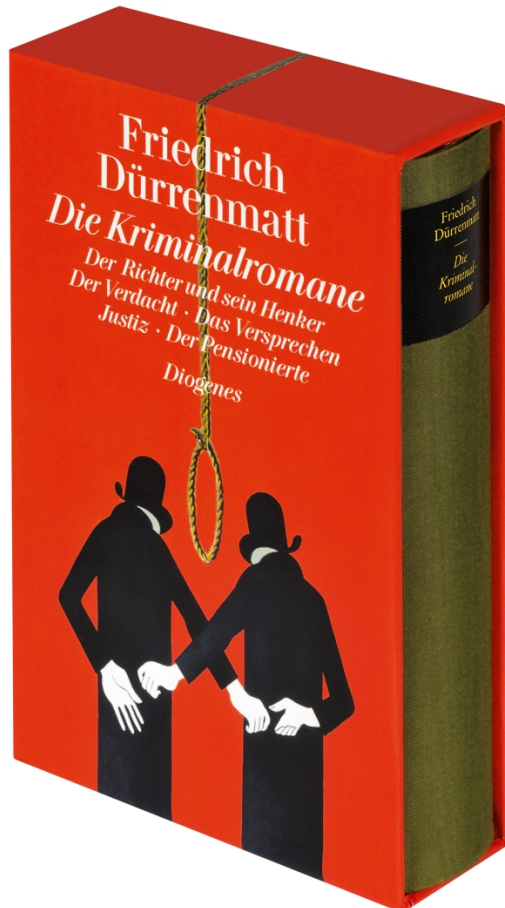


Diogenes

Friedrich Dürrenmatt The Crime Novels

Published by Diogenes as *Die Kriminalromane*
Original title: *Die Kriminalromane*



In *The Judge and his Hangman* (1950) Dürrenmatt's investigator takes to the stage for the first time: Inspector Bärlach, an old fossil of the judicial system. For health reasons, he has only very little time left to solve a murder case. Bärlach's approach to the issues of justice, morality, guilt and punishment is a common thread running through all of Dürrenmatt's crime novels. In *Suspicion* (1951), for example, the inspector fights once more against death and injustice, driven by his boundless defiance at »existing in this world and fighting for another one, a better one«. In *The Pledge* (1958) another investigator, Matthäi, doggedly tries to hunt down a child-murderer, showing no fear of danger or its consequences. *Justice* (1985) focuses on a young lawyer's entanglement in the delicate web of justice, the judicial system and morality. Dürrenmatt began his fifth (and uncompleted) crime novel *The Pensioner* (1995) as early as 1969, but kept re-writing it. The novel's protagonist, the ill, gluttonous Inspector Höchstettler, is the spitting image of Bärlach.

Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature, Gift Books
992 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
December 2011

Contact:
Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,
susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and Suzanne Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

Movie adaptations

2015: Im Labyrinth / Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Der kritische Geist der Schweiz
Director: Sabine Gisiger
Screenplay: Sabine Gisiger

2010: Schurkenstück
Director: Torsten C. Fischer
Screenplay: Eva Zahn
Cast: Katharina Schüttler und Oliver Korritke

2008: Der Besuch der alten Dame
Director: Nikolaus Leytner
Screenplay: Thomas Eifler
Cast: Christiane Hörbiger, Michael Mendl, Muriel Baumeister, Rolf Hoppe, Rüdiger Vogler

2001: The Pledge
Director: Sean Penn
Cast: Margaret Larsen, Helen Jackson

1997: Es geschah am hellichten Tag
Director: Nico Hofmann
Cast: Joachim Król, Barbara Rudnik, Axel Milberg

1996: Es geschah am hellichten Tag
Director: Bernd Eichinger
Cast: Joachim Krol, Barbara Rudnik, Axel Milberg

1995: Tod im kalten Morgenlicht
Director: Rudolf van den Berg
Cast: Richard E. Grant, Lynsey Baxter, Perdita Weeks

1994: Der Wiedertäufer
Director: Heinrich Koch

1994: In the Cold Light of Day
Director: Rudolf van den Berg
Cast: Richard E. Grant, Perdita Weeks, Simon Cadell

1993: Justiz
Director: Hans Werner Geißendörfer
Cast: Maximilian Schell, Thomas Heinze, Matthias Gnädinger, Anna Thalbach

1992: Hyänen / Hyènes, Ramatou
Director: Djibril diop Mamberty
Screenplay: Djibril diop Mamberty
Cast: Mansour Diouf, Ami Diakhate



Friedrich Dürrenmatt (1921 – 1990) was born in Konolfingen near Berne as the son of a protestant minister. He studied philosophy, German literature and history of art in Berne and Zurich and worked as a playwright, novelist, essayist and painter in Neuchâtel, where he lived with his family.



