



14 - 18 October 2020  
**FRANKFURTER  
BUCHMESSE**  
Guest of Honour Canada

# **The Fall of the Berlin Wall. Stories Between East and West**

# **Der Mauerfall. Stories zwischen Ost und West**

**Top German Titles Marking the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall.**

Compiled by Alyson Coombes and Rosie Goldsmith

## Non-Fiction

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### **Finale. The Last Year of the GDR**

### **Finale. Das letzte Jahr der DDR**

HANNES BAHRMANN & CHRISTOPH LINKS

In this updated and extended edition of the seminal work *Chronik der Wende* (first published in 1994), Bahrmann and Links use photos, documents and eyewitness accounts to explore the events of the year from 7th October 1989 to 3rd October 1990, when Germany was reunified. March 1990 saw the only democratic vote in GDR history, after which the victorious East German conservative party alliance, supported by West German chancellor Helmut Kohl, pushed through their plans to reunify Germany without delay. This is a vital record of the end of the GDR and the technicalities of reunification.

Ch. Links Verlag, 978-3962890612,  
2019, 320 pages, HC  
18.00 €

### **The Dream Is Over. But We'd Give Everything to Make it Real. 4th November 1989 and the Story Behind it**

### **Der Traum ist aus. Aber wir werden alles geben, dass er Wirklichkeit wird. Der 4. November 1989 und seine Geschichte**

PATRICK BAUER

The dates 9th October and 9th November have been burned into German memory, but 4th November 1989 is often forgotten. On this day, 500,000 people gathered in East Berlin's Alexanderplatz, with speakers ranging from writer Christa Wolf to ex-Stasi General Markus Wolf and Politbüro member Günter Schabowski. They all believed a new East Germany was possible. But after the wall fell, the group dispersed. Journalist and author Patrick Bauer gathers recollections from those who lived through one of the most significant but overlooked days in German history.

Rowohlt Verlag, 978-3498001513,  
2019, 368 pages, HC  
20.00 €

### **Cross Over Then! An East-West Reader and its History**

### **Geh doch rüber! Ein Ost-West-Lesebuch und seine Geschichte**

FRANK BLOHM

First published in 1986, edited by psychologist Frank Blohm, *Geh doch rüber!* is a collection of texts by various writers about the real-life relationships between people on both sides of the wall. As a student, Blohm (himself living in West Berlin) had been keen to prove that the two Germanys were not completely estranged; following publication of the book, even under a pseudonym, he was monitored closely by the Stasi. In this updated version, Blohm tells the story behind the creation of the book and some of the original contributing authors discuss how life has changed over the last 30 years.

Lukas Verlag, 978-3867323260,  
2019, 231 pages, SC  
19.80 €

## Non-Fiction

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### Literary History of German Unification 1989–2000. Foreignness Between East and West

Literaturgeschichte der deutschen Einheit 1989–2000. Fremdheit zwischen Ost und West

ARNE BORN

How has literature responded to German reunification? In the first comprehensive overview of the canon of "reunification literature", Born is able to demonstrate how German unity was the dominating theme of German literature in the 1990s. Featuring voices from both sides of this debate, he charts the evolution from political writings to more reflective, personal accounts. The result is a highly original and fascinating insight into a subject that has become a crucial and popular topic for writers over the last three decades.

Wehrhahn Verlag, 978-3865256393, 2019, 656 pages, HC  
39.80 €

### The Berlin Wall. History of a Political Structure

Die Berliner Mauer. Geschichte eines politischen Bauwerks

THOMAS FLEMMING

The division of Germany was most keenly felt in the capital, Berlin. In *Die Berliner Mauer*, historian Thomas Fleming tells the story of this city, starting from the Berlin Crisis in 1948 and ending with efforts to protect the remaining parts of the wall following reunification. Using photos and documents from the time, Fleming shows the evolution of the wall from barbed-wire fence to the planned electric "high-tech border". He brings to life the dramas and escape attempts along what was then the world's most heavily armed border.

