Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hartmut Lange
A Different Kind of Happiness

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Contemporary Literature
144 pages
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Translation rights currently sold:
Catalan (Quaderns)
Spanish/world (Quaderns)

Awards

2016	2016/2017 mit dem ›Rom-Preis‹ verbundenes Stipendiat in der Deutschen Akademie Rom Villa Massimo
2005	Drei Monate lang Stipendiat der Hermann-Hesse-Stiftung in Calw
2004	›Literatur-Nord-Preis‹ für *Leptis Magna*
2003	›Italo-Svevo-Preis‹
2000	›Kester-Häusler-Ehrengabe‹ der Deutschen Schillerstiftung von 1859 für das Lebenswerk
1998	›Literaturpreis‹ der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
1995	*Schnitzlers Würgeengel* ›Buch des Monats‹ Mai der Darmstädter Jury
1989	›Prix de la littérature traduite‹ für *Die Waldsteinsonate*
1968	›Gerhart-Hauptmann-Preis‹
1966	›Förderpreis‹ der Niedersächsischen Landesregierung

Praise

A Different Kind of Happiness

»Hartmut Lange is a master of story-telling.« – Deutsche Welle, Cologne

Hartmut Lange

»His novellas are master narratives about the magical force of shadows creeping up unnoticed.« – Hans-Dieter Schütt / (German journalist)

»The master of linguistic stringency.« – Kristina Maidt-Zinke / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»A minimalist with far-reaching effect.« – Hans-Christian Kosler / Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Hartmut Lange deserves being read with particular attention because he clearly differs from loud drummers, such as Grass or Boll, on the other side of the Rhine. One feels reminded of the plays by Maeterlinck and Wedekind.« – Alain Bosquet / Le Figaro, Paris

»Truth lies in disappearance«, a puzzling sentence which runs through the book like a leitmotif and poses many questions. Corinna Mühlbauer, the reticent girlfriend of the renowned Berlin structural engineer Kippenberger, throws doubt not only on her relationship with Kippenberger but also on the marriage of their friends, a dentist couple called Dahlhaus. How does she do it? How does she, who is so often silent and apparently uninvolved, manage to irritate the people around her and plunge them into despair? She is there one minute and gone the next, vanished as if into thin air. The truth lies in disappearance...
It is not clear why Corinna suddenly refuses to marry Kippenberger, why she always takes the same route to the Grunewald lake, and why the moon over the lake is visible in the south-east at first, and then in the north-west.
The perspectives are confused, nothing is in its right place. The marriage carousel starts slowly to revolve, until Corinna finds the man who she believes understands her »different kind of happiness«. In this mysterious subtle book, Hartmut Lange penetrates spaces far beyond the hectic life of the Berlin metropolis. In brilliantly dense and laconic language, he describes people willing to embark on tortuous paths in their search for happiness.

Praise (cont'd)

»The fragile elegance of his style is unmatched in contemporary literature.« – Werner Fuld / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»The master among the fantastical rationalists.« – Edelgard Abenstein / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

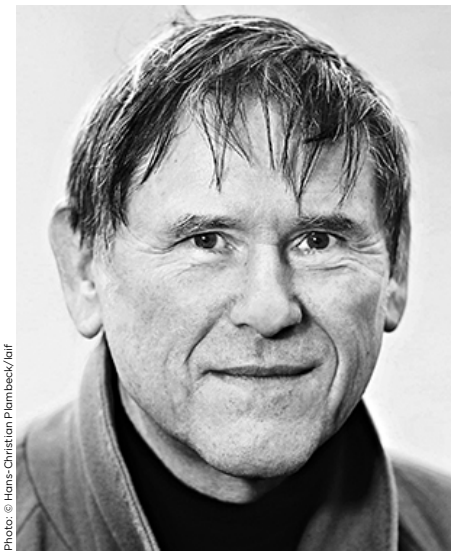
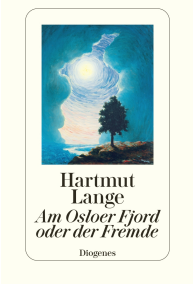


Photo: © Hans-Christian Plambeck/laif

Hartmut Lange, born in Berlin in 1937, studied theatrical production. He has been honoured with several awards for his plays, essays and prose. His most recent publication is the volume of novellas *At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger*. He is now a freelance writer and lives in Berlin.



The Roughly Forty-Year-Old Man
128 pages
2025



At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger
112 pages
2022



The Courtyard
96 pages
2020



On the Prorer Wiek and Elsewhere
128 pages
2018



The View from the Window
112 pages
2015



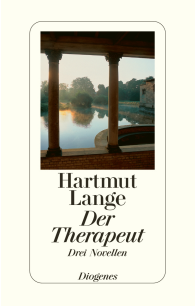
The House on Dorothea Street
128 pages
2013



In the Museum
128 pages
2011



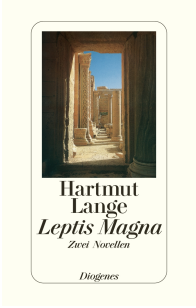
The Abyss of the Finite
144 pages
2009



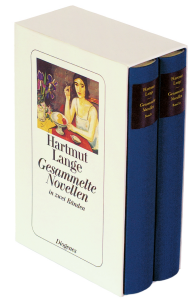
The Therapist
160 pages
2007



The Wanderer
128 pages
2005



Leptis Magna
176 pages
2003
Award winner



Collected Novellas
1152 pages
2002



Knowledge from Error
208 pages
2002



The String Quartet
144 pages
2001



The Educational Trip
128 pages
2000



The ›Waldstein‹ Sonata
112 pages
1984
Award winner