony, in the comparative and typological aspects of languages from various groups, including non-literate Yenisei languages. A further subject of discussion within is the problem of translation, and the relation of language and speech, text and discourse. The volume consists of six parts: Part I: Language and its grammatical categories in diachronic aspect; Part II: Grammar and other subsystems of the language; Part III: Cross-cultural communication and translation; Part IV: Problems of linguistic and diachronic typology; Part V: Pragmalinguistics and speech; and Part VI: Text, discourse, speech in anthropocentric paradigm. The book will be of interest to scholars of philology, linguistics, culture and humanities, as well as those interested in issues of language, culture and language teaching methods.**

**An enthrallingly expansive family saga set against the backdrop of the collapse of East German**

**communism, from a major new international voice \* Over 450,000 copies sold in Germany alone \* Rights sold in 20 countries \* Winner of the German Book Prize \* A PW "First Fiction" pick \* In Times of Fading Light begins in September 2001 as Alexander Umnitzer, who has just been diagnosed with terminal cancer, leaves behind his ailing father to fly to Mexico, where his grandparents lived as exiles in the 1940s. The novel then takes us both forward and back in time, creating a panoramic view of the family's history: from Alexander's grandparents' return to the GDR to build the socialist state, to his father's decade spent in a gulag for criticizing the Soviet regime, to his son's desire to leave the political struggles of the twentieth century in the past. With wisdom, humor, and great empathy, Eugen Ruge draws on his own family history as he masterfully brings to life the tragic intertwining of politics, love, and family under the East German regime.**

**Issues for Nov. 1957- include section: Accessions. Aanwinste, Sept. 1957- After the Stasi**

**F  
Vergegenwärtigte Vergangenheiten im beginnenden 21. Jahrhundert  
von Eugen Ruge**

**Das Bild der DDR in Literatur, Film und Internet**

**Emotionale Erinnerung in der deutschen und polnischen Gegenwartsliteratur  
In Times of Fading Light**

Nach dem internationalen Erfolg von "In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts" kehrt Eugen Ruge zurück zur Geschichte seiner Familie - in einem herausragenden zeitgeschichtlichen Roman. Moskau, 1936. Die deutsche Kommunistin Charlotte ist der Verfolgung durch die Nationalsozialisten gerade noch entkommen. Im Spätsommer bricht sie mit ihrem Mann und der jungen Britin Jill auf zu einer mehrwöchigen Reise durch die neue Heimat Sowjetunion. Die Hitze ist überwältigend, Stalins Strände sind schmal und steinig und die Reisenden bald beherrscht von einer Spannung, die beinahe körperlich greifbar wird. Es verbindet sie mehr, als sich auf den ersten Blick erschließt: Sie sind Mitarbeiter des Nachrichtendienstes der Komintern, wo Kommunisten aller Länder beschäftigt sind. Umso schwerer wiegt, dass unter den "Volksfeinden", denen gerade in Moskau der Prozess gemacht wird, einer ist, den Lotte besser kennt, als ihr lieb sein kann. "Metropol" folgt drei Menschen auf dem schmalen Grat zwischen Überzeugung und Wissen, Loyalität und Gehorsam, Verdächtigung und Verrat. Ungeheuerlich ist der politische Terror der 1930er Jahre, aber mehr noch: was Menschen zu glauben imstande sind. "Die wahrscheinlichen Details sind erfunden", schreibt Eugen Ruge, "die unwahrscheinlichsten aber sind wahr." Und die Frau mit dem Decknamen Lotte Germaine, die am Ende jenes Sommers im berühmten Hotel Metropol einem ungewissen Schicksal entgegensieht, war seine Großmutter.