be.bra Verlag, 978-3898091657, 2019, 240 pages, HC  
22.00 €

### How it All Stays Different. Stories from East Germany

Wie alles anders bleibt. Geschichten aus Ostdeutschland

JANA HENSEL

Jana Hensel, bestselling author of *Zonenkinder*, has spent years researching the life of East Germans and the GDR, producing numerous articles, essays and interviews. Her new book explores the situation 30 years on from the fall of the wall to show how the former East Germans see themselves today. Drawing on personal experiences and those of some prominent East German citizens, such as Angela Merkel, Hensel provides a captivating account of a unique country – which disappeared.

Aufbau Verlag, 978-3351034825, 2019, 317 pages, SC  
16.00 €

## Non-Fiction

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### **Immediately, Without Delay. Chronicle of the Fall of the Wall**

**Sofort, unverzüglich.  
Die Chronik des Mauerfalls**

HANS-HERMANN HERTLE

Hans-Hermann Hertle is an award-winning historian and political scientist. First published in 1996, and now expanded and updated, this book covers the events of 9th and 10th November, when SED Politbüro member Günter Schabowski inadvertently announced at a press conference that the wall would open "sofort, unverzüglich" ("immediately, without delay") instead of the next day, as planned. Thousands of East Germans stormed the wall and entered the West. Using thorough research and hundreds of eye-witness interviews, Hertle paints a vivid picture of the events of that extraordinary night.

Ch. Links Verlag, 978-3962890605,  
2019, 368 pages, HC  
20.00 €

### **Make Yourselves Heard! Women for Peace in East Berlin**

**Seid doch laut!  
Die Frauen für den Frieden  
in Ost-Berlin**

RUTH LEISEROWITZ & ALMUT ILSEN

In March 1982, the GDR passed a law that allowed women to be called up for military service. But not everyone was happy to fall in line – seven women, among them Almut Ilsen, organised a petition, marking the start of the group "Women for Peace", which would become one of the longest-running opposition groups in the GDR. 35 years on, 18 of the women look back at the action they took. Ilsen and Leiserowitz present their personal take on the events alongside previously unpublished photos, documents and extracts from Stasi files.

Ch. Links Verlag, 978-3962890650,  
2019, 304 pages, SC  
30.00 €

### **1989 in Germany. Sites of the Peaceful Revolution**

**1989 in Deutschland.  
Schauplätze der  
friedlichen Revolution**

INGO JUCHLER

The Peaceful Revolution of 1989 – when protests rose up across the GDR – is one of the most important events of the second half of the twentieth century. Author and political scientist Ingo Juchler takes readers to some of the main locations, from Leipzig, Berlin and Dresden to Potsdam, Jena and beyond. Packed with informative texts on the background to the events as well as numerous photos, this is a valuable source for those wanting to explore one of the most crucial periods of modern German history.

be.bra Verlag, 978-3898091589,  
2019, 128 pages, SC  
14.00 €

## Non-Fiction

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### And Where Were You? 30 Years Since the Fall of the Berlin Wall

Und wo warst du?  
30 Jahre Mauerfall

FREYA KLIER

The fall of the wall had a profound and lasting impact on post-war German history. But how did people on both sides spend that extraordinary day when the Berlin Wall fell? What dreams and fears did they have as the wall came down? And what became of those dreams – and of the nightmares? Civil rights campaigner and film-maker Freya Klier interviews 23 eyewitnesses, from politicians to former Neo-Nazis and RAF terrorists, as well as those who helped the refugees. By asking them: "And where were you?" Klier provides a colourful panorama of German-German history.

Herder, 978-3451385537,  
2019, 272 pages, HC  
20.00 €

### I Hoped We Could Fly

Ich hatte gehofft,  
wir können fliegen

CAROLINE LABUSCH

Caroline Labusch, a scriptwriter and playwright, first brought this true story to life as a theatre project in 2015, then as an award-winning radio play. In spring 1989, in East Berlin, a young couple hatch a plan to fly over the wall in a home-made hot air balloon. But the day after the escape attempt, West German police find the man's body in a garden. There is no trace of his wife. More than 25 years later, Labusch reopens the case – and discovers the story of a tragic flight to freedom, and a love that is put to a heartrending test.

