

# Diogenes

Hartmut Lange  
*The String Quartet*

Published by Diogenes as *Das Streichquartett*  
Original title: *Das Streichquartett*



Hartmut  
Lange  
*Das Streich-  
quartett*  
*Novelle · Diogenes*

The disaster begins when Berghoff, the first violin of the quartet of the same name, decides to add Schönberg's String Quartet No. 4, op. 37, to the quartet's repertoire. Schönberg's composition strikes him as being the music of a big-city neurotic – like a mirror in which he slowly starts to recognise himself. He gradually loses his self-confidence, and then his wife tells him that she is taking their daughters away, against his will, on a holiday that seems never-ending.

One day he finds a valuable violin in his deserted Berlin apartment, put there by some unknown person – a delightful windfall which he plays at the rehearsals of the Schönberg Quartet. The rehearsals become more and more intensive and Berghoff's behaviour increasingly neurotic. He refuses to accept the fact that someone has long since taken the bow out of his hand. A disturbing drama of jealousy runs its course.

## Book factsheet

General Fiction  
144 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
October 2001

World rights are handled by Diogenes

### Awards

- 2016 2016/2017 mit dem ›Rom-Preis‹  
verbundenes Stipendiat in der  
Deutschen Akademie Rom Villa  
Massimo
- 2005 Drei Monate lang Stipendiat der  
Hermann-Hesse-Stiftung in Calw
- 2004 ›Literatur-Nord-Preis‹ für *Leptis Magna*
- 2003 ›Italo-Svevo-Preis‹
- 2000 ›Kester-Häusler-Ehregabe‹ der  
Deutschen Schillerstiftung von 1859 für  
das Lebenswerk
- 1998 ›Literaturpreis‹ der Konrad-Adenauer-  
Stiftung
- 1995 *Schnitzlers Würgeengel* ›Buch des  
Monats‹ Mai der Darmstädter Jury
- 1989 ›Prix de la littérature traduite‹ für *Die  
Waldsteinsonate*
- 1968 ›Gerhart-Hauptmann-Preis‹
- 1966 ›Förderpreis‹ der Niedersächsischen  
Landesregierung

### Praise

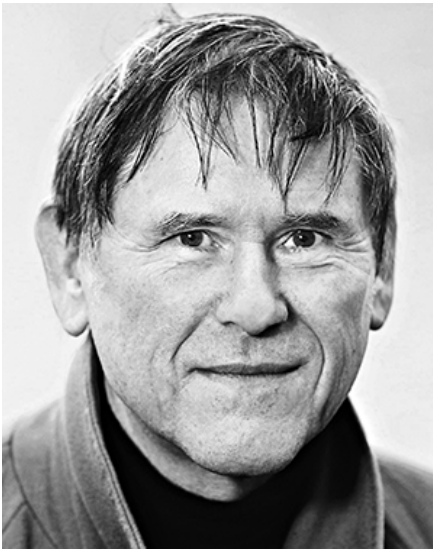
Hartmut Lange

»Hartmut Lange deserves being read with a very special attention because he clearly differs from loud drummers, such as Grass or Boll, on the other side of the Rhine. One feels reminded of the plays by Maeterlinck and Wedekind.« – Alain Bosquet / Le Figaro, Paris

»The master of linguistic stringency.« – Kristina Maidt-Zinke / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»His novellas are master narratives about the magical force of shadows creeping up unnoticed.« – Hans-Dieter Schütt / (German journalist)

»A minimalist with far-reaching effect.« – Hans-Christian Kosler / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

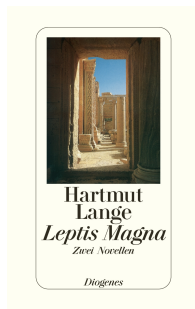


Hartmut Lange, born in Berlin in 1937, studied theatrical production. He has been honoured with several awards for his plays, essays and prose. His most recent publication is the novella collection *The Courtyard* (2020). He lives and writes in Berlin.

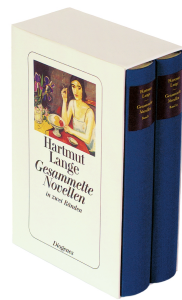
<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Am Osloer Fjord oder der Fremde</i> Diogenes</p> <p><b>At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger</b> 112 pages 2022</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Lichthof</i> Diogenes</p> <p><b>The Courtyard</b> 96 pages 2020</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>An der Prorer Wiek und anderswo</i> Novellen-Diogenes</p> <p><b>On the Prorer Wiek and Elsewhere</b> 128 pages 2018</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Blick aus dem Fenster</i> Diogenes</p> <p><b>The View from the Window</b> 112 pages 2015</p>
<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Das Haus in der Dorotheenstraße</i> Novellen-Diogenes</p> <p><b>The House on Dorothea Street</b> 128 pages 2013</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Im Museum</i> Diogenes</p> <p><b>In the Museum</b> 128 pages 2011</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Abgrund des Endlichen</i> Drei Novellen Diogenes</p> <p><b>The Abyss of the Finite</b> 144 pages 2009</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Therapeut</i> Drei Novellen Diogenes</p> <p><b>The Therapist</b> 160 pages 2007</p>



**The Wanderer**  
128 pages  
2005



**Leptis Magna**  
176 pages  
2003  
🏆 **Award winner**



**Collected Novellas**  
1152 pages  
2002



**Knowledge from Error**  
208 pages  
2002



**The Educational Trip**  
128 pages  
2000



**A Different Kind of Happiness**  
144 pages  
1999



**The »Waldstein« Sonata**  
112 pages  
1984  
🏆 **Award winner**