Subject Matter
2352 pages
2021

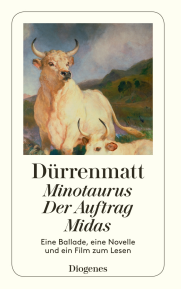


The Plays
1584 pages
2015

Labyrinth / Turmbau
(Subject Matter I-IX)
736 pages
2002



My Switzerland
256 pages
1998



The Minotaur/ The Assignment; or, On the Observing of the Observer of the Observers/ Midas
Eine Ballade, eine Novelle und ein Film zum Lesen
Diogenes
208 pages
1998



Switzerland - A Prison
80 pages
1997



The Pledge
160 pages
1996
 Movie Adaptation



The Pensioner
200 pages
1995

Movie adaptations (cont'd)

1992: Hyènes
Director: Djibril diop Mamberty
Cast: Mansour Diouf, Ami Diakhate

1989: Die Welt ist ein Irrenhaus: Achterloo IV
Director: Roman Brodman

1988: Abendstunde im Spätherbst
Director: August Everding
Cast: Mario Adorf, Horst Bollmann

1988: Achterloo
Director: Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Cast: Helmut Lohner, Georg Preusse

1982: Der Besuch der alten Dame
Director: Max Peter Ammann
Cast: Maria Schell, Adolphe Spalinger, Günter Lamprecht

1982: Der Besuch der alten Dame
Director: Max Peter Ammann
Cast: Maria Schell, Günter Lamprecht, Ruedi Walter

1975: Der Richter und sein Henker
Director: Maximilian Schell
Cast: Jon Voight, Jacqueline Bisset, Helmut Qualtinger, Robert Shaw, Friedrich Dürrenmatt

1974: Der Mitmacher
Director: Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Cast: Buddy Elias, Elmar Schulte, Werner Schumacher

1973: Der Wiedertäufer
Director: Werner Schlechte
Cast: E. Marks, F. Schütter, V. Lechtenbrink

1973: Der Besuch der alten Dame
Director: Hans/Cella Gaugler/Ettore
Cast: Hasle Rüegsau

1972: La piu bella serata della mia vita
Director: Ettore Scola
Cast: Alberto Sordi, Michel Simon, Pierre Brasseur

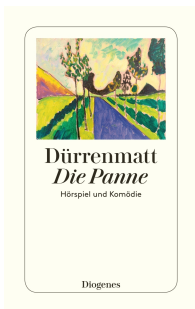
1971: Porträt eines Planeten
Director: Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Cast: W. Reichmann, H. Lohner, Ch. Hörbiger

1971: König Johann
Director: Vaclav Hudcek
Cast: H. Qualtinger, H. Seeböck

1967: Der Meteor
Director: Leopold Lindtberg
Cast: Leonard Steckel, Wolfgang Forester, Gert Westphal, Peter Brogle

1967: Frank V. Opfer einer Privatbank
Director: Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Cast: Therese Giehse, Hubert von Meyernick

1966: Griechen sucht Griechin
Director: Rolf Thiele
Cast: Heinz Rühmann, Irina Demick, Charles Regnier



Dürrenmatt
Die Panne
Hörspiel und Komödie
Diogenes
Traps
144 pages
1995
Movie Adaptation



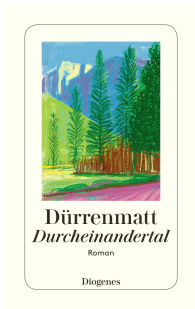
Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Das Mögliche ist ungeheuer
Ausgewählte Gedichte
Diogenes
The Enormity of the Possible
144 pages
1993



Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Gedankenfuge
Diogenes
Gedankenfuge
208 pages
1992



Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Griechen sucht Griechin
Diogenes
Greek Man Seeks Greek Wife
160 pages
1992
Movie Adaptation



Dürrenmatt
Durcheinandertal
Roman
Diogenes
The Vale of Confusion
176 pages
1989



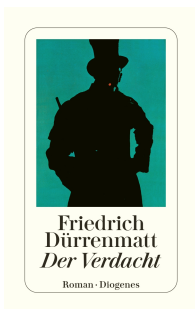
Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Versuche
Diogenes
Trials
184 pages
1988



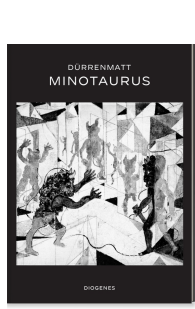
Dürrenmatt
Der Richter und sein Henker
Roman - Diogenes
The Judge and His Hangman
128 pages
1986