Penguin Verlag, 978-3328104117,  
2019, 304 pages, SC  
14.00 €

### David and Goliath. Memories of the Peaceful Revolution

David gegen Goliath.  
Erinnerungen an die  
Friedliche Revolution

BERND-LUTZ LANGE & SASCHA LANGE

On 9th October 1989, the Leipzig police faced 70,000 pro-democracy demonstrators – but failed completely to prevent their peaceful protest. It was a key turning point in the end of the GDR. As one of the "Leipzig Six" freedom fighters, Bernd-Lutz Lange helped write a radio appeal to ensure the protests remained peaceful. They did. 30 years on, together with his historian-son Sascha, Lange looks back at those demonstrations and with the help of Stasi files reveals the lengths the socialist state planned to go to in order to prevent its citizens from fighting for freedom.

Aufbau Verlag, 978-3351037871,  
2019, 221 pages, HC  
18.00 €

## Non-Fiction

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### **The Zookeepers' War. An Incredible True Story from the Cold War**

**Der Zoo der Anderen.  
Als die Stasi ihr Herz für  
Brillenbären entdeckte &  
Helmut Schmidt mit  
Pandas nachrüstete**

JAN MOHNHAUPT

The people of West Berlin – an island in Germany, behind the wall and constantly watched by the rest of the world – often described their lives like living in a zoo. In fact, Berlin's two zoos quickly became symbols of the divided city's two halves. The head zookeepers, both East and West, began a competition to collect the most animals; politicians on both sides began discussing zoo policy in order to persuade their citizens that having the best zoo proves they had the best political ideology too. This is an extraordinary, true story of desperate rivalries within a bitterly divided nation.

Hanser Verlag, 978-3446255043,  
2017, 302 pages, HC  
20.00 €

### **Post-Reunification Children. The GDR, Our Parents and the Big Silence**

**Nachwendekinder.  
Die DDR, unsere Eltern und  
das große Schweigen**

JOHANNES NICHELMANN

Born in Berlin in 1989, Johannes Nichelmann is an author and journalist. In *Nachwendekinder* he tells the story of three young people, all born around 1989, who are trying to find out their families' East German pasts, and to come to terms with the part they played in this chapter of history. Through numerous discussions and interviews, Nichelmann has produced a sensitive book and started an honest debate about how we can explore the legacy of memory and identity and accept the past in a world where nothing is ever black or white.

Ullstein fünf, 978-3961010349,  
2019, 272 pages, SC  
20.00 €

### **Unsigned Letters. How a BBC Broadcast Challenged the GDR**

**Briefe ohne Unterschrift.  
Wie eine BBC-Sendung  
die DDR herausforderte**

SUSANNE SCHÄDLICH

From the late 1940s to 1974, BBC Radio's German Service broadcast a programme called "Briefe ohne Unterschrift" ("Unsigned Letters"). Each week, East German listeners were given a new address to write to in West Berlin, and various letters would be read out – both from supporters and critics of the regime. The letters were anonymous, as listening to the BBC was ideologically unacceptable in the GDR. This highly readable and engaging book contains direct quotes from the letters as well as from the Stasi's reports of the programme.

Knaus Verlag, 978-3813507492,  
2017, 288 pages, HC  
19.99 €

## Non-Fiction

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### **Over There and Over There. Two German Childhoods**

### **Drüben und drüben. Zwei deutsche Kindheiten**

JOCHEN SCHMIDT & DAVID WAGNER

Writers Jochen Schmidt and David Wagner were born a few months apart – Wagner in the West and Schmidt in East Germany. They describe their childhoods; watching TV, riding bikes, stealing sweets from their siblings. At school, they were both told that life on the other side – “drüben” – was not nearly so good. In this entertaining and honest book, two of Germany’s most successful contemporary authors explore what growing up on their side of the wall meant for them. How much were German children aware of the politics that dominated their countries?

