Martin Geck: Listening to Beethoven
[German title: Beethoven hören. Wenn Geistesblitze geheiligte Formen zertrümmern]
184 pages. With several musical examples. Hardcover 12 × 19 cm

Martin Geck – «doyen of musicology» according to the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, one of Germany’s leading newspapers – approaches Beethoven’s genius not by studying his biography, but through selected works, from string quartets and piano sonatas to the great symphonies. He focuses on the musical structures in Beethoven’s works and portraits the great composer as a fierce and at the same time vulnerable soul. A book for Beethoven connoisseurs!

Martin Geck is a professor for Musicology at the University of Dortmund. With his books on music history and biographies of great composers, he has reached a wide public. His Beethoven biography was unanimously acclaimed by critics as the «great book of a great musicologist» (SWR 2).

Ernst Hofacker: The Seventies. The Sound of a Decade
[German title: Die 70er. Der Sound eines Jahrzehnts]
350 pages. 63 Illustrations. Hardcover 16 × 24 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-011244-1

The seventies were a momentous decade for pop music, and they were full of innovation. Very different genres such as glam rock, punk, reggae and heavy metal originated in the seventies – as well as Krautrock, electropop, disco or hip-hop. Ernst Hofacker unfolds the seventies’ pop-cultural complexity by looking at ten specific dates, from the Kent State massacre on May 4th 1970 up to the election of Maggie Thatcher as British Prime Minister on May 3rd 1978. He describes the development of musical trends and their counter movements, points out their social background and follows their influence up to the present.

Ernst Hofacker (* 1957) is a music journalist and author. He has been awarded with the prize «Karl-Theodor-Vogel-Preis» for specialized journalism in 2013.

Peter Kemper: Eric Clapton and the Blues. A Biography
[German title: Eric Clapton. Ein Leben für den Blues]
272 pages. 72 Illustrations. Hardcover with dust jacket 15 × 21,5 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-011214-4

Peter Kemper’s portrait of Eric Clapton does not simply recite biographical facts, but takes a close look at Clapton’s social circumstances. How does a skinny white boy in post-war England come to devote himself to the blues? How did he rise to fame? What helped him overcome his drug addiction? And what was behind his Birmingham hate speech against people of colour? Peter Kemper provides profound answers for fans and the curious alike.

Peter Kemper (* 1950) is a print and radio journalist as well as an author. He has published several books with Reclam, e. g. The Beatles (2013).
Peter Michalzik: Money and poetry. Hölderlin, Suzette und Jakob Gontard
[German title: Der Dichter und der Banker. Hölderlin, Suzette und Jakob Gontard]
188 pages. Hardcover 12 × 19 cm

In 1796 Friedrich Hölderlin assumed a position as tutor to the son of banker Jakob Gontard in Frankfurt, who introduced the poet to the world of finance. Hölderlin became part of the household and was very attached to Gontard’s wife Suzette. The figure of Diotima in Hölderlin’s novel Hyperion is modelled after Suzette. But what relationship did Suzette and Hölderlin really have? And why did Hölderlin have to leave the house and Frankfurt only a few years later?

Peter Michalzik has written a gripping biography as well as a perceptive narrative about the relationship between art and economy.

Peter Michalzik (* 1963) is a visiting professor at Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts. He is the author of several biographies. His last publication was 1900: Vegetarier, Künstler und Visionäre suchen nach dem neuen Paradies.
Sascha Michel: What Reading Does for Us
[German title: Die Unruhe der Bücher. Vom Lesen und was es mit uns macht]
96 pages, Paperback (Reclam Universal-Bibliothek 9,6 × 14,8 cm)
ISBN 978-3-15-019669-4

When it comes to reading and its benefits, people often speak of contemplation, books are considered to be retreats for the soul. This turns the uniqueness of reading into something arbitrary. After all, the opposite is true: as readers we participate in the world, and it sharpens our awareness of ambiguities of all kinds. A wise and passionate essay for all book people who like to reflect on the powers of reading.

Sascha Michel (* 1970) is a literary scholar, he lives and works as an editor in Frankfurt am Main.

