Diogenes

Book factsheet

Otto Jägersberg
À la Carte

Published by Diogenes as *À la carte*
Original title: *À la carte*



Why doesn't Germany have Wine Kings instead of Wine Queens? Should we really drink beer with our potato soup? Do you prefer your cold meats fine or just regular? Writing with gusto and aplomb, precision and whimsy, Otto Jägersberg's short prose not only explores the culinary arts but also touches on local German traditions, taking a curious peek around the neighbourhood, the cemetery and into the boudoir. As an observer and humourist, Jägersberg turns his eagle eye on the realities of German life – in the forest and the city.

Contemporary Literature
224 pages
11.6 × 18.4 × 1.7 cm
November 2022

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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

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

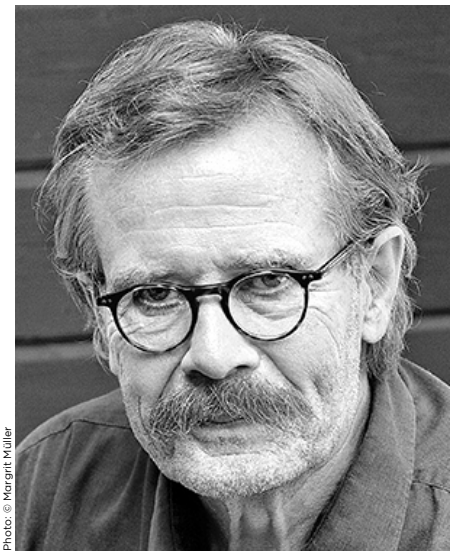


Photo: © Margrit Müller

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.



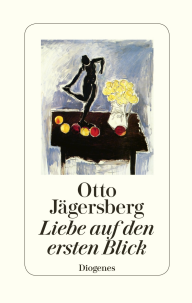
Pinboy
176 pages
2026



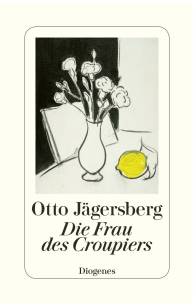
Evening Pages
176 pages
2024



Piano Bar
272 pages
2021



Love at First Sight
288 pages
2019



The Croupier's Wife
240 pages
2016



Poems
208 pages
2015



Incense and Pumpernickel
160 pages
1964