

Diogenes

Slawomir Mrozek
The Doppelgänger

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Original title: *Sobowtór*



»Der Doppelgänger« (The Double) of the tyrant had represented him for many years at parades and other boring events, and when he was not on duty he cultivated his land like all other farmers. But the tyrant had now died. There will now be an end to exploitation and injustice, said the bodyguards of the dead tyrant as they looked for the double, and also no more mysterious accidents. There was only one thing they had to ensure: that the people should not under any circumstances be reminded of earlier times by a face.

Whether it's a case of a long story or a short piece of prose, whether it concerns famous stories of presidents or slap-stick fables, Mrozek is a master of surprising changes, and his needle-sharp points penetrate the thickest skin.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
272 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
April 2000

World rights are handled by Diogenes

Movie adaptations

1978: *Amor*

Director: Jerzy Lipman
Cast: Andy Pap, Martin Lüttge, Ingeborg Lapsien, Dieter Prochnow

1966: *The Enchanted Night*

Director: George R. Foa
Cast: Bernard Finch, Dudley Foster, Margaret Nolan, Richard Pearson

1966: *En förtrollad natt*

Director: Yngve Nordwall
Cast: John Harryson, Nils Nygren, Kerstin Tidelius

1964: *Das Martyrium des Peter O'Hey*

Director: Peter Lilienthal
Cast: Angelika Hurwicz, Joachim Wichmann

1963: *Striptease*

Director: Peter Lilienthal
Cast: Max Haufler, Joachim Wichmann

Awards

- 2012 Ehrendoktor der polnischen Universität Slaski
- 2006 Deutsch-Polnischer Literaturpreis »Samuel-Bogumil-Linde-Preis« für sein Gesamtwerk
- 2000 Am siebten Internationalen Budapester Buchfestival erhält Mrozek den Budapest Grand Prix
- 1994 Erster Preis für »Liebe auf der Krim« (Milosc na Krymie) beim Wettbewerb um das beste Theaterstück in Paris
- 1993 Hitar-Petar-Preis des Hauses für Satire und Humor in Gabrowo, Bulgarien
- 1987 Franz-Kafka-Literaturpreis, Klosterneuburg, Österreich
- 1984 Jahrespreis des »Polnischen Schriftstellerverbandes in der Fremde«, London
- 1972 Österreichischer Staatspreis für Europäische Literatur
- 1964 Prix de l'Humour Noir für »Der Elephant« (Slon)
- 1954 »Julian-Brun-Preis« für journalistische Arbeiten

Praise

The Doppelgänger

»Mrozek's thoughts are so unusual that they can be understood by everyone.« – Gabriel Laub / Die Welt, Berlin



Praise (cont'd)

»Simple, short, pointed stories.« – Michael Schornstheimer / Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Hamburg

Slawomir Mrozek

»Mrozek's literature is addictive.« – El País, Barcelona

»The author, known primarily as a playwright, reveals himself as a writer of incisive prose who captures the absurdity of reality and its interaction with unreality in polished, witty formulations.« – Neue Zürcher Zeitung

»Brilliant [...] the writer is an Aesop for our times.« – Publishers' Weekly, New York

Slawomir Mrozek was born in Borzecin, Poland, in 1930. He was first known as a caricaturist and author of satirical short stories. His plays (*Tango*, *The Emigrants*, *Striptease*, and many others) made him world famous. In 1968 he went into exile. After living many years in Paris and later in Mexico, he returned to Poland in 1996 and spent the final years of his life in southern France. He died on August 15, 2013 in Nice.



Journal 1962 - 1969
544 pages
2014



Carnival or The First Wife of Adam
80 pages
2014



Baltazar
384 pages
2007



Life for the Advanced
240 pages
2006



Life for Beginners
192 pages
2004



All Sinners and A Lovely View
208 pages
2002



Lolo
304 pages
2000



My Unknown Friend
192 pages
1999



Slawomir
Mrozek
Amor
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Amor
544 pages
1998

Movie Adaptation



Slawomir
Mrozek
Emigranten
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Emigrants
400 pages
1997



Slawomir
Mrozek
Der Perverse
und andere
Geschichten

Diogenes

The Pervert
272 pages
1995



Slawomir
Mrozek
Watzlaff
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Vatzlav
272 pages
1994



Slawomir
Mrozek
*Liebe auf
der Krim*
Eine tragische Komödie
in drei Akten

Diogenes

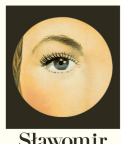
Love on Crimea
208 pages
1994



Slawomir Mrozek
Auf hoher See
S striptease
Zwei Einakter

Diogenes

Out at Sea
80 pages
1994



Slawomir
Mrozek
*Die
Geheimnisse
des Jenseits*

Diogenes

Secrets of the Beyond
256 pages
1993



Slawomir
Mrozek
Tango
Schauspiel
in drei Akten

Diogenes

Tango
368 pages
1993



Slawomir
Mrozek
Der Botschafter
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

The Ambassador
544 pages
1993



Slawomir
Mrozek
Striptease
und andere Stücke

Diogenes

Striptease
304 pages
1992

Movie Adaptation



Slawomir
Mrozek
Die Giraffe
und andere
Erzählungen

Diogenes

The Giraffe
320 pages
1992