Why did so many citizens of the GDR agree to collaborate with the Stasi? Reading works of literature since German unification in the light of previously unseen files from the archives of the Stasi, *After the Stasi* uncovers how writers to the present day have explored collaboration as a challenge to the sovereignty of subjectivity. Annie Ring here interweaves close analysis of literary fiction and life-writing by former Stasi spies and victims with documents from the archive, new readings from literary modernism and cultural theories of the self. In its pursuit of the strange power of the Stasi, the book introduces an archetypal character in the writing of German unification: one who is not sovereign over her or his actions, but instead is compelled by an imperative to collaborate – an imperative that persists in new forms in the post-Cold War age. Ring's study identifies a monumental historical shift after 1989, from a collaboration that took place in concert with others, in a manner that could be recorded in the archive, to the more isolated and ultimately less accountable complicities of the capitalist present. While considering this shift in the most recent texts by East German writers, Ring provocatively suggests that their accounts of collaboration under the Stasi, and of the less-than-sovereign subjectivity to which it attests, remain urgent for understanding the complicities to which we continue to consent in the present day.

Explores the changing relationship between memory and the archive in German-language literature and culture since 1945.

Since quitting work to look after his eight-year-old daughter, Alexa, Thomas Bradshaw has found solace and grace in his daily piano study. His pursuit of a more artistic way of life shocks and irritates his parents and in-laws. Why has he swapped roles with Tonie Swann, his intense, intellectual wife, who has accepted a demanding full-time job? How can this be good for Alexa? Tonie is increasingly seduced away from domestic life by the harder, headier world of work, where long-forgotten memories of ambition are awakened. She soon finds herself outside their tight family circle, alive to previously unimaginable possibilities. Over the course of a year full of crisis and revelation, we follow the fortunes of Tonie, Thomas, and his brothers and their families: Howard, the successful, indulgent brother, and his gregarious wife, Claudia; and Leo, lacking in confidence and propped up by Susie, his sharp-tongued, heavy-drinking wife. At the head of the family, the aging Bradshaw parents descend on their children to question and undermine them. *The Bradshaw Variations* reveals how our choices, our loves, and the family life we build will always be an echo—a variation—of a theme played out in our own childhood. This masterful and often shockingly funny novel, Rachel Cusk's seventh, shows a prizewinning writer at the height of her powers.

25 Jahre Erinnerung und Deutung

In Zeiten des abnehmenden Licht

The Story of an East German Family

Britannica Book of the Year 2012

A Guide to Making a Home in the Hauptstadt

Ambivalent Literary Farewells to the German Democratic Republic

Die Familie Selicke

Personal letters reveal the quandary of a prominent German physicist during the Nazi years and the strength he shared with his loving wife Nobel Prize-winning physicist Werner Heisenberg lived far from his wife, Elisabeth, during most of the Second World War. An eminent scientist, Werner headed Germany's national atomic research project in Berlin, while Elisabeth and their children lived more safely in Bavaria. This selection of more than 300 letters exchanged between husband and wife reveals the precarious nature of Werner's position in the Third Reich, Elisabeth's increasingly difficult everyday life as the war progressed, and the devoted relationship that gave strength to them both. These letters provide a fascinating new perspective on Werner's much-debated wartime work and his attitude toward the atomic bomb. They also shed light on his reluctance to emigrate despite the urging of friends. An excerpt from his private diary, an introduction and notes by his daughter, and a selection of personal family photographs complete this compelling volume. Der vorliegende Band setzt sich zum Ziel, die Brüchigkeit, Konstruiertheit und historische Kontingenz von kulturellen und gesellschaftlichen Werten und Paradigmen einer literaturwissenschaftlichen und sprachwissenschaftlichen Reflexion zu unterziehen. Vor einem diachronen und synchronen Hintergrund fragen die einzelnen Beiträge des Bandes nach den vergangenen und aktuellen, kritisch-reflexiven Zugängen zu unabschließbaren Debatten um Herausbildung neuartiger

Schicksalsgemeinschaften. Der Wandel im Sinne von Re-Formulierung, Neu-Codierung, Hybridisierung, Verschiebung der Semantiken und Diskurse wird dabei sowohl anhand literarischer Texte wie auch sprachkritischer Analysen verfolgt. The aim of the present volume is to analyse the fragility, constructedness, and historical contingency of cultural and social values and paradigms from a literary and linguistic perspective. The contributors place this analysis against a diachronic and synchronic background and explore both past and present approaches as well as critical-reflexive approaches to unclosed debates on the creation of new communities of fate. The transition in a sense of re-formulation, new-coding, hybridisation, the transition of semantics and discourses is analysed based on literary texts and linguistic analyses.