Rowohlt Verlag, 978-3499620478,  
2014, 336 pages, HC  
12.00 €

### **The Uncanny Lightness of the Revolution. How a Group of Young People in Leipzig Dared to Rebel in the GDR**

### **Die unheimliche Leichtigkeit der Revolution. Wie eine Gruppe junger Leipziger die Rebellion in der DDR wagte**

PETER WENSIERSKI

Peter Wensierski, a West German journalist and documentary film-maker, was a regular reporter from inside East Germany. In this book, he tells the true story of a group of fearless young people from Leipzig who fought back against the state, spending their days printing clandestine leaflets and standing on the picket line, and their nights partying in illegal bars and sleeping in derelict buildings. Determined to challenge the system, they were the leaders of Germany’s first successful revolution, a fight so many others thought was futile, but which ultimately proved worthwhile.

Penguin Verlag, 978-3328103493,  
2017, 464 pages, SC  
12.00 €

# Photo Volume

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**Years of Change.  
Eastern Germany 1990–1995**

**Wendejahre.  
Ostdeutschland 1990–1995**

DANIEL BISKUP

Daniel Biskup, one of Germany's most important contemporary photojournalists, was there when the wall fell. He watched as East Germans' initial euphoria gradually faded into disillusionment, capturing key periods such as the flood to the West to find work – and their disappointment. In 400 photos, Biskup exposes the reality of life for the majority of East Germans who did not benefit from reunification, and provides a timely reminder that these early experiences of feeling let down and abandoned have contributed to the current discontent and rise of the far-right in Germany and Europe.

# Fiction

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## Crane Country

Kranichland

ANJA BAUMHEIER

It is the 1960s in East Berlin and Charlotte Groen is following in the footsteps of her father, a committed socialist. Charlotte's sister, Marlene, yearns for freedom and eventually decides to flee to the West with her boyfriend. Decades later, Theresa Groen is surprised to hear she has inherited a house from her sister Marlene, whom she'd always believed had died as a girl. As Theresa investigates, she uncovers a web of lies and betrayals in this fascinating family story spanning 80 years of German history.

Rowohlt Verlag/Wunderlich,  
978-3499274015,  
2017, 432 pages, HC  
10.00 €

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## Best Intentions

Beste Absichten

THOMAS BRUSSIG

Thomas Brussig is a prize-winning novelist whose works have been translated into 30 languages. Set in East Berlin in 1989, *Beste Absichten* tells the story of the members of the band "Die Seuche" – the epidemic – who have only one fan (who is also their manager) and are struggling to get their big break when suddenly the wall falls and everything changes. This warm-hearted novel is a tribute to the music of a bygone era and an exploration of those pivotal moments when one thing comes to an end and another begins.

S. Fischer Verlag, 978-3596297382,  
2017, 192 pages, SC  
10.00 €

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## The Last Red Year

Das letzte rote Jahr

SUSANNE GREGOR

Susanne Gregor was born in Czechoslovakia in 1981. In *Das letzte rote Jahr*, three friends, Misa, Rita and Slavka, are living in the same building in Slovakia in 1989, during the final year of the socialist regime. The girls each try to find their own feet as they struggle through adolescence, while the precarious political situation threatens to destroy everything they hold dear. Highly topical even today, this beautifully written coming-of-age novel gives a valuable insight into a corner of Eastern Europe and a fascinating period of history.

Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt,  
978-3627002633,  
2019, 224 pages, HC  
22.00 €

# Fiction

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## Confusion

### Verwirrnis

CHRISTOPH HEIN

Christoph Hein is a highly acclaimed author who grew up in the GDR. *Verwirrnis* takes readers from the post-war years through to the 1990s as the young student Friedeward battles to come to terms with his homosexuality, and later his lover's decision to move to the West. Against the backdrop of this turbulent and often dangerous period of history, Hein movingly explores a love that for years defies all odds – and provides a vivid panorama of German intellectual life.

