

**Hansjörg Schneider**  
***The Basel Killings***

Published by Diogenes as *Hunkeler macht Sachen*  
Original title: *Hunkeler macht Sachen*



**Hansjörg  
Schneider**  
***Hunkeler  
macht Sachen***  
*Der fünfte Fall*

*Roman · Diogenes*

In his fifth case, Hunkeler is probing deep into Switzerland's past. It's the end of October and the city of Basel is as grey and wet as December. With his girlfriend Hedwig away in Paris for three months, Inspector Peter Hunkeler is back in his smoke-filled favourite pub nursing a few after work beers. It's already the early hours of the morning when he sees old Hardy on his way home. Hunkeler sits down next to him and smokes a cigarette. But Hardy, usually so eager to chat, stays uncharacteristically silent. His throat is just a gaping wound. The media and city police are in agreement: a band of Albanian smugglers are behind the murder. But that's too easy for Hunkeler, who decides to follow a hot lead using his own methods – and is promptly suspended. He clears out his office and puts his faith in his unmistakable psychological intuition. It leads him to Basel's red light district and to the dark, unknown depths of Swiss history.

## Book factsheet

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature  
288 pages  
11.3 x 18 cm  
March 2013

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

**Translation rights currently sold:**  
Arabic (Al-Arabi)  
English/world (Bitter Lemon)

### **Movie adaptations**

**2011: Hunkeler und die Augen des Ödipus. TV-Verfilmung SF 1**

Director: Christian von Castelberg  
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet  
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Axel Milberg, Marie Leuenberger

**2011: Silberkiesel. Hunkeler tritt ab**

Director: Markus Fischer  
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet  
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Gilles Tschudi, Charlotte Heinemann, Cynthia Coray und Ercan Durmaz.

**2009: Hunkeler und der Fall Livius**

Director: Stefan Jäger  
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet  
Cast: Matthias Gnädinger, Klaus Henner Russius, Gilles Tschudi, Jean Pierre Gos

**2008: Hunkeler macht Sachen**

Director: Markus Fischer  
Screenplay: Dominik Bernet  
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Charlotte Heinemann, Oliver Tobias

**2005: Tod einer Ärztin**

Director: Markus Fischer  
Screenplay: Markus Fischer  
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Charlotte Heinemann, André Jung

**2004: Das Paar im Kahn**

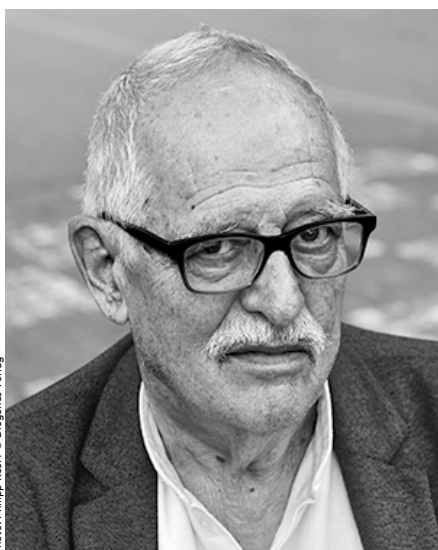
Director: Marie-Louise Bless  
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Gilles Tschudi, Andrea Bettini

**1981: Sennentuntschi. Fernsehspiel**

Director: Hansjörg Schneider  
Cast: Joseph Arnold, Walo Lüönd, Hanspeter Müller-Drossaart, Maja Stolle

### **Awards**

- 2018 ›Ehrendoktor‹ der Philosophisch-Historischen Fakultät der Universität Basel
- 2016 ›Ehrenpreis Burgdorfer Krimitage‹ für *Hunkeler-Reihe*



Hansjörg Schneider, born in Aarau, Switzerland, in 1938, worked as a teacher and journalist. For a long time, he was one of the most performed playwrights in the German language and his *Hunkeler* crime novels are regularly on the Swiss Bestseller list. Hansjörg Schneider has received numerous awards, among them the ›Friedrich Glauser Prize‹ in 2005. He lives and writes in Basel.

## Awards (cont'd)

- 2005 ›Friedrich-Glauser-Preis‹ für *Hunkeler macht Sachen*
- 2003 Schweizer Schillerpreis
- 1998 Wetzlarer Phantastikpreis
- 1986 Aargauer Literaturpreis
- 1986 Literaturpreis der Stadt Basel
- 1981 Werkjahr des Kantons Zürich
- 1979 Werkjahr der Pro Helvetia
- 1977 Stipendiat des Berliner Künstlerprogramms (DAAD)
- 1976 ›Preis der Welti-Stiftung für das Drama‹ *Der Erfinder*

## Praise

### *The Basel Killings*

»This is an absorbing story; Hansjörg Schneider paints a disturbing picture of a cruelty that has lain undiscussed behind the façade of Swiss propriety and complacency; and all the while he keeps us guessing right to the end.« – Max Easterman / The European Literature Network

»This gripping, plausible debut bodes well for future entries.« – Publishers Weekly, New York

### Hansjörg Schneider

»Hansjörg Schneider is a talented and conscientious storyteller.« – Sabine Brandt / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»Hansjörg Schneider has created a wonderful protagonist: rugged, awkward and likeable.« – Volker Albers / Hamburger Abendblatt

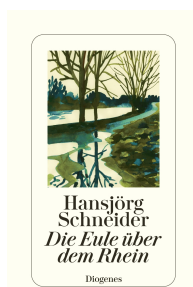
»Hansjörg Schneider's crime stories will have you hooked. As soon as a murderer is caught, you are already longing for the next one to appear.« – Benedikt Scherer / Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

»Hansjörg Schneider is very addictive! Definitely one of the greatest German speaking authors.« – Jochen Schmoldt / Plärrer, Nürnberg

»Ideal for anyone who enjoys Martin Beck, Wallander and Maigret.« – crimefictionlover.com



*Sparrows at the Fountain*  
208 pages  
2023  
**Bestseller**



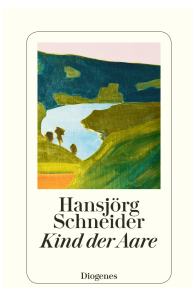
*The Owl over the Rhine*  
288 pages  
2021  
**Bestseller**



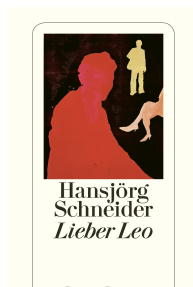
*Hunkeler in the Wilderness*  
224 pages  
2020  
**Bestseller**



*In the Café and on the Street*  
240 pages  
2019



*Child of the Aare*  
352 pages  
2018  
**Bestseller**



*Dear Leo*  
304 pages  
2016



*Hunkeler's Secret*  
208 pages  
2015

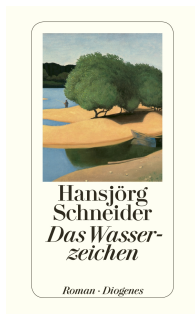


*Hunkeler and the ›Golden Hand‹*  
240 pages  
2013



**The Murder of Anton Livius**  
256 pages  
2013

**Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



**The Watermark**  
304 pages  
2013



**Hippos under the House**  
224 pages  
2012



**Night Book for Astrid**  
128 pages  
2012



**Death of a Doctor**  
240 pages  
2011

**Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



**The Couple on the Barge**  
224 pages  
2011

**Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



**The Fluttering Man**  
160 pages  
2011

**Bestseller**



**Silver Pebbles**  
240 pages  
2011

**Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**



**Hunkeler and the Eyes of Oedipus**  
240 pages  
2010

**Movie Adaptation**  
 **Bestseller**