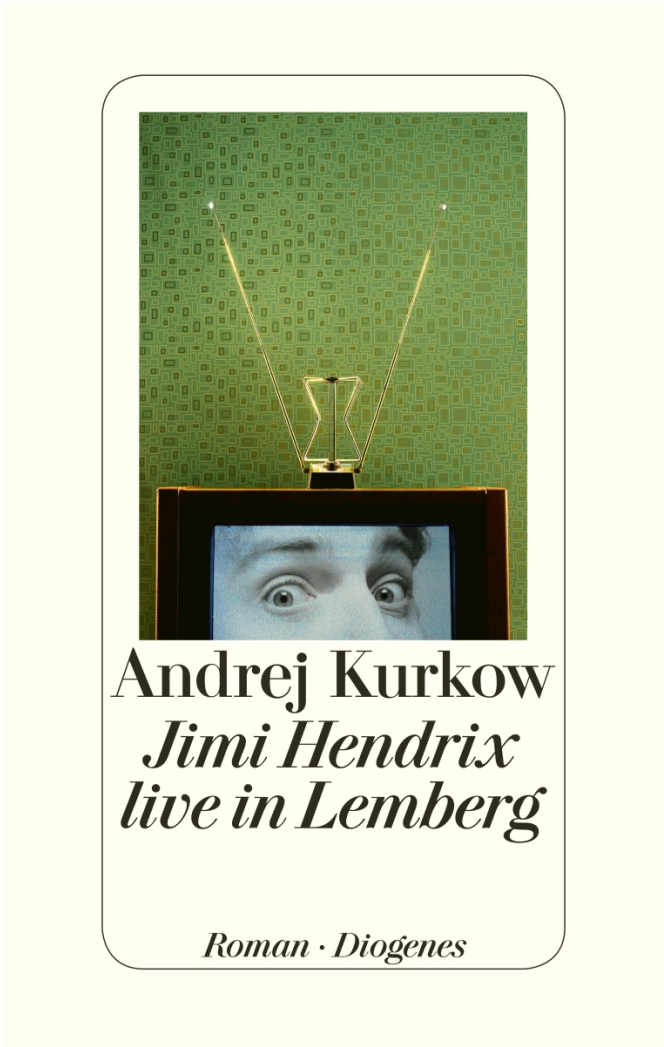
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Andrej Kurkow
Jimi Hendrix Live in Lviv

Published by Diogenes as *Jimi Hendrix live in Lemberg*
Original title: *Lwowskaja gastrol Jimi Hendrixa*



In Lviv, a multi-ethnic town in Galicia, strange things are happening. And it's not to do with the aged hippies who are gathering around a mysterious grave in the cemetery by night. Nor about the former KGB-man who wants to apologise to the people he spied on. And nor is it about the fact that a young woman with an allergy to money is working in the ›bureau de change‹. And it's certainly not about the ancient Opel Vectra racing at full speed over the cobblestones to cure patients with kidney stones.
No, in Lviv, far stranger things are happening. Seagulls are circling in the sky, the air smells salty: it seems as though the town, situated far inland in the West of the Ukraine, is being haunted by the sea …
In Andrej Kurkow's Lviv, miracles can happen in every little side street and on every street corner. And that's all down to the power of love, the boundless imagination of a writer – and the immortal music of Jimi Hendrix.

Contemporary Literature
416 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
October 2014