Suhrkamp Verlag, 978-3518470107,  
2018, 303 pages, SC  
12.00 €

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## God of the City

### Der Gott der Stadt

CHRISTIANE NEUDECKER

Set in the 1990s in a newly reunified Berlin, *Der Gott der Stadt* by author and theatre director Christiane Neudecker is a tightly plotted literary novel – and a study of evil. A group of fiercely competitive students at an elite acting school are staging a play based on Georg Heym's obscure *Faust* fragment when they find a body on the stage. It is 16th January and the same date that Heym himself drowned decades earlier while ice-skating. What is the cause of this uncanny death? Is it murder, suicide, or even a pact with the devil?

Luchterhand Verlag, 978-3630875668,  
2019, 672 pages, HC  
24.00 €

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## Punching at the World

### Mit der Faust in die Welt schlagen

LUKAS RIETZSCHEL

Lukas Rietzschel's bestselling debut tells the story of two brothers, Philipp and Tobias, born in the 1990s in the former GDR. At first their family seems to be making a success of life in reunified Germany, but as the boys get older, their parents divorce and Tobias falls in with a group of neo-Nazis determined to prevent refugees from settling in their area, the future looks less bright. This highly topical novel offers an unusual take on the "GDR novel" and provides a timely insight into the rise of right-wing extremism in Germany and Europe today.

Ullstein Verlag, 978-3548061030,  
2018, 320 pages, SC  
12.00 €

## Fiction

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### All Done Properly

### Alles richtig gemacht

GREGOR SANDER

The third novel by acclaimed author Gregor Sander tells the story of childhood friends Thomas and Daniel. After the wall falls, they move to Berlin, fall in and out of love, and Daniel disappears to the USA after dealing in illegal art. When he returns out of the blue, he finds Thomas struggling after being left by his wife. Could Daniel have had something to do with it? And have either of them done anything right in their lives? Witty and warmhearted, Sander's novel is a story of a reunited Germany and, above all, of friendship.

Penguin Verlag, 978-3328606673,  
2019, 420 pages, HC  
20.00 €

### One Clear Ice-Cold January Morning at the Beginning of the 21st Century

### An einem klaren, eiskalten Januarmorgen zu Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts

ROLAND SCHIMMELPFENNIG

Nominated for the Leipzig Book Fair Prize, this first novel by celebrated playwright Roland Schimmelpfennig is a contemporary Berlin fairy tale. Set in the former East Berlin, the story opens with a crash on the motorway. When a wolf is captured on camera at the scene, after crossing the border from Poland, it is the first of many sightings that connect a series of individuals whose paths intersect and diverge. Schimmelpfennig writes in powerful prose and has created a hypnotic and visually arresting novel.

S. Fischer Verlag, 978-3596034765,  
2016, 256 pages, HC  
11.00 €

### You Would Have Missed Me

### Ich freue mich, dass ich geboren bin

BIRGIT VANDERBEKE

Set in West Germany in the early 1960s, *Ich freue mich, dass ich geboren bin* tells the story of a little girl who arrives in the West from the GDR with her parents. They are forced to live in a camp for displaced people – a common experience for East German refugees. It's a hard life: her father is abusive, her mother negligent. In her novella, by revisiting her own childhood, Birgit Vanderbeke – whose debut *Das Musschelessen* won the Ingeborg-Bachmann-Preis – shows how the little girl escaped her own brutal reality with the help of a globe, as she imagined distant countries and faraway futures.

Piper Verlag, 978-3492311120,  
2016, 160 pages, SC  
10.00 €

# Fiction

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**Balloon File.  
Two Girls, One Wall, a  
Friendship for Life**

**Akte Luftballon.  
Zwei Mädchen, eine Mauer,  
eine Freundschaft fürs Leben**

STEFANIE WALLY

In 1977, a young West German girl attaches her address to a yellow balloon and sets it free. She soon receives an answer from a girl in East Germany, and a correspondence begins. This beautiful story of an innocent friendship – which becomes more complex as the girls reach adolescence and begin to ask increasingly difficult questions – is based on Stefanie Wally's own experiences of a childhood friendship that transcended all borders. In 2016, Wally directed the stage adaptation of *Akte Luftballon*.

