Diogenes

Book factsheet

Otto Jägersberg
Piano Bar

Published by Diogenes as *Pianobar*
Original title: *Pianobar*



In the piano bar, anything can happen: strange characters come through the door, stories and anecdotes are told, bon mots and philosophical insights shared. The bartender mixes adventurous drinks and the pianist strange notes with familiar melodies. The armchair at the back of the bar is the perfect place for Otto Jägersberg to watch the world in his uniquely precise way.

Contemporary Literature
272 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 2.1 cm
November 2021

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Movie adaptation

2009: Unter Bauern
Director: Ludi Boeken
Screenplay: Otto Jägersberg
Cast: Veronica Ferres, Armin Rohde

Award

1984 Otto Jägersberg erhielt den Stuttgarter Literaturpreis.

Praise

Piano Bar

»These laconic texts are often as explosive as New Year's Eve fireworks, but more lasting.« – Udo Barth / Badische Neueste Nachrichten, Karlsruhe

»We need the poets' gaze on the world in order to understand and bear it. Jägersberg has this gaze.« – Elke Heidenreich

»If I were packing my rucksack for life on the proverbial desert island, I would leave Proust, Joyce and Musil on the shelf – and instead I'd reach for *Piano Bar*. You could get by with that for a long time.« – Erich Hackl

Otto Jägersberg

»How does Otto Jägersberg write? Well, you can enjoy his lines of poetry and prose in sips, but you may become tipsy quite fast in the process.« – Frank Lorentz / Welt am Sonntag

»It is a pleasure to follow this wandering rascal.« – Nils Jensen / Buchkultur, Vienna

»[Jägersberg's] punchlines have something so sublimely casual to them, as though the comedy were springing forth organically from the depicted events, or rather, more frequently, from the language.« – Frank Schäfer / taz, Berlin

»Jägersberg's texts are poetry in themselves, making the well-known seem entirely fresh and new again.« – Frank Schäfer / Die Zeit, Hamburg

»We need the poets' gaze on the world in order to understand and bear it. Jägersberg has this gaze.« – Elke Heidenreich

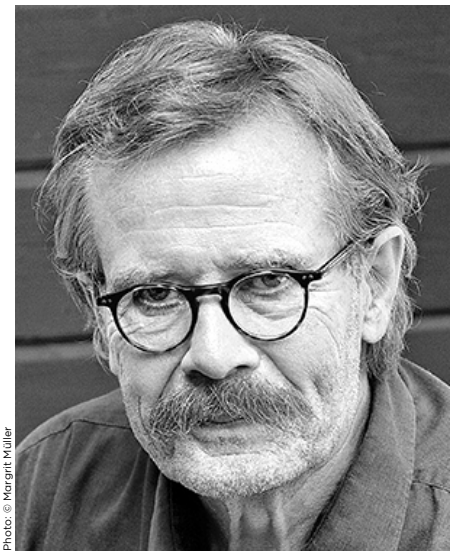


Photo: © Margrit Müller

Otto Jägersberg, born in Hiltrup (Westphalia) in 1942, worked as a book trader, antiquarian and printer in Berlin, Zurich and Stierstadt. Jägersberg is a freelance writer and filmmaker and lives in Baden-Baden.



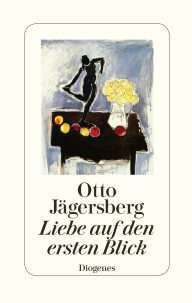
Pinboy
176 pages
2026



Evening Pages
176 pages
2024



À la Carte
224 pages
2022



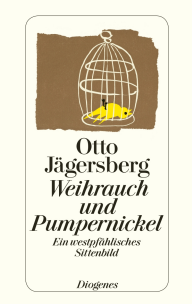
Love at First Sight
288 pages
2019



The Croupier's Wife
240 pages
2016



Poems
208 pages
2015



Incense and Pumpernickel
160 pages
1964