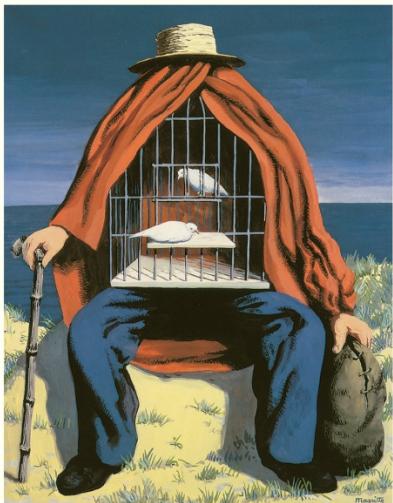


Diogenes

Slawomir Mrozek
My Unknown Friend

Published by Diogenes as *Mein unbekannter Freund*
Original title: *Mojprzyjaciel nieznajomy*



Sławomir
Mrożek
*Mein unbekannter
Freund*
und andere Geschichten
Diogenes

Not every present given with the best of intentions arouses unmitigated pleasure in the recipient. A live monkey, for example, can cause enormous problems, particularly when it is a diplomatic gift and cannot simply be passed on to the zoo... Chat about the >Latest Story< is one of thirty-seven witty short stories about the element of the absurd in everyday life. A fox and a cockerel appear as figures in a fable, a clergyman makes a deal with the devil, fairy-tale characters are transported into brutal reality. And the richness of the writer's imagination and cryptic humour makes amusing, thought-provoking reading.

Book factsheet

General Fiction
192 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
October 1999

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Rights currently sold:
Catalan (Quaderns)
Chinese/CN (Guangdong Flower City Publishing)
French (Noir sur Blanc)
French (Albin Michel)
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Spanish/world (Quaderns)

Movie adaptations

- 1978: Amor**
Director: Jerzy Lipman
Cast: Andy Pap, Martin Lütte, Ingeborg Lapsien, Dieter Prochnow
- 1966: The Enchanted Night**
Director: George R. Foa
Cast: Bernard Finch, Dudley Foster, Margaret Nolan, Richard Pearson

- 1966: En förtrollad natt**
Director: Yngve Nordwall
Cast: John Harryson, Nils Nygren, Kerstin Tidelius

- 1964: Das Martyrium des Peter O'Hey**
Director: Peter Lilienthal
Cast: Angelika Hurwicz, Joachim Wichmann

- 1963: Strip tease**
Director: Peter Lilienthal
Cast: Max Haufler, Joachim Wichmann

Awards

- 2012 Ehrendoktor der polnischen Universität Śląski
- 2006 Deutsch-Polnischer Literaturpreis
>Samuel-Bogumił-Linde-Preis< für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2000 Am siebten Internationalen Budapest Buchfestival erhält Mrozek den Budapest Grand Prix
- 1994 Erster Preis für >Liebe auf der Krim< (Miłość na Krymie) beim Wettbewerb um das beste Theaterstück in Paris
- 1993 Hitar-Petar-Preis des Hauses für Satire und Humor in Gabrowo, Bulgarien
- 1987 Franz-Kafka-Literaturpreis, Klosterneuburg, Österreich
- 1984 Jahrespreis des >Polnischen Schriftstellerverbandes in der Fremde<, London
- 1972 Österreichischer Staatspreis für Europäische Literatur
- 1964 Prix de l'Humour Noir für >Der Elefant< (Slon)
- 1954 >Julian-Brun-Preis< für journalistische Arbeiten

