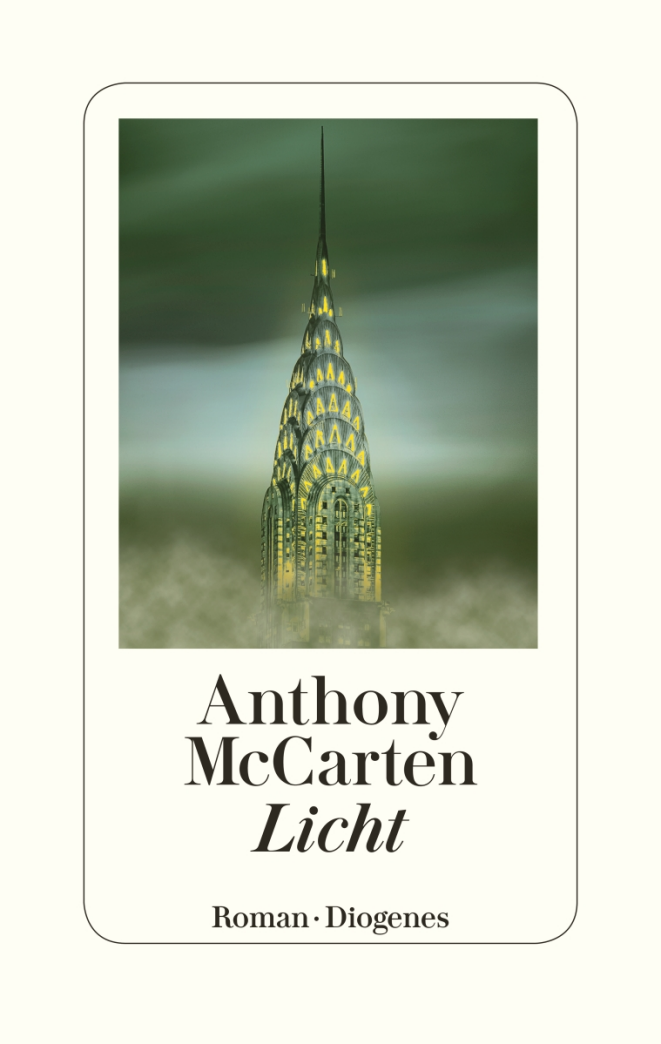
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Anthony McCarten
Brilliance

Published by Diogenes as *Licht*
Original title: *Brilliance*



Two star-studded Hollywood movie productions about Thomas Edison are in preparation, one starring Eddie Redmayne (*The Theory of Everything, The Danish Girl*), the other one Michael Shannon (*Nocturnal Animals, Salt and Fire*).
A spark of genius, a Faustian pact, two destinies: Thomas Edison and his banker J.P. Morgan.
Two geniuses in a historical thriller on money, corruption and murder.
Brilliance is the story of two very different men who together were destined to change the world.
One of them brought light into the dark, while the other was a financial genius. But whereas J. P. Morgan left the relationship as the richest man in the world, Thomas Edison, the inventor of the lightbulb, allowed himself to be seduced by the sparkling world of his business partner and not only risked his creative powers but also the well-being of his soul.

Contemporary Literature
368 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
March 2017

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Movie adaptations

2019: The Two Popes
Director: Fernando Meirelles
Screenplay: Anthony McCarten
Cast: Jonathan Pryce, Anthony Hopkins, Juan Minujín

2011: Superhero
Director: Ian FitzGibbon
Screenplay: Anthony McCarten
Cast: Andy Serkis, Thomas Brodie-Sangster, Jessica Schwarz, Michael McElhatton und Sharon Horgan

2008: Show of Hands
Director: Anthony McCarten
Screenplay: Anthony McCarten
Cast: Melanie Lynskey, Craig Hall, Stephen Lovatt

2005: The English Harem
Director: Robin Sheppard
Screenplay: Anthony McCarten
Cast: Art Malik, Martine McCutcheon, Tom Georgeson, Linda Bassett, John Sessions

Awards

2023 *Going Zero* auf der Shortlist für den ›Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize‹
2020 Oscar-Nominierung ›Bestes Drehbuch‹ für *Die zwei Päpste*
2018 Oscar-Nominierung ›Bester Film‹ für *Darkest Hour*
2015 Oscar-Nominierung ›Bester Film‹ für *The Theory of Everything*
2015 ›Bestes adaptiertes Drehbuch‹ für *The Theory of Everything* bei der Verleihung der 68. BAFTA Awards
2012 ›Young Generation Award‹ des 6. FSFF (Fünf-Seen-Filmfestival) für die Verfilmung *Am Ende eines viel zu kurzen Tages*
2008 ›Jugendbuchpreis‹ der Jury der Jungen Leser (Altersgruppe 15/16) für *Superhero*
2007 ›hörBücher Grandios‹-Auszeichnung des Magazins *Hörbücher* für das Hörbuch *Superhero,* gelesen von Rufus Beck
2001 ›Molière-Preis‹ für das beste ausländische Stück für *Ladies Night*

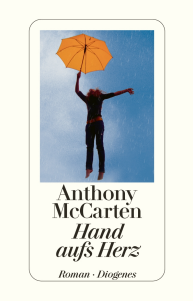
Praise

Brilliance



Photo: © Privat

Anthony McCarten, born in New Zealand in 1961, is an award-winning novelist, playwright and screen-writer. He has adapted several of his novels, acclaimed by critics and readers alike, for the big screen. In 2015 he was nominated for two ›Oscars‹ and won two ›BAFTAS‹ for his screenplay *The Theory Of Everything,* starring Eddie Redmayne as Stephen Hawking. His play *Ladies Night* continues to be an international hit. Anthony McCarten divides his time between London and Munich.



Show of Hands
336 pages
2009
Movie Adaptation

Praise (cont'd)

»You can be sure that *Brilliance* will appear at a screen near you. In the meantime, read.« – E&T Magazine, London

»Set against a backdrop of the eccentric Edison and his strange diets and marriages. […] It leaves you wondering what is fact and what is fiction.« – The Regency Magazine, Brighton

»A great novel. The story about light becomes a parable on the dark sides of progress. Strong stuff.« – Wolfgang Schütz / Augsburger Allgemeine

»Anthony McCarten's *Brilliance* becomes a cautionary tale about a chapter of human history as glorious as it was repellent.« – Rolf App / St. Galler Tagblatt

»An engrossing history lesson.« – Heinz Sichrovsky / News, Vienna

»Time and time again McCarten proves himself to be an accomplished master of suspense, positioning characters in ways that let large conflicts break out in small ways.« – Hans von Trotha / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Cologne

Anthony McCarten

»One of New Zealand's most exciting literary exports.« – International Herald Tribune, Paris

»Here's a writer with heart and an amazing boldness of invention … There is not a false sentiment or conventional genuflection in this book.« – Timothy Mo

»Anthony McCarten is surely the most creative author of his generation in New Zealand.« – Günter Keil / Münchner Feuilleton

»Anthony McCarten has a knack for great stories, a talent for treating serious subjects with a great deal of wit.« – Antje Deistler / Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Cologne