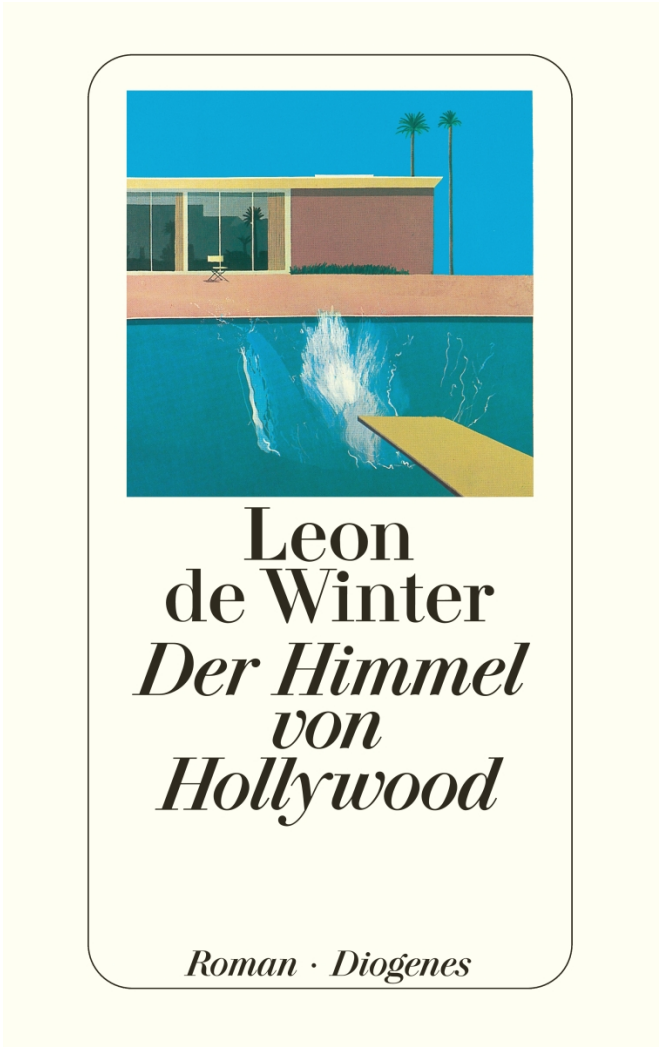
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Leon de Winter
The Sky of Hollywood

Published by Diogenes as *Der Himmel von Hollywood*
Original title: *De Hemel van Hollywood*



When the once-promising actor Tom Green returns to Hollywood after serving a prison sentence, he has only two hundred dollars in his pocket and virtually no prospects. By chance, he meets two acting colleagues who, like himself, have known better days: the sixty-year-old Jimmy Kage, and the seventy-year-old Oscar Award winner Floyd Benson who is now earning his living installing burglar alarms.
During a nocturnal pub crawl, the three men come across a horribly mutilated corpse whom one of them knows. Floyd Benson suspects that the death of Tino, the petty gangster, has something to do with the Mafia and huge sums of money. The three likeable Losers plan the coup of their lives – which involves acting in all seriousness, this time without textbook or camera.

Contemporary Literature, Crime Fiction
368 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
September 1998

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Translation rights currently sold:
Russian (Text)

Movie adaptations

2003: SuperTex
Director: Jan Schütt
Cast: Stephen Mangan, Jan Decleir

2001: The Hollywood Sign
Director: Sönke Wortmann
Cast: Burt Reynolds, Rod Steiger, Tom Berenger

1993: Hoffman's honger
Director: Leon de Winter
Cast: Jacqueline Bisset, Elliot Gould, Thom Hoffman, Huub Stapel

