

Sasha Filipenko

Published by Diogenes as *Die Elefanten*
Original title: *Slon*



Sasha
Filipenko
Die Elefanten

Roman · Diogenes

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature, Novel
256 pages
March 2026

Contact:

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

Awards

- 2025 Ruth Altenhofer wurde für ihre Übersetzung des Romans *Der Schatten einer offenen Tür* von Sasha Filipenko aus dem Russischen mit dem ›Sacher-Masoch-Preis‹ ausgezeichnet.
- 2024 ›Prix Transfuge du meilleur roman européen‹ für *Kremulator*
- 2024 ›ProLitteris-Hauptpreis‹ für herausragende Leistungen in der Literatur und Kultur
- 2022 *Rote Kreuze* auf der Shortlist für ›EBRD Literaturpreis‹, vergeben von der Europäischen Bank für Wiederaufbau und Entwicklung für übersetzte Belletristik
- 2021 ›Writer in Residence‹ bis Juli 2021: Fondation Jan Michalski, Montricher, Nähe Genfersee, Schweiz
- 2020 ›Yasnaya Polyana Award‹ des Lev Tolstoy Museum für *Der Schatten einer offenen Tür*
- 2016 *Die Jagd* auf der Shortlist für den russischen ›Big Book Award‹
- 2016 ›Snob Award: Made in Russia‹ für *Die Jagd*
- 2014 ›Znamya Magazine Award‹ für *Der ehemalige Sohn*
- 2014 ›Russian Prize‹ für *Der ehemalige Sohn*

Praise

Sasha Filipenko

»There is something unshakable to Sasha Filipenko's literature – impressive.« – Nora Zukker / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

»Filipenko is a relatable intellectual and a first-class writer who is gradually becoming known and appreciated in the West.« – Wlodek Goldkorn / L'Espresso, Rome

»Sasha Filipenko is one of those young writers who immediately gained a reputation for being a serious author. If you want to get inside the head of modern, young Russia, read Filipenko.« – Svetlana Alexievich / (›Nobel Prize‹ winner 2015)



Praise (cont'd)

»Sasha Filipenko's books are based on thorough documental research – material that he turns into fictional literature with linguistic innovation and acumen. Sasha Filipenko possesses the ability to depict dismal circumstances with powerful metaphors, rendering the absurdity of political and existential situations. With satire and finesse, he reconstructs the intimate and the mundane that lets humans persevere – or keeps them caught – in objectively unbearable situations. His humour is brilliant and conveys complex historical contexts to the readers, employing human fates as examples. By bestowing this award on Sasha Filipenko, the jury also wants to honour an author whose career has been marked by substantial personal and political risks. Both of which reflect in his writing. Sasha Filipenko is an invaluable witness who contributes, as an intermediary, to the understanding of the contemporary geopolitical situation.« – Pro Litteris Award Jury

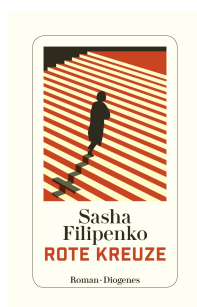
Sasha Filipenko, born in Minsk in 1984, is a Belarusian author who writes in Russian. After leaving his training in classical music, he studied literature in St. Petersburg and worked as a journalist, scriptwriter, television presenter and gag writer for a satirical show. His novels *Red Crosses* and *The Hunt* were *Spiegel* bestsellers. Filipenko is an ardent football fan and lived in St. Petersburg until 2020. He had to leave Russia with his family and currently lives in Switzerland.



The Shadow of an Open Door
272 pages
2024
Award winner



The Hunt
288 pages
2022
Award winner
Bestseller



Red Crosses
288 pages
2020
Award winner
Bestseller