Ingo Reuter: The End of the World. The Purpose of Apocalyptic Narratives
[German title: Weltuntergänge. Vom Sinn der Endzeit-Erzählungen]
93 pages, Paperback (Reclam Universal-Bibliothek 9,6 × 14,8 cm)
ISBN 978-3-15-019678-6

The end is near – it always has been. Ingo Reuter explains why stories of doom have always been in demand and what purpose they serve. By taking a closer look at end-of-world narratives from biblical times to the present as well as films and video games, Reuter shows why mankind cannot do without imaginary apocalypse.

Ingo Reuter (* 1968) is a Professor of Religious Education and Practical Theology at the University of Paderborn. He is the author of The Walking Dead – Survival in the worst of all possible worlds.

Michael Haller
Walter Hömberg

Pioneers of democracy and freedom of the press
Edited by Michael Haller and Walter Hömberg
[German title: »Ich lass mir den Mund nicht verbieten«. Wegbereiter der Demokratie und Pressefreiheit]
272 pages. Hardcover 12 × 19 cm

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press are among the most valuable achievements of our democracy. For a long time, it seemed utopian that they could ever become fundamental rights. Journalists and committed publicists played an important part in the struggle for these rights. In 60 key moments, scenes and portraits, this book tells the gripping story of the pioneers of our open society – great moments in journalism from the 18th to the end of the 20th century.

Michael Haller (* 1945) worked as an editor for the news magazine Spiegel and as a head of department for the weekly newspaper Die Zeit, before taking over the chair of journalism at the University of Leipzig.

Walter Hömberg (* 1944) is a visiting professor at the University of Vienna.
Maxim Biller: Essays on Germany and Literature
[German title: Wer nichts glaubt, schreibt. Essays über Deutschland und die Literatur]
272 pages. Paperback (Reclam Universal-Bibliothek) 9,6 × 14,8 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-019672-4

In this representative selection of essays from the last three decades, Maxim Biller examines German, Jewish and American literature as well as German society, politics and history. In their timeless validity, stylistic brilliance and argumentative force, they have had and continue to have a decisive influence on the genre in German-language literature.

Christine Garbe: Improving Reading Skills in Secondary Schools
[German title: Lesekompetenz fördern]
129 pages. Paperback (Reclam Universal-Bibliothek) 9,6 × 14,8 cm

Reading is the basic educational skill. The promotion of reading skills is no longer a task restricted to primary school but important throughout all levels of education. How can reading comprehension, fluency and motivation be improved? Why is gender sensitivity important? And how can the promotion of reading skills be systematically integrated into school development? Christine Garbe answers these questions based on latest research and provides helpful advice for the classroom.

Christine Garbe was a professor for German Literature at the University of Cologne, with a special focus on the reading and media socialization of children and young adults. She is an expert for the promotion of reading skills and started a website dedicated to improving the reading skills of boys (www.boysandbooks.de).

Michael Felten: The Importance of Positive Student-Teacher Relationships
[German title: Unterricht ist Beziehungssache]
112 pages. Paperback (Reclam Universal-Bibliothek) 9,6 × 14,8 cm

Good student-teacher relationships are the key to better test results for pupils, a positive classroom atmosphere and a more satisfying teaching experience. In fact, the student-teacher relationship is the central element of all educational success, as latest research has shown. Michael Felten draws on his many years of personal experience and explains how all aspects of school life can be organized for the benefit of student-teacher relationships.

Michael Felten, secondary school teacher in Cologne, temporary lecturer at the Heidelberg University of Education and the University of Bonn, expert in teacher training and education, author and journalist.
Gunter Gebauer: Olympic Games
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
978-3-15-020558-7

When the Olympic Games are held every four years, billions of people around the world watch with great enthusiasm. But what is the «Olympic idea» all about? And do the modern and ancient games still have anything in common? Gunter Gebauer gives an overview of the Olympic Games from antiquity up to the present without ignoring the downsides such as political appropriation or doping.

Stefan Siegert: Beethoven
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-020557-0

Everything you need to know about Ludwig van Beethoven! Stefan Siegert provides information on the personal as well as the creative life of the great composer on only 100 pages. He portrays Beethoven as a son, brother, lover, but above all as a fierce and doubtful artist who changed the world with his music.