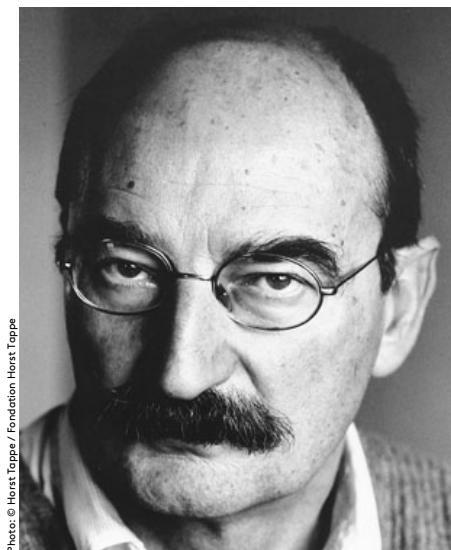


Photo © Horst Toppe / Fondation Horst Toppe

Sławomir Mrożek was born in Borzecin, Poland, in 1930. He was first known as a caricaturist and author of satirical short stories. His plays (*Tango*, *The Emigrants*, *Striptease*, and many others) made him world famous. In 1968 he went into exile. After living many years in Paris and later in Mexico, he returned to Poland in 1996 and spent the final years of his life in southern France. He died on August 15, 2013 in Nice.

Praise

My Unknown Friend

»Mrożek is a humorist – and his intentions are especially serious. He is a satirist – and he mocks the world in order to improve it. He is a man of the absurd – and he focuses on the nonsensical in order to evoke reason.« – Marcel Reich-Ranicki

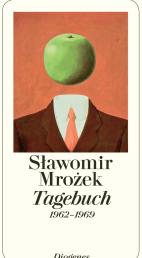
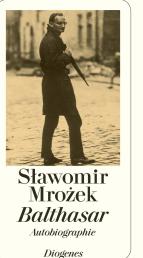
»Mrożek's literature is addictive.« – El País, Barcelona

Sławomir Mrożek

»Mrożek's literature is addictive.« – El País, Barcelona

»The author, known primarily as a playwright, reveals himself as a writer of incisive prose who captures the absurdity of reality and its interaction with unreality in polished, witty formulations.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Brilliant [...] the writer is an Aesop for our times.« – Publishers' Weekly, New York

 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Tagebuch</i> 1962-1969 <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Karneval oder Adams erste Frau</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Balthasar</i> <i>Autobiographie</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Das Leben für Fortgeschrittene</i> <i>Ein überflüssiges ABC mit Zeichnungen von Chaval</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>
 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Das Leben für Anfänger</i> <i>Ein zeitloses ABC mit Zeichnungen von Chaval</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Lauter Sünder Schöne Aussicht</i> <i>Zwei Stücke</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Lolo</i> <i>und andere Geschichten</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>	 <p>Sławomir Mrożek <i>Der Doppelgänger</i> <i>und andere Geschichten</i> <i>Diogenes</i></p>



Sławomir
Mrożek
Amor
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Amor
544 pages
1998

Movie Adaptation



Sławomir
Mrożek
Emigranten
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Emigrants
400 pages
1997



Sławomir
Mrożek
Der Perverse
und andere
Geschichten

Diogenes

The Pervert
272 pages
1995



Sławomir
Mrożek
Watzlaff
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Vatzlav
272 pages
1994



Sławomir
Mrożek
*Liebe auf
der Krim*
Eine tragische Komödie
in drei Akten

Diogenes



Sławomir Mrożek
Auf hoher See
Striptease
Zwei Einakter

Diogenes

Out at Sea
80 pages
1994



Sławomir
Mrożek
*Die
Geheimnisse
des Jenseits*

Diogenes

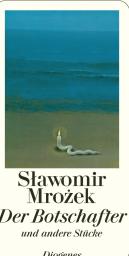
Secrets of the Beyond
256 pages
1993



Sławomir
Mrożek
Tango
Schauspiel
in drei Akten

Diogenes

Tango
368 pages
1993



Sławomir
Mrożek
Der Botschafter
und andere Stücke

Diogenes



Sławomir Mrożek
Striptease
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

The Ambassador
544 pages
1993

Striptease
304 pages
1992

Movie Adaptation



Sławomir
Mrożek
Die Giraffe
und andere
Erzählungen

Diogenes

The Giraffe
320 pages
1992