# Graphic Novel

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## Autumn of Decision. A History of the Peaceful Revolution

Herbst der Entscheidung.  
Eine Geschichte aus der  
Friedlichen Revolution 1989

PM HOFFMANN & BERND LINDNER

Herbst der Entscheidung is a graphic novel set in Leipzig in autumn 1989. Seventeen-year-old Daniel has left school and wants to go to university but must first serve in the army for three years. His parents are committed to the East German state and want him to do his duty, but Daniel leaves home and ends up joining the Peaceful Revolution in Leipzig. With beautiful black-and-white illustrations by PM Hoffmann, this political coming-of-age story will resonate with young people who are beginning to shape their own views in today's turbulent times.

Ch. Links Verlag, 978-3861537755,  
2014, 96 pages, SC  
15.00 €

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## Children's Country. A Childhood in the Shadow of the Berlin Wall

Kinderland.  
Eine Kindheit im Schatten  
der Mauer

MAWIL

Winner of the Max & Moritz Prize for best German-language graphic novel, *Kinderland* is a story of courage and friendship. In 1989 in East Berlin, Mirco gets into trouble with the local Free German Youth group. Only the strange new kid at school can get him out of this pickle. Mawil uses personal recollections and careful research to portray life growing up in the GDR, with "disappearing" fathers and constant rumours of escape attempts. A moving yet entertaining book that really brings the last few months of the GDR to life.

Reprodukt, 978-3956401763,  
2014, 304 pages, SC  
9.95 €

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## No Man's Land. Actions Against the Wall in West Berlin 1989

Todesstreifen.  
Aktionen gegen die Mauer  
in West-Berlin 1989

DIRK MECKLENBECK & RAIK ADAM

Arriving in West Berlin from East Germany in the late 1980s, full of optimism over their new-found freedom, Dirk Mecklenbeck, Raik Adam and two friends were shocked at the indifference they encountered in the West towards the wall and conditions in the GDR. Keen to make a radical statement, in June 1989 they threw several Molotov cocktails over the wall, triggering a series of protests against the GDR. In this acclaimed graphic novel, Mecklenbeck and Adam tell the story of this protest, from idea to execution, and of their desperate fight to secure freedom for their fellow East Germans.

Ch. Links Verlag, 978-3861539933,  
2018, 96 pages, SC  
10.00 €

## Children's Books

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### It's All Just Sugar Sand

Alles nur aus Zuckersand

DIRK KUMMER

Director and screenwriter Dirk Kummer grew up in East Berlin. This story follows the lives of two boys whose friendship is threatened by the harsh reality of life in communist East Germany. When Jonas leaves the country, Fred is left alone to deal with the loss of his best friend. The strict censorship laws seem set to stop them writing to each another until Fred's retired neighbour, whose mail is not scrutinised quite so closely, saves the day. *Alles nur aus Zuckersand* is a universal and moving story of the unbreakable bonds of friendship.

Carlsen Verlag, 978-3551553904,  
2019, 144 pages, SC  
12.00 €

### No Man's Land

Niemandsland

MATTHIAS FRIEDRICH MUECKE

Matthias Friedrich Muecke's autobiographical story is set in Pankow, East Berlin, during the 1960s and 1970s. Two boys swear to always remain best friends, and as they grow up under the authoritarian regime they support each other through thick and thin. But the desire for freedom and adventure will have disastrous consequences. In this atmospheric and heartfelt true story, Muecke not only writes of his own childhood memories but illustrates them with his own black-and-white drawings. It was a fairytale childhood, shaken by fear, in a long-forgotten era.

Kunstanstifter Verlag, 978-3942795852,  
2019, 208 pages, HC,  
24.00 €

## Planning and Organisation

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**Planning and organisation:**

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buchmesse.de

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