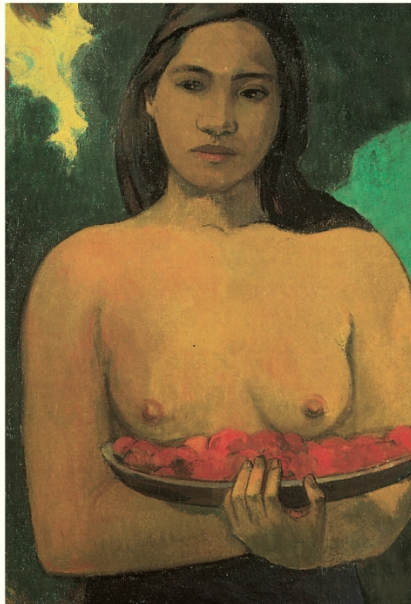


# Diogenes

Leon de Winter  
*Zionoco*

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



Leon  
de Winter  
*Zionoco*

*Roman · Diogenes*

Sol Mayer, waiting for take-off clearance for his Boeing 737 flight from Boston to New York, does not yet know that this flight is to change his life: the attractive rabbi, star preacher of Yaakov Temple, the big synagogue on Fifth Avenue, falls desperately in love with the woman in the seat next to him, a singer in a small band. Thus his already somewhat troubled life acquires an added complication. He can no longer turn a blind eye to the crisis in his marriage with Naomi, heiress to a fortune, to whom he owes his social and material prestige. And the liberal-thinking rabbi's public attacks against orthodox Hassidic Jews have brought him some powerful enemies. Above all, however, his murky past in which Sol the roué and never-do-well rebelled against his powerful father comes back sharply into focus. It was only through a miracle that the young man, at the time an unbeliever, decided to follow in his deceased father's footsteps and become a rabbi. A miracle – or the delirium of his alcohol-fuddled brain? A question which has caused Sol metaphysical torment ever since. A series of turbulent and disturbing events force him to embark on a hallucinatory journey which takes him back once more onto his father's trail – a journey stranger than he could possibly have imagined.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
416 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
February 1997

### Contact:

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

### 📺 Movie adaptations

#### 2003: SuperTex

Director: Jan Schütt  
Cast: Stephen Mangan, Jan Declair

#### 2001: The Hollywood Sign

Director: Sönke Wortmann  
Cast: Burt Reynolds, Rod Steiger, Tom Berenger

#### 1993: Hoffman's hunger

Director: Leon de Winter  
Cast: Jacqueline Bisset, Elliot Gould, Thom  
Hoffman, Huub Stapel

### 🏆 Awards

- 2009 Literaturpreis der Provinz Brabant  
(»Schrijversprijs der Brabantse  
Letteren«) für *Das Recht auf Rückkehr*
- 2006 Buber-Rosenzweig-Medaille
- 2002 WELT-Literaturpreis für sein  
Gesamtwerk
- 2002 »Welt-Literaturpreis« für Leon de  
Winter: »Die Jury ehrt Leon de Winter  
für seine so komplex wie spannend  
angelegten Romane, die am Beispiel  
meist jüdischer Protagonisten  
hochkomisch und psychologisch  
einfühlsam vom Getriebensein des  
modernen Menschen erzählen. Sein  
Schreiben zeichnet sich durch einen  
souveränen Wechsel von Nähe und  
Distanz im Hinblick auf seine Figuren  
aus, durch ein meisterliches Gespür für  
pointierte Dialoge, durch die gekonnte  
Verknüpfung verschiedener Haupt- und  
Nebenhandlungen, die seine Bücher so  
komplex wie spannend machen. Er wird  
für sein Gesamtwerk geehrt.«
- 1978 »Reina Prinsen Geerlings-Preis« für *De  
(ver)wording van de jongere Dürer*

### Praise

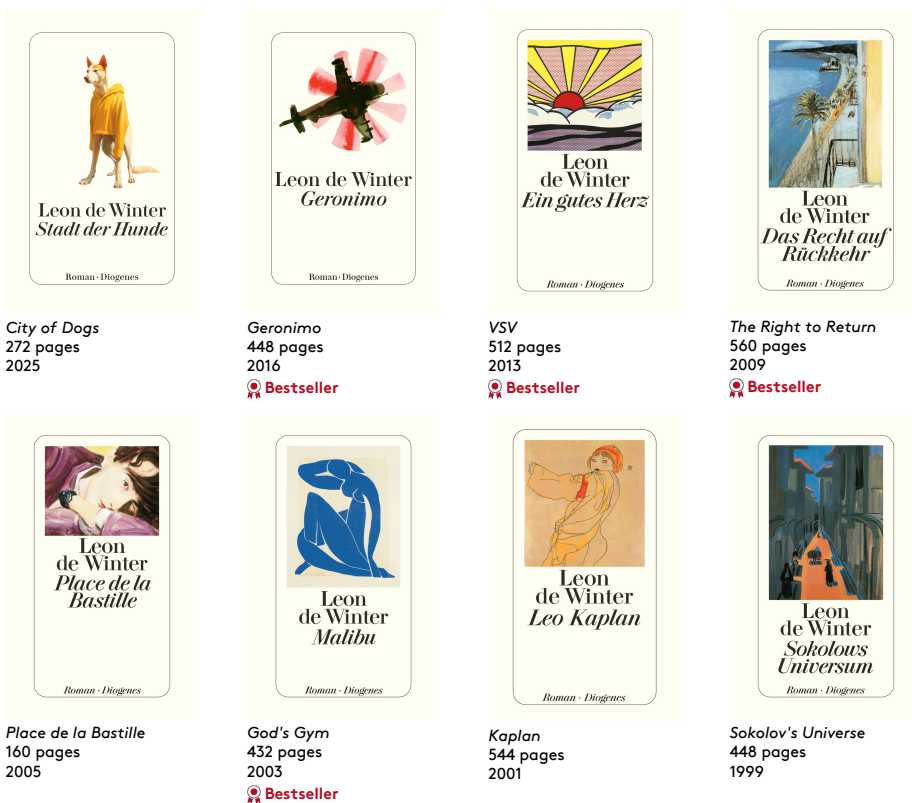
Leon de Winter

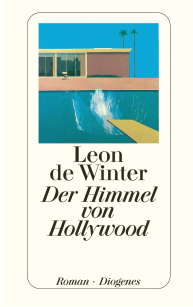
»Ingenious, entertaining, funny – always to the  
surprise and delight of the reader.« – Volker  
Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Leon de Winter stokes the fires of imagination  
until the pages are ablaze. It's an approach  
that makes him unique.« – De Volkskrant,  
Amsterdam

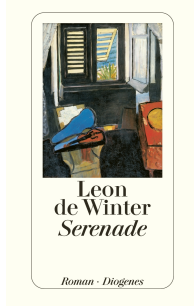


Leon de Winter was born in 's-Hertogenbosch in 1954, the son of Dutch Jews. He has worked as a freelance writer and filmmaker since 1976, and lives in the Netherlands. In 2002, he was awarded the ›Welt Literature Prize‹; in 2006, the ›Buber-Rosenzweig Medal‹ for his fight against Antisemitism; and in 2009, the ›Brabant Literature Prize‹ for *The Right of Return*.





The Sky of Hollywood  
368 pages  
1998  
 **Movie Adaptation**



Serenade  
176 pages  
1996



SuperTex  
272 pages  
1994  
 **Movie Adaptation**



Hoffman's Hunger  
416 pages  
1994  
 **Movie Adaptation**