

Peter Stephan Jungk

Writer - Fiction and Non-fiction

Peter Stephan Jungk was born in 1952 in Los Angeles and raised in several European cities. In 1974 he moved to Los Angeles and studied at UCLA and the American Film Institute, before releasing his first collection of short stories in 1978.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
DAS ELEKTRISCHE HERZ 2011 Zsolnay / Hauser	Unconventional in its presentation, elegant and light-footed in its execution, Peter Stephan Jungk's novel takes the form of a dialogue between a man and his heart. The man, a Jewish playwright in his early fifties has developed a feverish obsession for the girl who delivers his post. She is a Muslim, much younger than him, and married. Farah, feels drawn to him, but circumstances and common sense dictate that she should stay well away from him. To win her over, the man promises to tell her the story of his life - so he and his heart set to work ...
THE INHERITANCE 2010 Pushkin Press	A terse, gripping thriller centred around a London-based poet, David Loew, who is cheated out of the enormous inheritance promised by his wealthy Venezuelan uncle. His battle to regain it takes him on a breakneck journey across the world, set against the tumultuous backdrop of Hugo Chavez's attempted 1992 military coup.

Publication Details	Notes
CROSSING THE HUDSON 2009 The Other Press	Gustav Rubin, a Viennese fur dealer, must confront his personal failings and the influence of his parents in this delightfully inventive novel. His mother's impossible nature and his recently deceased father's enormous and unreconciled presence over him give this book psychological depth and symbolic resonance and bring issues of family and religion into close but tender focus.
THE PERFECT AMERICAN 2004 The Other Press	A stylised fictional biography of Walt Disney which blurs the boundaries between fact and fantasy. It is presented as an exopse by its narrator, Wilhelm Dantine, who intends to reveal Disney as a racist, bullying megalomaniac who lets nothing stand in his way. As the novel progresses, however, it becomes clear that Dantine has his own scores to settle ...
THE SNOWFLAKE CONSTANT 2002 Faber & Faber	An extraordinarily ambitious novel. It charts the academic decline of a mathematician who is overwhelmed by the proliferation of new theories and abandons his career to forge a new life - in the theatre. There, however, he experiences a vision which drives him on to a far greater metaphysical quest ... A finalist for the British Foreign Book Award.

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
Die Dunkelkammern der Edith Tudor-Hart: Geschichten eines Lebens 2015 Fischer	
FRANZ WERFEL 1990 Grove Press / Weidenfeld	A biography of the writer Franz Werfel. When Werfel passed away in 1945 he was pre-eminent among German writers; since his death, however, his reputation has faded to a shadow of its former self. Jungk's formidable and meticulously-researched biography shows what a fascinating character Werfel was - but, ironically, he also offers many clues as to why Werfel's star no longer shines so brightly, and probably never will again.
SHABBAT 1985 Times Books	A rite of passage in Jerusalem.