Now, married with two children and the Wall a distant memory, Maxim decides to find the answers to the questions he couldn't ask. Why did his parents, once passionately in love, grow apart? Why did his father become so angry, and his mother quit her career in journalism? And why did his grandfather Gerhard, the Socialist war hero, turn into a stranger? The story he unearths is, like his country's past, one of hopes, lies, cruelties, betrayals but also love. In *Red Love* he captures, with warmth and unflinching honesty, why so many dreamed the GDR would be a new world and why, in the end, it fell apart. Growing up in East Berlin, Maxim Leo knew not to ask questions. All he knew was that his rebellious parents, Wolf and Anne, with their dyed hair, leather jackets and insistence he call them by their first names, were a bit embarrassing. That there were some places you couldn't play; certain things you didn't say.

Building on a long tradition in German-language literature and culture, this volume focuses on contemporary engagements with ethical concerns in literary texts, essays, and films.

Medien, Verfahren und Funktionalisierungen historischer Rezeption

Festschrift für Barbara Becker-Cantarino von FreundInnen, SchülerInnen und KollegInnen.

The Bradshaw Variations

Contemporary Literature and Cultural Globalization

Das Gedächtnis der DDR im Roman von Eugen Ruge In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts

National Identity

Romanhaftes Erzählen von Geschichte

*The author of a two-decades-old, but world-famous, novel in the last days of Communist East Germany is asked to appraise a mysterious manuscript that has dangerous political overtones, putting himself and his young lover in danger*

*National identity has been the subject of much controversy and debate. Some have even suggested dropping the concept entirely. One group, Essentialists, argue that national identity is fixed, cultural, based on birth and ancestry. Another viewpoint is posited by Postmodernists who argue that national identity is malleable, invented or imagined. As alternatives, some have suggested that national identity is a hybrid of both Essentialist and Postmodernist views. And still others bypass this argument and suggest that national identity should be based on civic factors, such as shared values and norms about citizenship. While controversy and debate are healthy exercises in any science, at some point order must be established if science is to proceed. The present volume is based on the idea that national identity is an ideal-type concept; it does not completely capture reality, but is used for analytic purposes. In addition, rather than focusing on these theoretical debates, we pursue research with the idea that results from research will contribute to the field of national identity. Three areas of national identity are discussed: theoretical, national, and individual. Two chapters focus on the major theories about national identity, provide critiques, and make suggestions about the topic. In section two, six chapters provide case studies of national identity on Scotland, Ireland, Russia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany, and France. In section three, two case studies focus on immigrants and the challenges they face in forming their identities, especially identifying with their host countries—Belgium, and the United Kingdom. Several important conclusions may be gleaned from the contributions of the present volume. To begin with, while national identity is a slippery concept, if the field wishes to move beyond debate about fundamentals, it would be well advised to view the concept as an ideal-type as suggested by the great German scholar, Max Weber.*

*Secondly, the case studies included in the present volume indicate that national identity is not only based on ethnicity and culture, but on such external factors as governance regimes and their changes, economic crises, wars and other forms of aggressive activity, and social demographic changes in a population. These factors affect a population at the national level. For immigrants at the individual level, developing national identity is greatly affected by four interrelated factors: 1) the degree to which they are accepted by members of the host society; 2) immigrants' language skills and physical appearances; 3) how well they are able to balance their host national identity, their ethnic identity, and acceptance of their native country; 4) and their generational status. Generally, at the national and individual levels, context and circumstances matter in developing national identity.*