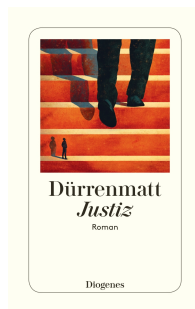
Dürrenmatt
Der Auftrag
oder
Vom Beobachten des Beobachters der Beobachteten
Novelle - Diogenes
The Assignment
136 pages
1986



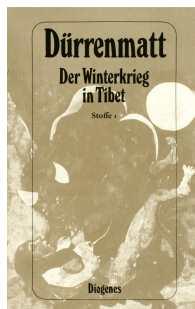
Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Der Verdacht
Roman - Diogenes
Suspicion
128 pages
1986



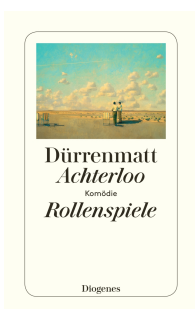
DÜRRENMATT
MINOTAURUS
Diogenes
The Minotaur
56 pages
1985



Dürrenmatt
Justiz
Roman
Diogenes
Justice
376 pages
1985
Movie Adaptation



Dürrenmatt
Der Winterkrieg in Tibet
Stoffe
Diogenes
The Winter War in Tibet
192 pages
1984



Dürrenmatt
Achterloo
Komödie
Diogenes
Achterloo
128 pages
1983



Dürrenmatt
Turmbau
Stoffe IV - IX
Diogenes
The Winter War in Tibet/ Lunar Eclipse/ The Rebel
360 pages
1981
Movie Adaptation



Dürrenmatt
Zusammenhänge
Essay über Israel
Nachgedanken
Diogenes
Nexus
240 pages
1980



Dürrenmatt
Die Wiedertäufer
Komödie
Diogenes
The Anabaptists
144 pages
1980
Movie Adaptation

Movie adaptations (cont'd)

1965: Romulus der Große

Director: Helmut Käutner
Cast: Romuald Pekny

1964: Die Physiker

Director: Fritz Umgelter
Cast: Therese Giehse, Gustav Knuth, Kurt Ehrhardt, Wolfgang Kieling, Siegfried Lowitz

1964: Ein Engel kommt nach Babylon

Director: William Dieterle

1963: The Visit

Director: Bernhard Wicki
Cast: Ingrid Bergmann, Anthony Quinn, Hans-Christian Blech

1961: Die Ehe des Herrn Mississippi

Director: Kurt Hoffmann
Cast: O.E. Hasse, Johanna von Koczian, Martin Held, Charles Regnier, Max Haufler

1960: Abendstunde im Spätherbst

Director: Rudolf Noelte
Cast: Ernst Schröder, Friedrich Maurer, Günter Meissner

1959: Der Besuch der alten Dame

Director: Ludwig Cremer
Cast: R. Wanka, E. Flickenschildt, A. Schradiek

1958: Es geschah am hellichten Tag

Director: Ladislao Vajda
Screenplay: Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Cast: Heinz Rühmann, Michel Simon, Gert Fröbe

1957: Die Panne

Director: Fritz Umgelter
Cast: Peter Ahrweiler, Carl Wery, Harry Hardt

1957: Der Richter und sein Henker

Director: Franz Peter Wirth
Cast: Herbert Tiede, Maria Körber, K.G. Saebisch

Praise

The Crime Novels

»Spellbinding mystery novels.« – Richard Lipetz / Washington Post

Friedrich Dürrenmatt

»Even after the death of its author, his huge and unique work is still a dark continent, largely unilluminated and untested, a continent in motion, always good for intellectual surprises and dramatic adventures.« – Gert Ueding

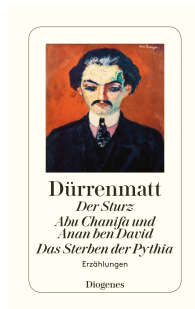
»One of Europe's most important postwar dramatists.« – The Daily Telegraph, London



Urfaust/ Woyzeck.
Adaptations
208 pages
1980



Theatre
272 pages
1980



The Coup/ Abu Chanifa and Anan ben David/ Smithy/ The Dying of the Pythia
160 pages
1980



Romulus der Great
176 pages
1980
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**

Praise (cont'd)

»Dürrenmatt was addressing the real crowd assembled in real theaters with all their swiftly changing feelings, their ignorance, bad habits and vaulting possibilities. At the same time he was a philosopher-poet with one eye on the picture of the real, on artifice, and on the long preoccupations of philosophy and art through the ages.« – Arthur Miller

»Dürrenmatt has always been too impulsive for his times but the chaotic world has quickly caught up with him. That's why his work will last. The purifying force of his irony becomes the more important and useful – particularly because it is driven by the profound humanity that Dürrenmatt's friends always knew in him.« – Peter Brook

