Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hugo Loetscher
The Laundry Room Key

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

A key to a wash house or daily rubbish, the eighth cardinal sin or a bishop with a plastic foil can be the trigger for the type of ironic stories collected in this volume. With his comments on Switzerland, Loetscher once again shows that he is a dedicated mocker who has mastered the art of opening the doors to the Swiss soul with the key to a wash house.

Contemporary Literature
192 pages
11.3 × 18 cm
December 1988

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Movie adaptation

Mittwoch
Director: Markus Silberschmidt

Awards

2006	Erster Preis des Lyrikwettbewerbs des Festival Rilke in Sierre für Es war einmal die Welt
2004	Ehrenbürger der Gemeinde Escholzmatt (Kanton Luzern)
2000	Werkbeitrag des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1999	Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1999	Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1996	Literaturpreis der Brasserie Lipp für Die Fliege und die Suppe: Auszeichnung für Hugo Loetscher sowie für die Übersetzung ins Französische von Jean-Claude Capèle
1994	Kreuz des Südens (Orden für Verdienste um die brasilianische Kultur)
1992	Großer Schiller-Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung
1989	Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich für Die Fliege und die Suppe
1986	Preis der Luzerner Förderungs-Kommission
1985	Literaturpreis der Zürcher Kantonalbank
1985	Ehrengabe der Schweizerischen Schiller-Stiftung
1983	Mozart-Medaille der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Stiftung, Basel
1972	Literaturpreis der Stadt Zürich
1966	C.F. Meyer Preis
1964	Charles Veillon Preis für Abwässer. Ein Gutachten
1964	›Charles Veillon Preis‹ für *Abwässer. Ein Gutachten*

Praise

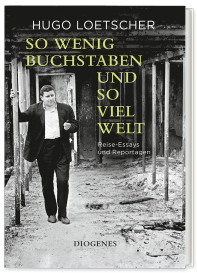
The Laundry Room Key

»An exceptional figure in contemporary Swiss literature, directly after Frisch and Dürrenmatt.« – Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Almost four decades have passed, and in that time Switzerland has changed considerably, but many of these comments still feel astoundingly fresh.« – Babina Cathomen / Kulturtipp, Zurich

Photo: © Sabine Dreher

Hugo Loetscher (1929 – 2009) was one of Switzerland's most famous writers with novels such as *Sewage* and *The Immune Man*. In his role as journalist, he travelled to Latin America, Southeast Asia and the USA regularly. He always held a particular interest in photography. Hugo Loetscher, who lived in Zurich, was a visiting lecturer at universities in Switzerland, the USA, Germany and Portugal; and a member of the Darmstadt Academy for Language and Poetry. In 1992, he was awarded the ›Schiller Prize‹ by Switzerland's Schiller Foundation.

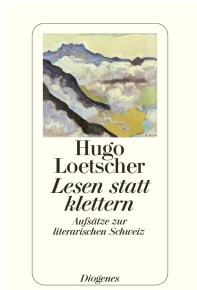


So Few Letters, So Much World
480 pages
2024

Inventing Discovery
384 pages
2016

Wonder World
416 pages
2009

Once There Was the World
128 pages
2004



Read, Don't Climb!
448 pages
2003

The Hunchback
224 pages
2002

The Eyes of the Mandarin
384 pages
1999

Season
416 pages
1995

Praise (cont'd)

Hugo Loetscher

»Hugo Loetscher is a wonderful narrator whose formulation of weighty thoughts is as light as a feather.« – Sonntags Zeitung, Zurich

»Punchlines, quirky humour, startling observations, witty comments – there's never a moment of boredom with Hugo Loetscher.« – Jürg Altwegg / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

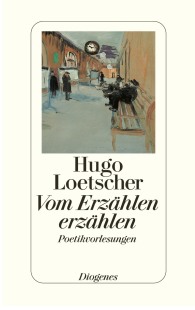
The Preaching Rooster
376 pages
1992

Culinarities
144 pages
1991

The Wreath Maker
192 pages
1989

The Fly and the Soup
224 pages
1989

Sewage
160 pages
1989
Award winner



Telling about Story-Telling
176 pages
1988

Papers of the Immune Man
512 pages
1986

The Immune Man
448 pages
1985

Noah
144 pages
1984

Was My Time My Time
192 pages
1983

Autumn in the Big Orange
168 pages
1982