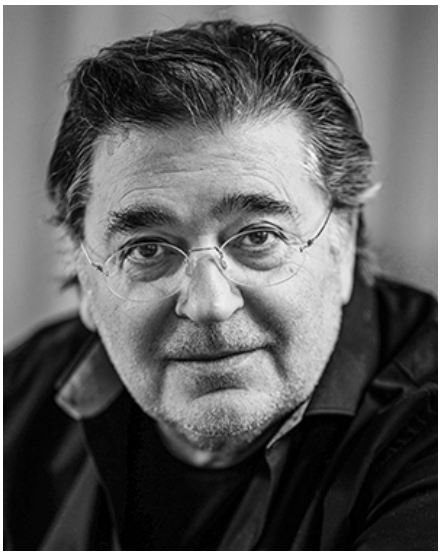
Awards

2009 Literaturpreis der Provinz Brabant (›Schrijversprijs der Brabantse Letteren‹) für *Das Recht auf Rückkehr*
2006 Buber-Rosenzweig-Medaille
2002 WELT-Literaturpreis für sein Gesamtwerk
2002 ›*Welt*-Literaturpreis‹ für Leon de Winter: »Die Jury ehrt Leon de Winter für seine so komplex wie spannend angelegten Romane, die am Beispiel meist jüdischer Protagonisten hochkomisch und psychologisch einfühlsam vom Getriebensein des modernen Menschen erzählen. Sein Schreiben zeichnet sich durch einen souveränen Wechsel von Nähe und Distanz im Hinblick auf seine Figuren aus, durch ein meisterliches Gespür für pointierte Dialoge, durch die gekonnte Verknüpfung verschiedener Haupt- und Nebenhandlungen, die seine Bücher so komplex wie spannend machen. Er wird für sein Gesamtwerk geehrt.«
1978 ›Reina Prinsen Geerlings-Preis‹ für *De (ver)wording van de jongere Dürer*

Praise

Leon de Winter

»Ingenious, entertaining, funny – always to the surprise and delight of the reader.« – Volker Hage / Der Spiegel, Hamburg



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Leon de Winter was born in 's-Hertogenbosch in 1954, the son of Dutch Jews. He has worked as a freelance writer and filmmaker since 1976, and lives in the Netherlands. In 2002, he was awarded the ›Welt Literature Prize‹; in 2006, the ›Buber-Rosenzweig Medal‹ for his fight against Antisemitism; and in 2009, the ›Brabant Literature Prize‹ for *The Right of Return*.

Praise (cont'd)

»Leon de Winter stokes the fires of imagination until the pages are ablaze. It's an approach that makes him unique.« – De Volkskrant, Amsterdam



City of Dogs
272 pages
2025



Geronimo
448 pages
2016
Bestseller



VSV
512 pages
2013
Bestseller



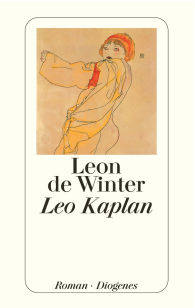
The Right to Return
560 pages
2009
Bestseller



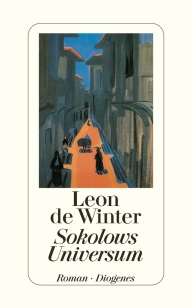
Place de la Bastille
160 pages
2005



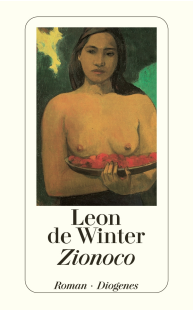
God's Gym
432 pages
2003
Bestseller



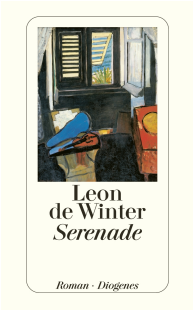
Kaplan
544 pages
2001



Sokolov's Universe
448 pages
1999



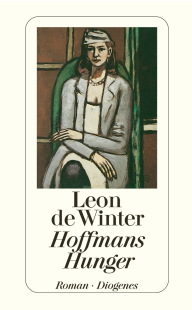
Zionoco
416 pages
1997



Serenade
176 pages
1996



SuperTex
272 pages
1994
Movie Adaptation



Hoffman's Hunger
416 pages
1994
Movie Adaptation