Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hartmut Lange
The Roughly Forty-Year-Old Man

Published by Diogenes as *Der etwa vierzigjährige Mann*
Original title: *Der etwa vierzigjährige Mann*



In search of beauty, a man embarks on a journey through the centuries, discovering their horrors. Another man loses himself in love, yet encounters only its impossibility. And a third is led to gaze into the abyss by the eschatological question of ›the last things‹. Hartmut Lange manages to comprehend our troubles in a way almost no other contemporary writer can; to distil them into words; and to simultaneously get right to the heart of the matter in a way thats simply inescapable.

Contemporary Literature
128 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 1.6 cm
April 2025

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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-Ehrengabe‹ 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

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

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

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

»Hartmut Lange deserves being read with particular 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 fragile elegance of his style is unmatched in contemporary literature.« – Werner Fuld / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»The master among the fantastical rationalists.« – Edelgard Abenstein / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

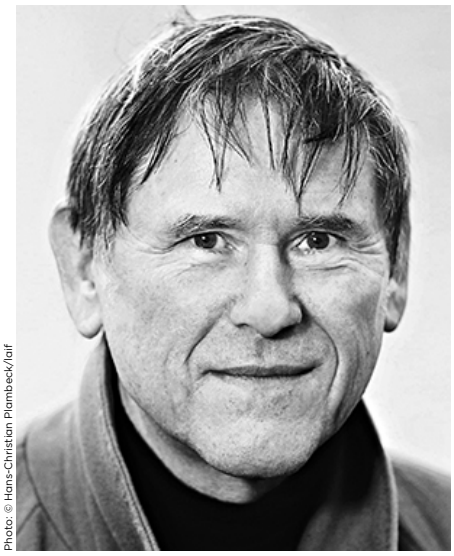
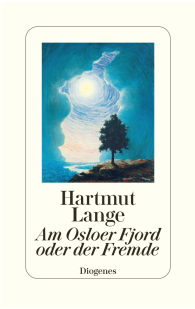


Photo: © Hans-Christian Plambeck/laif

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 volume of novellas *At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger*. He is now a freelance writer and lives in Berlin.



At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger
112 pages
2022



The Courtyard
96 pages
2020



On the Prorer Wiek and Elsewhere
128 pages
2018



The View from the Window
112 pages
2015



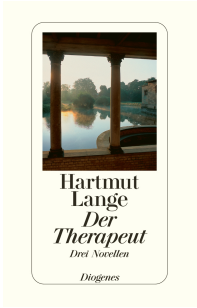
The House on Dorothea Street
128 pages
2013



In the Museum
128 pages
2011



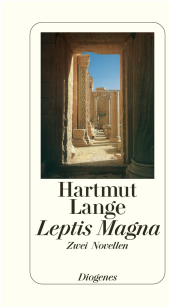
The Abyss of the Finite
144 pages
2009



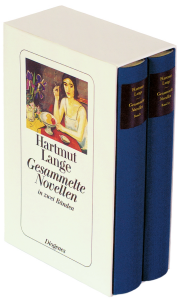
The Therapist
160 pages
2007



The Wanderer
128 pages
2005



Leptis Magna
176 pages
2003
Award winner



Collected Novellas
1152 pages
2002



Knowledge from Error
208 pages
2002



The String Quartet
144 pages
2001



The Educational Trip
128 pages
2000



A Different Kind of Happiness
144 pages
1999



The ›Waldstein‹ Sonata
112 pages
1984
Award winner