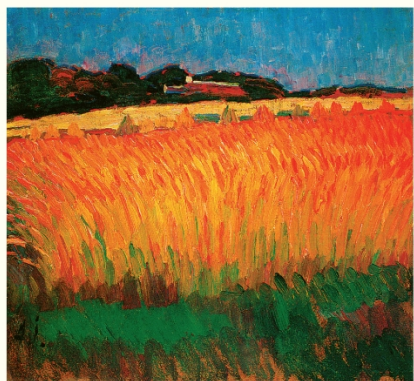


Andrzej Szczypiorski *Pyrotechnics*

Published by Diogenes as *Feuerspiele*
Original title: *Gra z ogniem*



Andrzej Szczypiorski *Feuerspiele*

Roman · Diogenes

Count Kyrill, a Russian exile living in Paris and Graham Wilson III, an American magnate plan a big art exhibition in the idyllic Bad Kranach. Art collectors from all over the world are to take part, for example the Polish Jew Joel Weiss and the German Baron Kugler. The exhibition, which is to show some of Europe's finest art treasures, could be a proof that the fine arts are superior to petty nationalism. But while Count Kyrill and Graham Wilson III are engaged in revealing their interests – an insurance fraud on the highest level – in the course of a telephone call, a German security official with a dubious past is busy preparing for the exhibition. The Pole Jan, who has been tormented by nocturnal visions of the past since the death of his wife, also sets off for Kranach. Thus a meeting takes place between people with a common past which overtakes them in this play with fire.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
368 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
September 2000

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Awards

- 1998 Goldene Feder (Publizistischer Preis der Verlagsgruppe Bauer).
- 1997 Die Unicef wählt ihn zum ›Botschafter des guten Willens‹.
- 1997 Verleihung des Ordens ›Polonia Restituta‹ durch den Präsidenten der Republik für seine Verdienste um Polen.
- 1995 Zum Mitglied im deutschen Orden ›Pour le mérite‹ ernannt.
- 1995 Andreas-Gryphius-Preis der Künstlergilde e.V.
- 1995 Bundesverdienstkreuz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland in Anerkennung für seine Verdienste um die deutsch-polnischen Beziehungen.
- 1994 Dortmunder Initial der Arbeitsgemeinschaft 1. Dortmunder Buchmesse.
- 1994 Herder-Preis der Stiftung F.V.S. zu Hamburg.
- 1991 Preis der Warschauer Buchhändler für ›Nacht, Tag und Nacht‹.
- 1990 Kunst- und Kulturpreis der deutschen Katholiken, Berlin.
- 1989 Nelly-Sachs-Preis, Kulturpreis der Stadt Dortmund.
- 1988 Wichtigster polnischer Literaturpreis, Wiadomosci Literackie, für ›Die schöne Frau Seidenman‹.
- 1988 Österreichischer Staatspreis für Europäische Literatur.
- 1972 Preis des polnischen PEN-Clubs für ›Eine Messe für die Stadt Arras‹.
- 1965 Zaïks-Preis für Hörspiele.
- 1964 Kavalierskreuz des Ordens Polonia Restituta.

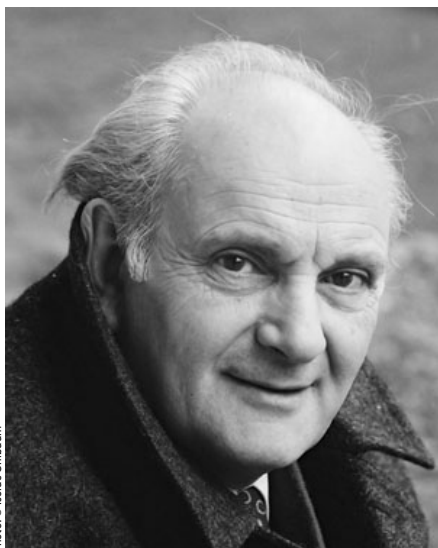
Praise

Pyrotechnics

›He is one of today's outstanding writers, and the historical lessons he teaches are grim.« – Der Spiegel, Hamburg

Andrzej Szczypiorski

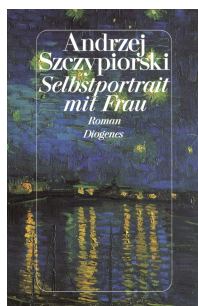
›His narrative style is calm and leisurely, yet pacy; his writing is composed, but always with wit and vigour.« – Marcel Reich-Ranicki / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung



Andrzej Szczypiorski (1928 – 2000) was born in Warsaw, took part in the city's uprising against German occupation in 1944 and was subsequently sent to Sachsenhausen concentration camp. After the war, he worked as an author and publisher and became a member of the executive board of the Polish PEN Club and the Writer's Association. In December 1981, he was interned in a camp and remained a prisoner there until spring 1982. In 1989, he was chosen as a candidate by Solidarnosc and elected to the Polish Senate by the people. He received the Austrian ›State Award for European Literature‹ and the ›Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany‹.



Europe on the Road
368 pages
1996



Self-Portrait With Woman
256 pages
1994



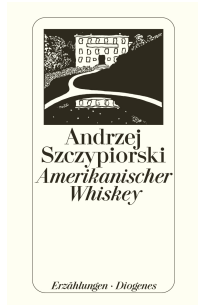
The Shadow Catcher
176 pages
1993



Night, Day and Night
304 pages
1991



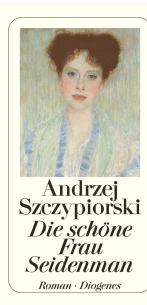
Notes on the State of Things
256 pages
1990
🏆 Award winner



American Whiskey
264 pages
1989
🏆 Award winner



A Mass for Arras
200 pages
1988
🏆 Award winner



The Beautiful Mrs Seidenman
272 pages
1988