*Dieser Band widmet sich der Frage, mit welchen Bildern, Stereotypen, Konstruktionen,*

Mustern und Deutungen die DDR in Literatur, Film und Internet rückblickend erinnert wird. Welche Themen, Probleme, Gestalten und Ereignisse sind vorherrschend? Welche Wertungen zwischen Ostalgie und kritischer Aufarbeitung dominieren? Wie breit ist das Spektrum der Erinnerungen und Deutungen in der Rückschau auf die DDR als Parteidiktatur und als sozialistische Gesellschaftsordnung? Und: Haben sich die Erinnerungen und Deutungen des untergegangenen Regimes in den letzten 25 Jahren verändert? Welche Sicht auf die DDR herrscht heute vor? Dieser Titel liegt auch als EPUB für eReader, iPad und Kindle vor. Es ist über Hinweise auf die Print-Seitenzahl zitierfähig und enthält Interaktionen: Inhaltsverzeichnis und Registereinträge sind verlinkt, Querverweise und Weblinks sind aktiv.

From the internationally acclaimed author of *Measuring the World*, here is a dazzling tragicomedy about the three sons of a lost father. Arthur Friedland is a wannabe writer who one day takes his sons to a performance by the Great Lindemann, Master of Hypnosis. Arthur declares himself immune to hypnosis and a disbeliever in magic. But the Great Lindemann knows better, and after he extracts Arthur's deepest secrets and tells him to make them real, Arthur empties the family bank account and vanishes. He goes on to become a world-famous author, a master of the mystical. (F is for fake.) But what of his abandoned boys? The painfully shy Martin grows up to be a priest without a vocation. (F is for faith, and lack of it.) Eric becomes a financier on the brink of ruin (F is for fraud), while Ivan, hoping for glory as a painter, instead becomes a forger. (F is for forgery, too.) During the summer before the global financial crisis, they are thrown together again with cataclysmic results. Wildly funny and heartbreaking, Daniel Kehlmann's novel about truth, family, and the terrible power of fortune is a fictional triumph.

Inscription and Rebellion

von Eugen Ruge : eine Produktion des Mehrgenerationclubs des DNT

Red Love

United Germany

In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts

Von heute auf gestern

Visitation

**The essential guide for all international Berlin conquerors. Living in Berlin since 2008 New Yorker author Giulia Pines takes you by the hand and tells you what to expect as an expat. Her lively book gives the answers to every existential question regarding: history, official stuff, finding a place to live, learning German, getting around in the city, Berlin with children, work life, shopping, eating, culture, books, and other expat resources. Page through it for inspiration. Lean it to assuage your worst fears and help fuel your dreams. Use it as a companion, but don't assume that it possesses the power to dictate exactly what your experience of moving to Berlin will be. With 21 photographs by Paul Sullivan.**

**Dieses Werk ist Teil der Buchreihe TREDITION CLASSICS. Der Verlag tredition aus Hamburg veröffentlicht in der Buchreihe TREDITION CLASSICS Werke aus mehr als zwei Jahrtausenden. Diese waren zu einem Grossteil vergriffen oder nur noch antiquarisch erhaltlich. Mit der Buchreihe TREDITION CLASSICS verfolgt tredition das Ziel, tausende Klassiker der Weltliteratur verschiedener Sprachen wieder als gedruckte Bücher zu verlegen - und das weltweit! Die Buchreihe dient zur Bewahrung der Literatur und Forderung der Kultur. Sie trägt so dazu bei, dass viele tausend Werke nicht in Vergessenheit geraten**

