

Hartmut Lange
The String Quartet

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Original title: *Das Streichquartett*



Hartmut Lange
Das Streich-
quartett

Novelle · Diogenes

The disaster begins when Berghoff, the first violin of the quartet of the same name, decides to add Schönberg's String Quartet No. 4, op. 37, to the quartet's repertoire. Schönberg's composition strikes him as being the music of a big-city neurotic – like a mirror in which he slowly starts to recognise himself. He gradually loses his self-confidence, and then his wife tells him that she is taking their daughters away, against his will, on a holiday that seems never-ending.

One day he finds a valuable violin in his deserted Berlin apartment, put there by some unknown person – a delightful windfall which he plays at the rehearsals of the Schönberg Quartet. The rehearsals become more and more intensive and Berghoff's behaviour increasingly neurotic. He refuses to accept the fact that someone has long since taken the bow out of his hand. A disturbing drama of jealousy runs its course.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
144 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
October 2001

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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

Hartmut Lange

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

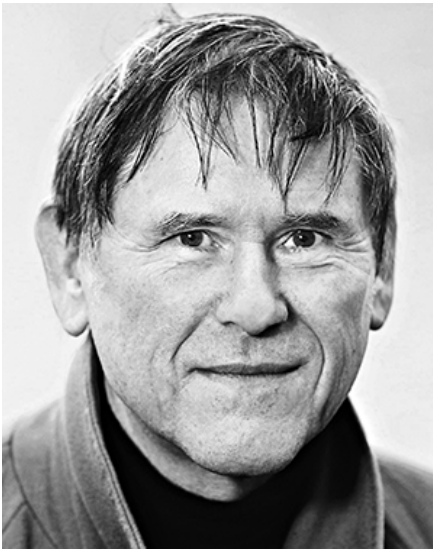
»The master of linguistic stringency.« –
Kristina Maidt-Zinke / Süddeutsche Zeitung,
Munich

»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

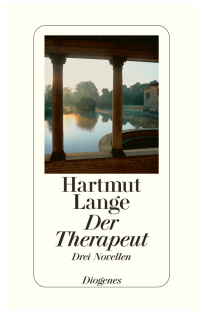
»The fragile elegance of his style is unmatched
in contemporary literature.« – Werner Fuld /
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

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



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.

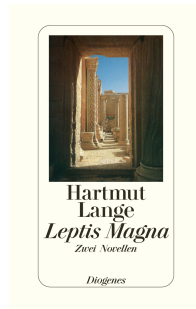
<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der etwa vierzigjährige Mann</i> Diogenes</p> <p><i>The Roughly Forty-Year-Old Man</i> 128 pages 2025</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Am Osloer Fjord oder der Fremde</i> Diogenes</p> <p><i>At the Oslo Fjord or The Stranger</i> 112 pages 2022</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Lichthof</i> Diogenes</p> <p><i>The Courtyard</i> 96 pages 2020</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>An der Prorer Wiek und anderswo</i> Novellen · Diogenes</p> <p><i>On the Prorer Wiek and Elsewhere</i> 128 pages 2018</p>
<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Blick aus dem Fenster</i> Diogenes</p> <p><i>The View from the Window</i> 112 pages 2015</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Das Haus in der Dorotheenstraße</i> Novellen · Diogenes</p> <p><i>The House on Dorothea Street</i> 128 pages 2013</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Im Museum</i> Diogenes</p> <p><i>In the Museum</i> 128 pages 2011</p>	<p>Hartmut Lange <i>Der Abgrund des Endlichen</i> Drei Novellen · Diogenes</p> <p><i>The Abyss of the Finite</i> 144 pages 2009</p>



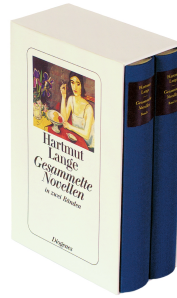
The Therapist
160 pages
2007



The Wanderer
128 pages
2005



Leptis Magna
176 pages
2003
🏆 Award winner



Collected Novellas
1152 pages
2002



Knowledge from Error
208 pages
2002



The Educational Trip
128 pages
2000



A Different Kind of Happiness
144 pages
1999



The ›Waldstein‹ Sonata
112 pages
1984
🏆 Award winner