Diogenes

Book factsheet

Hugo Loetscher
Once There Was the World

Published by Diogenes as *Es war einmal die Welt*
Original title: *Es war einmal die Welt*



»So an author has managed to surpass the age of seventy. And now, after publishing novels and short stories, essays and lectures on poetic theory, after compiling commentaries and reports, he has turned his hand to poetry,« writes Hugo Loetscher in his ›Introduction to myself. On the treatment of the lyrical.‹ The poetic culmination of an author who describes himself in one of his poems as a »cartographer of the void«, whose »bird of love« is a bat and whose roots are »aerial roots«. Poems, searching images, »feelings expressed in proper grammar«, melancholy, playful, trance-like and with a perceptive presence - a lyric commentary on the »commonplace«.

Contemporary Literature
128 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
September 2004

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Movie adaptation

Mittwoch
Director: Markus Silberschmidt

Awards

2006	Erster Preis des Lyrikwettbewerbs des Festival Rilke in Sierre für Es war einmal die Welt
2004	Ehrenbürger der Gemeinde Escholzmatt (Kanton Luzern)
2000	Werkbeitrag des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1999	Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1999	Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich im Bereich Literatur
1996	Literaturpreis der Brasserie Lipp für Die Fliege und die Suppe: Auszeichnung für Hugo Loetscher sowie für die Übersetzung ins Französische von Jean-Claude Capèle
1994	Kreuz des Südens (Orden für Verdienste um die brasilianische Kultur)
1992	Großer Schiller-Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung
1989	Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich für Die Fliege und die Suppe
1986	Preis der Luzerner Förderungs-Kommission
1985	Literaturpreis der Zürcher Kantonalbank
1985	Ehrengabe der Schweizerischen Schiller-Stiftung
1983	Mozart-Medaille der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Stiftung, Basel
1972	Literaturpreis der Stadt Zürich
1966	C.F. Meyer Preis
1964	Charles Veillon Preis für Abwässer. Ein Gutachten
1964	›Charles Veillon Preis‹ für *Abwässer. Ein Gutachten*

Praise

Once There Was the World

»Marvellous poems.« – Thomas Krüger

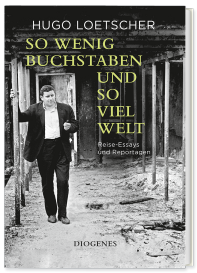
Hugo Loetscher

»Hugo Loetscher is a wonderful narrator whose formulation of weighty thoughts is as light as a feather.« – Sonntags Zeitung, Zurich



Photo: © Sabine Dreher

Hugo Loetscher (1929 – 2009) was one of Switzerland's most famous writers with novels such as *Sewage* and *The Immune Man.* In his role as journalist, he travelled to Latin America, Southeast Asia and the USA regularly. He always held a particular interest in photography. Hugo Loetscher, who lived in Zurich, was a visiting lecturer at universities in Switzerland, the USA, Germany and Portugal; and a member of the Darmstadt Academy for Language and Poetry. In 1992, he was awarded the ›Schiller Prize‹ by Switzerland's Schiller Foundation.



So Few Letters, So Much World
480 pages
2024



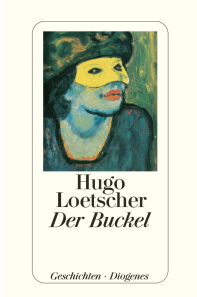
Inventing Discovery
384 pages
2016



Wonder World
416 pages
2009



Read, Don't Climb!
448 pages
2003



The Hunchback
224 pages
2002



The Eyes of the Mandarin
384 pages
1999



Season
416 pages
1995



The Preaching Rooster
376 pages
1992

Praise (cont'd)

»Punchlines, quirky humour, startling observations, witty comments – there's never a moment of boredom with Hugo Loetscher.« – Jürg Altwegg / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung



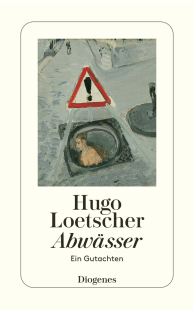
Culinarities
144 pages
1991



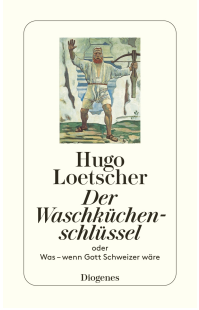
The Wreath Maker
192 pages
1989



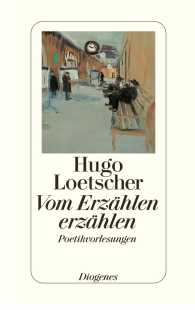
The Fly and the Soup
224 pages
1989



Sewage
160 pages
1989
Award winner



The Laundry Room Key
192 pages
1988
Movie Adaptation



Telling about Story-Telling
176 pages
1988



Papers of the Immune Man
512 pages
1986



The Immune Man
448 pages
1985



Noah
144 pages
1984



Was My Time My Time
192 pages
1983



Autumn in the Big Orange
168 pages
1982