

LITERATURVERLAG DROSCHL

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RIGHTSLIST 2018



Thomas Stangl: *Unknown Relations*

Novel, 272 pages

»One of the finest and most serious, and therefore best German-language writers of our times.«
(Katja Gasser, ORF TV)

»You don't know everything about yourself, especially the most important things.« The author of this novel is becoming increasingly aware of this revelation.

During a trip to a conference in Western Africa, unknown areas of thought open up to a Viennese architect in his mid-forties. In sleepless nights, aimlessly wandering through the foreign city and making increasingly strange encounters, he is more and more alienated by his own ideas and actions, his responsibility and his routines as architect, European, father, son and husband. The more he questions himself, the more the pillars of his current life and his past start crumbling.

Unknown relations is a linguistic masterpiece, a large-scale reflection on existence, full of details and subtleties, false bottoms and hidden trails.

»A great novel!« (Paul Jandl, NZZ)

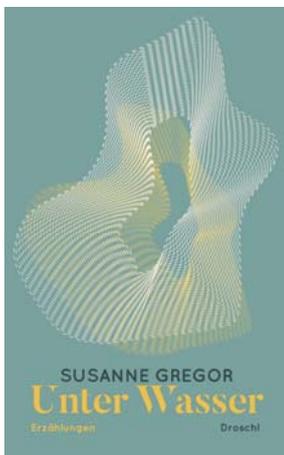
»Thomas Stangl's latest novel is one of the best you can read in contemporary fiction. The topic distinguishes ›Unknown Relations‹ from many other books: it is about the existence of the human being. No one else is capable of writing about this in such a radical and dense way.« (Werner Titz)

»Stangl pictures the characters of the novel so precisely and combines these descriptions with a meandering of the essay which seems so free and full of relish. All of this makes Thomas Stangl's latest novel unique.« (Wolfgang Popp, Ö1 Kulturjournal)

»Whoever's searching for silent sounds in our loud and noisy world, whoever's searching for a truth behind everything that's obvious will get addicted to this novel and its content.« (W. Huber-Lang, APA)

»Stangl combines political and private issues so that every kind of reading that is stuck in clichés gets shattered.« (Katja Gasser, ORF)

»Stangl's writing opens spaces you can only imagine in literature ... This book concerns all of us: our perception, the deepest parts of ourselves.« (Petra Nagenkögel, Die Presse)



Susanne Gregor: *Under Water*

Stories, 120 pages

»In Gregor's writing you feel this kind of mercilessness that astonishes you while reading this book. We absolutely do need writers like Susanne Gregor in contemporary fiction.«
(Anton Thuswaldner, Salzburger Nachrichten)

The stories of *Under Water*, told by eight different female narrators, are taken straight from life. They revolve around relationships with all their ups and even more of their downs, and around life, love and losses. The atmosphere in these stories sizzles and crackles, it grinds and crumbles, and eventually, whole worlds are upended, in details as well as in the bigger picture.

These stories are about wriggling out of complicated, desperate situations but also about capturing specific moments of life. Whether it is emotional and physical wounds that make a couple's life unbearable, diseases that unhinge the foundations of a relationship or natural disasters that take decisions out of the protagonist's hands – Gregor manages to convey her messages with an outstanding sense for moods. She modulates her tone with masterful precision, creates different notions of silence and cold, of outbursts and evasion, of longing hopes and sorrow. By gently entering the emotional worlds of her protagonists, Gregor makes us suffer with them or reject them, but unfailingly rouses our empathy – which is a sign of true art.