Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hansjörg Schneider
Hunkeler and the Eyes of Oedipus

Published by Diogenes as *Hunkeler und die Augen des Ödipus*
Original title: *Hunkeler und die Augen des Ödipus*



Where is the theatre director Bernhard Vetter? His houseboat was found abandoned by the dam of the town of Märkt, but there is no sign of the man himself. And this several days after a performance of ›Oedipus the King‹ in Basel caused a real stir – so much so that a high society lady knocked out two of the director's teeth with her garnet ring. The press are in a frenzy of speculation: could the director be lying at the bottom of the Rhine? Is this the bourgeoisie's revenge on this uncompromising man of the theatre?
Peter Hunkeler, detective inspector from the Basel Criminal Investigation Department, has only six weeks left until he retires. But is he ready to leave the stage? With mixed feelings he steps into the theatre milieu of which he himself had been part as a young man. He comes across old acquaintances, each with a score to settle with the theatre director. And finds himself in the enigmatic twilight world of Basel's Rhine harbour, in that no man's land between Switzerland, Germany and France where quite other powers hold sway.

Crime Fiction, Contemporary Literature
240 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
September 2010

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Bestseller

Swiss Bestseller

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 Heinimann, 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 Heinimann, Oliver Tobias

2005: Tod einer Ärztin
Director: Markus Fischer
Screenplay: Markus Fischer
Cast: Mathias Gnädinger, Charlotte Heinimann, 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

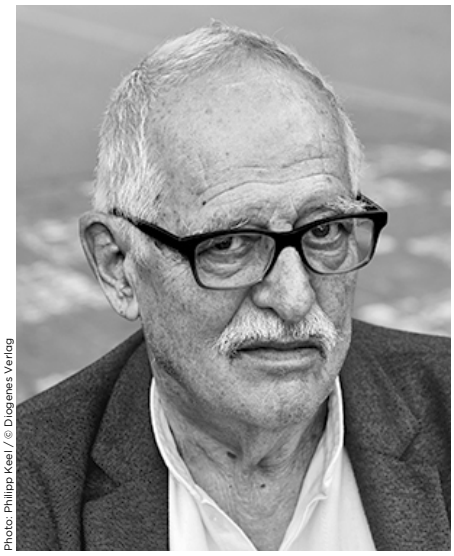


Photo: Philipp Keel / © Diogenes Verlag

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. Hansjorg Schneider has received numerous awards, among them the ›Friedrich Glauser Prize‹ in 2005. He lives and writes in Basel.



Sparrows at the Fountain
208 pages
2023
Bestseller



The Owl over the Rhine
288 pages
2021
Bestseller



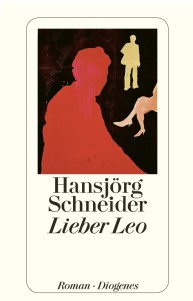
Hunkeler in the Wilderness
224 pages
2020
Bestseller



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

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

Hunkeler and the Eyes of Oedipus

»Excellent characterisation and perfect narrative rhythm and drive.« – Das Kulturmagazin

»Once again Hansjörg Schneider shows himself a Master of atmospheric details.« – Sacha Verna / NZZ am Sonntag, Zurich

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

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

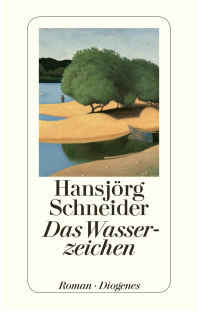
»Hansjörg Schneider is very addictive! Definitely one of the greatest German speaking authors.« – Jochen Schmoldt / Plärrer, Nürnberg



The Murder of Anton Livius
256 pages
2013
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



The Basel Killings
288 pages
2013
Award winner
Movie Adaptation



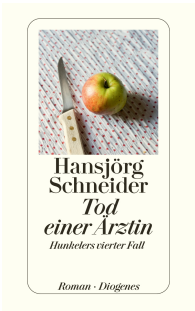
The Watermark
304 pages
2013



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