»Now, like an avalanche in far-off mountains, comes Friedrich Dürrenmatt, a detective-story writer with a genius for the theater, to give us a new theme, or rather to remind us of an ancient one: justice. His vision is a cold one but pure, and very nearly unique in our day, for in his devotion to the idea of justice he has succeeded in casting across an age committed to false Love the dark shadow of the scales.« – Gore Vidal

»It was once observed by Oscar Wilde that a writer should be able to write anything. Mr. Dürrenmatt meets Wilde's requirement. He adopts a manner well liked by some of our better writers, that of a Roman of the later Empire, a golden weariness. Mr. Dürrenmatt chooses compression of style and strictness of form, but the late Imperial feeling is still there.« – Saul Bellow

»One of the greatest writers of our century.« – Corriere della Sera, Milan

»Next to Kafka and Camus, he is one of the great questioners of this world.« – Martin Ebel / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»Friedrich Dürrenmatt belonged to the most cheerful apocalyptic writers of the 20th century.« – Thomas Hürlimann / Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

»Universal, uncomfortable and visionary: Friedrich Dürrenmatt is the worthy reigning literary monarch of the year.« – Wener Krause / Kleine Zeitung, Graz

»He is evil, he doesn't think anything good of humanity, and he describes this – but he does it with wit.« – Elke Heidenreich / SRF2, Zurich

»Friedrich Dürrenmatt is a centennial author, because he saw the century that was to follow him too.« – Daniele Muscionico / Aargauer Zeitung, Aarau



The Complete Prose Oeuvre
3024 pages
1980



Politics
192 pages
1980



Play Strindberg/ Portrait of a Planet
208 pages
1980
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



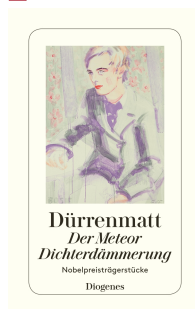
The Physicists
96 pages
1980
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



Philosophical Essays
208 pages
1980



The Conformist
336 pages
1980



The Meteor/ Twilight of the Poets
208 pages
1980
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



Literature and Painting
240 pages
1980



Reviews
176 pages
1980



King John/ Titus Andronicus
240 pages
1980
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



The Dog/ The Tunnel/ Traps
112 pages
1980



Hercules and the Augean Stables/ The Trial about the Donkey's Shadow
240 pages
1980



Dürrenmatt
*Griechische sucht Griechin
 Mister X macht Ferien*
 Grotesken
 Diogenes
 Greek Man Seeks Greek Wife/ Mr. X Goes on Holiday/ News about the State of Press during the Stone Age
 208 pages
 1980



Dürrenmatt
Nächtliches Gespräch mit einem verachteten Menschen
 Hörspiele und Kabarett
 Diogenes
 Nocturnal Conversation with a Scorned Man/ Stranitzky and the National Hero/ The Vega Enterprise
 160 pages
 1980



Dürrenmatt
Die Frist
 Komödie
 Diogenes
 The Deadline
 160 pages
 1980



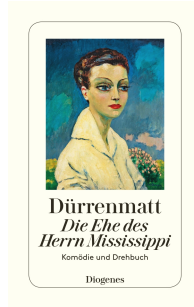
Dürrenmatt
Frank der Fünfte
 Komödie einer Privatbank
 Diogenes
 Frank V
 176 pages
 1980
 🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



Dürrenmatt
Es steht geschrieben Der Blinde
 Frühe Stücke
 Diogenes
 It Is Written/ The Blind Man
 336 pages
 1980



Dürrenmatt
Ein Engel kommt nach Babylon
 Fragmentarische Komödie
 Diogenes
 An Angel Comes to Babylon
 144 pages
 1980
 🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



Dürrenmatt
Die Ehe des Herrn Mississippi
 Komödie und Drehbuch
 Diogenes
 The Marriage of Mr. Mississippi
 224 pages
 1980
 🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



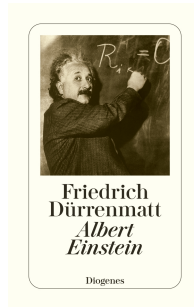
The Complete Dramatic Oeuvre
 3408 pages
 1980



Dürrenmatt
Der Besuch der alten Dame
 Tragische Komödie
 Diogenes
 The Visit
 160 pages
 1980
 🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



Dürrenmatt
Aus den Papieren eines Wärters
 Frühe Prosa
 Diogenes
 Early Prose: Christmas/ The Torturer/ The Sausage/ The Son/ The Old Man/ Portrait of Sisyphos/ The Theatre Director/ The Trap/ Pilatos/ The Town/ From the Papers of a Guardsman
 208 pages
 1980



Friedrich Dürrenmatt
Albert Einstein
 Diogenes
 Albert Einstein
 80 pages
 1979