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Awards

2026 Andrej Kurkow erhält den ›Orwell Prize‹ in der Kategorie *Spezial Prize*

for 'one of the finest bodies of work in contemporary literature'
2024 Englische Übersetzung von *Samson und Nadjeschda* auf der Longlist des ›International Booker Prize‹
2023 Italienische Übersetzung von *Samson und Nadjeschda* für den ›Premio Strega Europeo‹ nominiert
2023 englische Übersetzung von *Jimi Hendrix live in Lemberg* auf der Longlist des ›International Booker Prize‹
2023 Als ausländisches Ehrenmitglied (Foreign Honorary Membership) in die ›American Academy of Arts and Letters‹ aufgenommen
2022 ›Geschwister Scholl Preis‹ für *Tagebuch einer Invasion*
2022 *Graue Bienen* nominiert für den ›Prix du meilleur livre étranger‹
2022 *Graue Bienen* auf der Shortlist des ›Prix Fémina‹
2022 ›Prix Médicis étranger‹ für *Graue Bienen*
2022 ›The Halldór Laxness International Literature Prize‹
2021 ›Fulbright Visiting Scholar-Stipendium‹ in San Diego, Kalifornien, USA
2014 Ernennung zum ›Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur‹ durch den französischen Präsidenten François Hollande
2012 ›Prix des lecteurs‹, Frankreich, für *Der Gärtner von Otschakow*
2012 ›Premio Gogol‹, Rom
2009 Jurymitglied für den ›Man Booker International Prize 2009‹
2008 Writer in Residence in Innsbruck
2005 Nach Einschätzung der Zeitschrift *Lire* ist Andrej Kurkow einer der 50 wichtigsten Schriftsteller der Welt.
2002 Preis ›Schriftsteller des Jahres 2001‹, den Buchhändler anlässlich der Buchmesse in der Ukraine vergeben haben

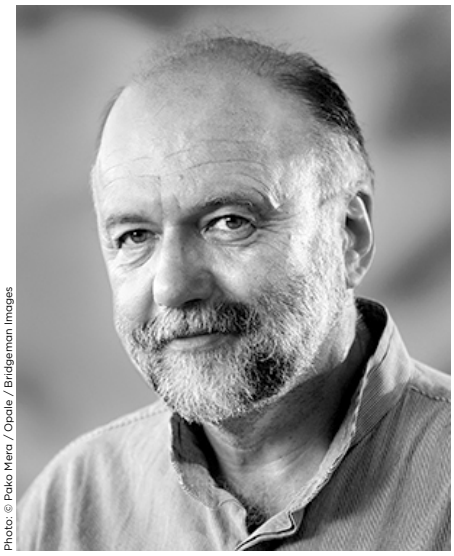
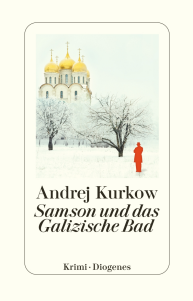


Photo: © Pako Mera / Opale / Bridgeman Images

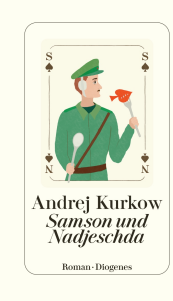
Andrej Kurkow, born in 1961 in what was then Leningrad, has lived in Kyiv since his childhood. He studied foreign languages and became a newspaper editor and screenwriter. Since his novel *Death and the Penguin*, he has been considered one of the Ukraine's most important contemporary authors. His work has been translated into forty-five languages. Kurkow lives with his family in Ukraine as a freelance writer. In 2023, he was made an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



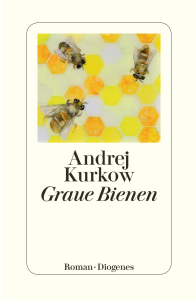
Samson and the Galician Bath
480 pages
2025



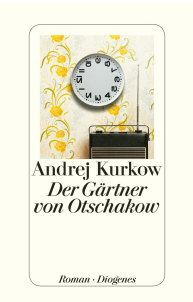
Samson and the Stolen Heart
432 pages
2023



Samson and Nadezhda
368 pages
2022
Award winner
Bestseller



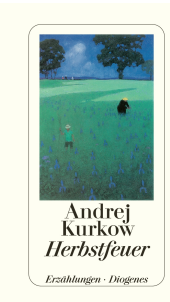
Grey Bees
448 pages
2019
Award winner



The Gardener of Ochakov
352 pages
2012
Award winner



The Milkman in the Night
544 pages
2009



Bonfire
240 pages
2007



The President's Last Love
704 pages
2005

Awards (cont'd)