**This volume of original essays celebrates Barbara Becker-Cantarino, whose prolific publications on German literary culture from 1600 to the twentieth century are major milestones in the field of German cultural studies. The range of topics in the collection reflects the breadth of Becker-Cantarino's scholarship. Examining literature from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries, the contributors explore the intersections of gender, race, and genre, history and gender, and gender and violence. They provide fresh readings of the works of known and lesser-known writers, including Cyriacus Spangenberg, Maria Anna Sagers Luise Gottsched, Heinrich von Kleist, Frank Wedekind, Christa Wolf, Helga Schütz, Terézia Mora, and Martina Hefter. Their discussions explore the possibilities and limitations of theoretical discourses on travel literature, deconstruction, and gender and suggest new avenues of investigation.**

**Germans Going Global is the first monograph in English to address in depth the interrelatedness between contemporary German literature and globalization. In an interdisciplinary framework and through detailed readings of a wide variety of texts, the study shows how the challenges globalization has posed for Germany over the last two decades have been manifested and reimaged in aesthetic production. Analyses of the literary marketplace and public debates illuminate the more material sides of this development. The study also analyzes the ways in which German-language writers born between 1955 and 1975, such as Chr. Kracht, Th. Meinecke, J. Hermann, S. Berg, F. Illies, K. Röggla, J. v. Düffel, and G. Hens, respond to the pressures of globalizing factors, and how these have influenced notions of authorship and literary aesthetics. It shows how narratives dealing with the neoliberal work world, global travel, and the aftermath of 09/11 implicitly comment on contemporary debates on globalization, its socio-economic nature, and the impact for local culture. By presenting a literary history of the present, *Germans Going Global* deepens the reader's understanding of contemporary Germany and its cultural production.**

**Debating Processes and Prospects**

**Die DDR in Eugen Ruges Roman "In Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts"**

**Political Unification and Cultural Difference in Contemporary Germany**

**Virtual Walls?**

**Ethical Approaches in Contemporary German-language Literature and Culture**

**Nostalgie und Sozialismus**

**Finding Your Feet in Berlin**

Since the attempt to unite two parts of a country divided for four decades yielded contradictory

results, this volume provides a balance sheet of the successes and failures of German unification during the first quarter century after the fall of the Wall. Five themes, ranging from the transfer of political institutions to the economic crisis, from the social upheaval for women's movements to the cultural efforts at interpretation and the changes in foreign policy have been chosen to illustrate the complexity of the process. The contributors represent a broad interdisciplinary mix of political scientists, historians, and literary scholars. Because personal experiences tend to color scholarly judgments, they are drawn from West Germany, East Germany, and the United States. This collection is the most up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of the political, social, and intellectual consequences of the efforts to regain German unity.

Investigates the concept of transnationalism and its significance in and for German-language literature and culture.

Historische Erfahrungen und Ereignisse werden auf unterschiedliche Weise vermittelt, angeeignet und umgedeutet. Dieser Band betrachtet quantitative wie qualitative Verfahrensweisen und Funktionalisierungen der Aneignung und Umdeutung historischer Erfahrungen und Ereignisse in verschiedenen Medien von der Vormoderne bis in die Gegenwart. Die einzelnen Beiträge fokussieren Prozesse und Ergebnisse produktiver Geschichtsrezeption. Dabei zeigen sie nicht allein, wie sich über solche Transformationen Sinn- und Weltdeutungsmuster diskutieren lassen, sondern ebenso, wie in diesen Transformationen die Vermittlung von literarischen Texten und kulturellen Texturen zustande kommt und auf die Erinnerungskultur und das Geschichtsbewusstsein der jeweiligen Gesellschaft einwirkt. Mit einem Vorwort von Moritz Baßler.

