

Christoph Poschenrieder
The Mirror Box

Published by Diogenes as *Der Spiegelkasten*
Original title: *Der Spiegelkasten*



Christoph
Poschenrieder
*Der
Spiegelkasten*

Roman · Diogenes

A moving novel about the power of memory and imagination – set both in the horrifying reality of World War I and the virtual world of today. In spring of 1915 the German-Jewish officer Ismar Manneberg writes a letter from the trenches to a woman who does not really exist – addressing it to any old Miss Müller. After all, all of his comrades are sending letters home. Much to his surprise, he gets a reply. Ninety years later a great-nephew finds Ismar Manneberg's photo album, and in it the faded picture of a mirror box. The young man is in the midst of a personal and career-related crisis. When an email arrives from ›WarGirl18‹, who seems to know something about the mysterious mirror box, he completely loses the plot. Events from long ago are charged with an immense explosive force that brings them all the way into the present. A prominent story that you think you already know – told from a radical new perspective.

Book factsheet

General Fiction
224 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 2011

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Awards

- 2019 ›Stern des Jahres‹ der *Münchner Abendzeitung* für *Der unsichtbare Roman* als der beste Roman
- 2017 Arbeitsstipendium der Landeshauptstadt München für sein sechstes Romanprojekt *Meyrink und die Macht des Wortes*
- 2016 Mit dem Rom-Preis verbundenes Stipendiat des Deutschen Studienzentrums in Venedig
- 2015 ›Bamberger Villa-Concordia-Stipendium‹ für einen elfmonatigen Aufenthalt ab April 2015

Praise

The Mirror Box

»In this gripping and well-told novel, Christoph Poschenrieder takes a fresh approach to the Great War which will have wide appeal.« – New Books in German, London

»*The Mirror Box* gets under your skin. Yet despite the horrors of war Poschenrieder is able to create images that are poetically beautiful, sometimes absurd.« – Kai Kappes / Nürnberger Nachrichten

Christoph Poschenrieder

»Christoph Poschenrieder's light story telling is both stylistically brilliant and highly readable.« – Eckart Baier / Buchjournal, Frankfurt

»What a quick-witted narrator!« – Karin Grossmann / Sächsische Zeitung, Dresden

»He has so much fun with his writing, this Christoph Poschenrieder – one of the best German authors around today.« – Kristian Thees / SWR, Stuttgart

»Christoph Poschenrieder dresses heavy subjects in lightness and humour.« – Barbara Schulz / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

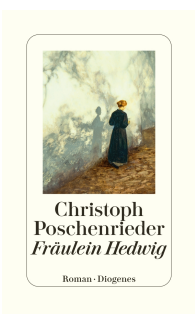
»Poschenrieder's novels captivate the reader with their depth, ambiguity and intelligent humour.« – Ditta Rudle / Buchkultur, Vienna

»Poschenrieder, philosophy graduate and trained journalist, knows how to present serious topics with a light touch.« – Steffen Radlmaier / Nürnberger Nachrichten



Photo: © Daniela Agostini / Diogenes Verlag

Christoph Poschenrieder, born in Boston in 1964, studied philosophy in Munich and journalism in New York. Since 1993 he has been a freelance journalist and documentary film maker, though today his focus is literary writing. His debut, the critically acclaimed *The World in the Head*, was an international hit, while *A Grain of Sand* was nominated for the ›German Book Prize‹ in 2014. He lives in Munich.



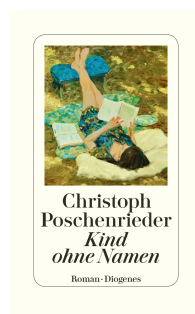
Miss Hedwig
272 pages
2025



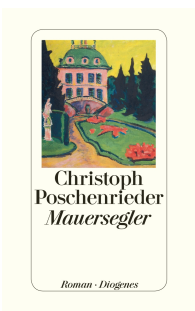
For a Lifetime
304 pages
2022



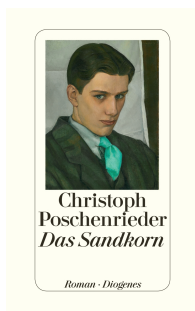
The Invisible Novel
272 pages
2019
🏆 Award winner



A Child with No Name
288 pages
2017



Common Swift
224 pages
2015
🏆 Bestseller



A Grain of Sand
416 pages
2014



The World in the Head
352 pages
2010