Stefan Siegert works as a freelance author with a focus on classical music for radio, print and online media.

Alexander Kluy: Clint Eastwood
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-020531-0

Clint Eastwood’s filmography reflects over half a century of film history. A celebrated director, he created great American stories for the big screen. Alexander Kluy tells Clint Eastwood’s story in a light and entertaining way, following his career from his first major role in the western series Rawhide to his most recent directing and acting triumphs.

Alexander Kluy (* 1966) is a journalist, author and editor of numerous books. His most recent publication with Reclam was Alfred Hitchcock. 100 Seiten.
**Dietmar Dath: Hegel**
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-020559-4

Hegel was full of contradictions and taught contradiction as a fundamental principle of thought. This book does not propose to resolve these contradictions, but to conceptualize them and make them comprehensible.

**Dietmar Dath** (*1970) is a journalist and author of novels, stories, plays and non-fiction.

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**Micha Brumlik: Antisemitism**
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
978-3-15-020533-4

The problem of antisemitism is growing today – and it goes back thousands of years. Micha Brumlik surveys the history of antisemitism from pre-Christian times through the middle ages up to the Shoah. He also discusses today’s Islamist antisemitism and analyses recent tendencies. Finally, he develops strategies for fighting antisemitism today. »Jews have always been subjected to hate for religious, ideological or political reasons«, Brumlik says, »We need to know about these alleged reasons and the underlying stereotype way of thinking«.

**Micha Brumlik** (*1947) is a professor emeritus at Goethe University Frankfurt and Senior Advisor at the Selma Stern Center for Jewish Studies Berlin-Brandenburg. He is widely renowned for his research on Jewish history and antisemitism.

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**Helmut Reinalter: Secret Societies**
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm

Secret societies like the Illuminati, the Freemasons or the Mafia are a fascinating topic in films, literature and popular culture. Helmut Reinalter explores the most important secret societies from the past and present, challenging widespread myths and explaining why conspiracy theories are still in vogue today.

**Helmut Reinalter** (*1943) is Professor emeritus of History at the University of Innsbruck and head of the private Institute for the History of Ideas. In 2018 his *Handbook of Conspiracy Theories* was published.
Jens Wietschorke: The 1920s
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm

Where does our enthusiasm for Swing, Coco Chanel and Gatsby parties come from, for the Roaring Twenties with their music and their zeitgeist? Perhaps because the 1920s have a lot in common with the present – from the influence of the world economy on the lives of individuals or the importance of popular culture to growing political polarization. Jens Wietschorke explores the fascination of the 1920s and tells the story of an age in which the boldest dreams of modernity, the craving for pleasure, nostalgia and violence collided.


Franziska Torma: Water
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm

Without water there is no life – this becomes clear in times of climate change. Mankind has always attempted to master this precious element which we use for agriculture and technology as well as for transportation, sports or recreation. But what exactly is water? Why do we enjoy spending time by the sea, lakes and rivers so much? And how do we find a solution to the dramatically increasing shortage of water? Franziska Torma sums up the scientific, social, political and historical significance of water in a hundred pages.

FRANZISKA TORMA, born in 1975, is a historian and researcher at the Rachel Carson Center of the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich.

Kurt Wallat: Archaeology
100 pages, with illustrations and infographics. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm
ISBN 978-3-15-020550-1

Kurt Wallat provides a pointed overview of the scientific discipline of archaeology and its methods – from underwater research to the evaluation of aerial photographs. He describes an excavation project in Pompeii and shows that archaeology makes an important contribution to humanity’s self-perception – it is our bridge into the past.
Yomb May: Periods of German Literature
[German title: Epochen der deutschsprachigen Literatur]
128 pages. Paperback 11,4 × 17 cm

Everything you need to know about the different periods of German literature from the 17th century up to the present: This book contains well structured, comprehensive information on all the most important authors and works as well as the historical context. Illustrations, diagrams and a timeline provide a quick overview.

Dr. **YOMB MAY** is a professor for Intercultural German Studies at the University of Bayreuth.