Staging West German Democracy examines how political "founding discourses" of the nascent Federal Republic (FRG) were reflected, reinforced, and actively manufactured by the Federal government in conjunction with the West German, state-controlled newsreel system, the Deutsche Wochenschau. By looking at the institutional history of the Deutsche Wochenschau and its close relationship to the Federal Press Office, Jan Uelzmann traces the Adenauer administration's project of maintaining a "government channel" in an increasingly diverse, de-centralized, and democratic West German media landscape. Staging West German Democracy reconstructs the company's integral role in the planning, production, and dissemination of pro-government PR, and through detailed analyses reveals the films to celebrate the FRG as an economically successful and internationally connected democracy under Adenauer's leadership. Apart from providing election propaganda for Adenauer's CDU party, these films provided an important stabilizing factor for the FRG's project of explaining and promoting democracy to its citizens, and of defining its public image against the backdrops of the Third Reich past and a competing, contemporary incarnation of German nationhood, the German Democratic Republic (GDR). In this regard, Staging West German Democracy adds in important ways to our understanding of the media's role in the West German nation building process.

Correspondence, 1937-1946

Kruso

Roman einer Familie

Collaboration and the Struggle for Sovereign Subjectivity in the Writing of German Unification  
Metropol

Language and Speech in Synchrony and Diachrony

***In unserer Gegenwart erleben Erzähltexte mit historischen Themen wieder eine Hochkonjunktur. Das ist im ästhetisch anspruchsvollen wie im populären Feld zu beobachten, ebenso im Bereich non-fiktionaler Sachtexte und der Familien- bzw. Auto-Biographie. Welche Formen, Interessen und Funktionen sind damit verbunden? Dies prüft, konzentriert auf deutschsprachige Texte, der von einem internationalen Beiträgerkreis verfasste Band. Besonderes Augenmerk liegt auf dem, was die gegenwärtige Situation seit ca. 2000 auszeichnet. Dies sind erstens die Hybridisierung etablierter Formen des Geschichtserzählens, etwa des klassischen oder avantgardistischen historischen Romans, und die Infragestellung der Fakt-Fiktions-Grenze und zweitens neuartige kulturelle Kontexte: veränderte gesellschaftliche Orientierungsbedürfnisse, die (angebliche) Krise des modernen Geschichtsverständnisses sowie das in unserer medialisierten Gegenwart gewachsene Bedürfnis nach ‚Erfahrung‘. Besondere Aufmerksamkeit gilt dem inner- und außerhalb der Literatur auffällig beliebten Zeitreise-Motiv. Der Band liefert die erste umfassende Untersuchung romanhaften Geschichtserzählens in der deutschsprachigen Gegenwartsliteratur.***

***Lange Zeit wurden nostalgische Narrative wegen ihrer Emotionalität und Selektivität als Geschichtsverfälschung gebrandmarkt. Mit dem affective turn wandelt sich das Bild. Im Blick auf die sozialistischen Erfahrungen Mitteleuropas erweist sich Nostalgie als fruchtbare Strategie der Vergangenheitsbewältigung und produktive Kraft im Erinnerungsdiskurs. Mariella C. Gronenthal differenziert den Nostalgiebegriff im Wechselspiel mit Trauma, Identität, Ironie und Utopie aus und erschließt seine Anwendbarkeit für die Literaturwissenschaft. Am Beispiel deutscher und polnischer Erinnerungsromane zeigt sie das erinnerungstheoretische und poetologische Potenzial des Konzepts jenseits von Ostalgieebatten.***

***A bestseller in Germany, Visitation has established Jenny Erpenbeck as one of Europe's most significant contemporary authors. A house on the forested bank of a Brandenburg lake outside Berlin (once belonging to Erpenbeck's grandparents) is the focus of this compact, beautiful novel. Encompassing over one hundred years of German history, from the nineteenth century to the Weimar Republic, from World War II to the Socialist German Democratic Republic, and finally reunification and its aftermath, Visitation offers the life stories of twelve individuals who seek to make their home in this one magical little house. The novel breaks into the everyday life of the house and shimmers through it, while relating the passions and fates of its inhabitants. Elegant and poetic, Visitation forms a literary mosaic of the last century, tearing open wounds and offering moments of reconciliation, with its drama and its exquisite evocation of a landscape no political upheaval can truly change.***