2001 In der Ukraine als Künstler des Jahres 2001 mit dem Preis ›Mann des Jahres‹ ausgezeichnet
1997 Sein Drehbuch *Ein Freund des Verblichenen* wird für den ›Felix‹-Preis in der Kategorie ›Bester Europäischer Drehbuchautor des Jahres‹ nominiert.
1996 Das Drehbuch, basierend auf Kurkows Erzählung *Ein Freund des Verblichenen*, erhielt ein Stipendium vom französischen Kultusministerium, wodurch der Film teilfinanziert werden konnte. *Priyatel pokoynika* wurde 1997 eim Filmfestival in Cannes gezeigt.
1994 Stipendium der Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung für seine Erzählung *Liebeslied eines Kosmopoliten*
1994 Nominierung des Romans *Bikfordov mir* für den Russischen Booker Prize

Praise

Jimi Hendrix Live in Lviv

»Andrej Kurkow's latest coup is vodka-based magic realism, peopled with true Kurkowian protagonists - bizarre and slightly melancholic.« – Oliver Jungen / Cicero - Literaturen, Berlin

»An ironic lightness of touch, black humour and an intuitive grasp of the pragmatism of ordinary people forced to live through difficult times – these have always been the hallmarks of Andrej Kurkow's prose.« – Gregor Ziolkowski / Deutschlandradio Kultur, Berlin

»Besides that, the architecture of the novel comes with echos of the post-modernism that is en vogue in Russian language literature today, peppered with remembrances of atmospheres of Bulgakov and *The Master and Margarita.*« – Wlodek Goldkorn / La Repubblica, Turin

Andrej Kurkow

»Andrey Kurkov is a master of grotesque humour.« – Brigitte, Hamburg

»With Kurkov, one is guaranteed entertainment of the highest order.« – Wiener Zeitung

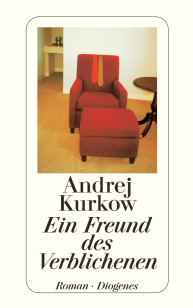
»Andrej Kurkows knows how to make a story entertaining and amusing.« – Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

»Kurkov writes short, sly, page-turners that specialize in what we might call absurdist noir.« – John Powers / NPR's Fresh Air, Washington D.C.

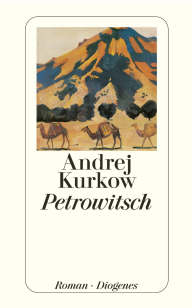
»Armed with the hilarious animal metaphors that populate his books, Kurkow depicts a humorous and scathing satire of the post-Soviet world, and of a Ukrainian society rediscovering itself, independent and riven by mafia, chaos and corruption.« – Laurent Rigoulet / La Chronique, Brussels



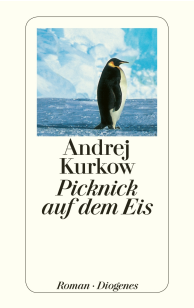
Penguin Lost
544 pages
2003



A Matter of Death and Life
144 pages
2001
Award winner



The Good Angel of Death
448 pages
2000



Death and the Penguin
288 pages
1999

Praise (cont'd)

»Kurkov's style is spare and effective, drawing us with deception ease into a dense, complex world full of wonderful characters.« – Michael Palin / (author)

»A latter-day Bulgakov [. . .] A Ukrainian Murakami.« – Phoebe Taplin / The Guardian, London

»A post-Soviet Kafka.« – Colin Freeman / The Daily Telegraph, London

»A kind of Ukrainian Kurt Vonnegut.« – Ian Sansom / The Spectator, London

»Andrey Kurkov connects the absurd with the ordinary, the comic with the sordid.« – Isabelle Mandraud / Le Monde, Paris

»He works with such imaginative power, which nothing seems to be able to quench, with a humorous and tender tone, with protagonists who don't have their fate in their hands, yet are saved by goodness and kindness.« – Alain Guillemoles / La Croix, Montrouge

»His prose marked by humour and a contagious humanity evokes magical realism and the absurd.« – Jorge Ferrer / El Mundo, Madrid

»Andrey Kurkov's writing style moves between the unexpected, the beautiful and the hilarious –– a tone that permits him to tell a tragedy without renouncing the paradox and the satire.« – Karina Sainz Borgo / ABC, Madrid

»It is no surprise that Kurkov began his literary career as a joke writer during the Soviet era. His humour is sharp and precise, but never cynical. As long as there is laughter, there is also hope, even within a rotten system.« – Tommi Melender / Helsingin Sanomat, Helsinki