

**Christoph Poschenrieder**  
*The Invisible Novel*

Published by Diogenes as *Der unsichtbare Roman*  
Original title: *Der unsichtbare Roman*



**Christoph  
Poschenrieder**  
*Der unsichtbare  
Roman*

Diogenes

A writer is led into temptation by the German Foreign Office. The novel about the power of conspiracy theories and fake news tells the story of a genuine historical event with mischievous and laconic humour.

Who is to blame for World War I? In 1918 the question becomes ever more urgent. In his villa on Lake Starnberg the bestselling writer Gustav Meyrink receives an offer from the German Foreign Office. Would he be willing – for a decent fee – to write a novel pinning the blame for all the blood spilled on the freemasons? Meyrink, who is actually an unpatriotic writer and yoga practitioner, accepts the advance – and gets himself into hot water.

»Words win wars.«

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature  
272 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 x 2.1 cm  
October 2019

### Contact:

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

### Awards

- 2019 »Stern des Jahres« der *Münchner Abendzeitung* für *Der unsichtbare Roman* als der beste Roman
- 2017 Arbeitsstipendium der Landeshauptstadt München für sein sechstes Romanprojekt *Meyrink und die Macht des Wortes*
- 2016 Mit dem Rom-Preis verbundenes Stipendiat des Deutschen Studienentrums in Venedig
- 2015 »Bamberger Villa-Concordia-Stipendium« für einen elfmonatigen Aufenthalt ab April 2015

### Praise

#### *The Invisible Novel*

»The author plays his game with the fact-devout reader – a fun and informative game which doesn't only relate to the past.« – Karin Grossmann / *Sächsische Zeitung*, Dresden

»In truth, it's about fake news. After all, that's what was happening when the Foreign Minister of the German Reich wanted to buy an author in order to propagandize a political lie. Today, it takes place over Twitter.« – Hadwiga Fertsch-Röver / *HR2 Kultur*, Frankfurt

»A wonderfully disconcerting book, fantastic in the best sense of the word, and also witty.« – Frank Pommer / *Die Rheinpfalz*, Ludwigshafen

»Christoph Poschenrieder condenses fact and fiction into a rousing legend.« – Dagmar Kaindl / *Buchkultur*, Vienna

»The 55-year-old Munich writer portrays his antihero as playful and clever, in excellent, cheeky prose, supported by comprehensive research which Poschenrieder deftly interweaves.« – Günter Keil / *Abendzeitung*, Munich

#### Christoph Poschenrieder

»Christoph Poschenrieder's light story telling is both stylistically brilliant and highly readable.« – Eckart Baier / *Buchjournal*, Frankfurt

»What a quick-witted narrator!« – Karin Grossmann / *Sächsische Zeitung*, Dresden

»He has so much fun with his writing, this Christoph Poschenrieder – one of the best German authors around today.« – Kristian Thees / *SWR*, Stuttgart



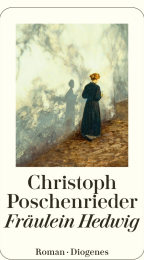



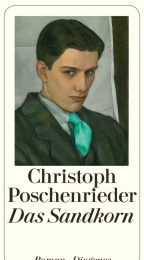
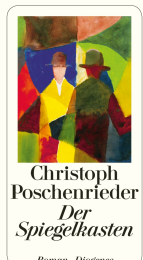

**Praise (cont'd)**

»Christoph Poschenrieder dresses heavy subjects in lightness and humour.«  
 – Barbara Schulz / Der Spiegel, Hamburg

»Poschenrieder's novels captivate the reader with their depth, ambiguity and intelligent humour.« – Ditta Rudle / Buchkultur, Vienna

»Poschenrieder, philosophy graduate and trained journalist, knows how to present serious topics with a light touch.« – Steffen Radlmaier / Nürnberger Nachrichten

Christoph Poschenrieder, born in Boston in 1964, studied philosophy in Munich and journalism in New York. Since 1993 he has been a freelance journalist and documentary film maker, though today his focus is literary writing. His debut, the critically acclaimed *The World in the Head*, was an international hit, while *A Grain of Sand* was nominated for the ›German Book Prize‹ in 2014. He lives in Munich.

 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Fräulein Hedwig</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>Miss Hedwig</i> 336 pages 2025</p>	 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Ein Leben lang</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>For a Lifetime</i> 304 pages 2022</p>	 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Kind ohne Namen</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>A Child with No Name</i> 288 pages 2017</p>	 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Mauersegler</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>Common Swift</i> 224 pages 2015 <b>Bestseller</b></p>
 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Das Sandkorn</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>A Grain of Sand</i> 416 pages 2014</p>	 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Der Spiegelkasten</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>The Mirror Box</i> 224 pages 2011</p>	 <p><b>Christoph Poschenrieder</b> <i>Die Welt ist im Kopf</i> <small>Roman · Diogenes</small></p> <p><i>The World in the Head</i> 352 pages 2010</p>	