***A reassessment of the journey Germans in East and West have taken during the past two and a half decades: even today, an open-ended, unfinished journey.***

***Governmental PR Films and the Democratic Imaginary, 1953-1963***

*The Capital: A Novel*

*What is Lost*

*Germans Going Global*

*Kaapse bibliotekaris*

*Geschichtstransformationen*

*The Novel and Europe*

A New York Times Notable Book for 2011 In 1989, the year the Wall came down, a university student in Berlin on his morning run finds a corpse on a park bench and alerts the authorities. This scene opens a novel of extraordinary scope and depth, a masterwork that traces the fate of myriad Europeans—Hungarians, Jews, Germans, Gypsies—across the treacherous years of the mid-twentieth century. Three unusual men are at the heart of *Parallel Stories*: Hans von Wolkenstein, whose German mother is linked to secrets of fascist-Nazi collaboration during the 1940s; Ágost Lippay Lehr, whose influential father has served Hungary's different political regimes for decades; and András Rott, who has his own dark record of mysterious activities abroad. The web of extended and interconnected dramas reaches from 1989 back to the spring of 1939, when Europe trembled on the edge of war, and extends to the bestial times of 1944–45, when Budapest was besieged, the Final Solution devastated Hungary's Jews, and the war came to an end, and on to the cataclysmic Hungarian Revolution of October 1956. We follow these men from Berlin and Moscow to Switzerland and Holland, from the Mediterranean to the North Sea, and of course, from village to city in Hungary. The social and political circumstances of their lives may vary greatly, their sexual and spiritual longings may seem to each of them entirely unique, yet Péter Nádas's magnificent tapestry unveils uncanny reverberating parallels that link them across time and space. This is Péter Nádas's masterpiece—eighteen years in the writing, a sensation in Hungary even before it was published, and almost four years in the translating. *Parallel Stories* is the first foreign translation of this daring, demanding, and momentous novel, and it confirms for an even larger audience what Hungary already knows: that it is the author's greatest work. Winner of the German Book Prize, *The Capital* is an "omniscient, almost Balzac-ian" (Steven Erlanger, *New York Times*) panorama of splintered Europe. A highly inventive novel of ideas written in the rich European tradition, *The Capital*—epic in scope, but so particular in details—transports readers to the cobblestoned streets of twenty-first-century Brussels. Chosen as the European Union's symbolic capital in 1958 for no reason other than Belgium coming first alphabetically, this elusive setting has never been examined so intricately in literature. Here, in Robert Menasse's "great EU novel" (*Politico*), tragic heroes, clever schemers, and involuntary accomplices play out the effects of a fiercely nationalistic "union." Recalling the Balzacian conceit of assembling a vast parade of characters whose lives conspire to form a driving central plot, Menasse adapts this technique with modern sensibility to reveal the hastily assembled capital in all of its eccentricities. We meet, among others, Fenia Xenopoulou, a Greek Cypriot recently "promoted" to the Directorate-General for Culture. When tasked with revamping the boring image of the European Commission with the Big Jubilee Project, she endorses her Austrian assistant Martin Sussman's idea to proclaim Auschwitz as its birthplace—of course, to the horror of the other nation states. Meanwhile, Inspector Émile Brunfaut attempts to solve a gritty murder being suppressed at the highest level; Matek, a Polish hitman who regrets having never become a priest, scrambles after taking out the wrong man; and outraged pig farmers protest trade restrictions as a brave escapee squeals through the streets. These narratives and more are masterfully woven, revealing the absurdities—and real dangers—of a fracturing Europe. A tour de force from one of Austria's most esteemed novelists, *The Capital* is a mordantly funny and piercingly urgent saga of the European Union, and an aerial feat of sublime world literature. In *Zeiten des abnehmenden Lichts* Roman einer Familie In *Times of Fading Light* A Novel Graywolf Press

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