

Welcome to our anniversary issue, celebrating twenty years of *New Books in German*

We are delighted to introduce our fortieth issue.

As our opening piece on NBG's beginnings shows, the project came to life through international cooperation, and that great collaborative spirit has fuelled it over two decades. This issue is brought together by editor and acting editor, and includes articles by two former editors: Rebecca K. Morrison looks at the rise of author Hans Fallada, while Sally-Ann Spencer surveys the past twenty years of German literature in translation. Other anniversaries abound in these pages, from five years of our Emerging Translators' Programme to the eightieth birthday of our 'grande dame' of translated literature, Anthea Bell.

In the last twenty years – in the UK, at least – there has never been a greater need for a new narrative, for minds to be opened to other cultures, to other lives and ways of thinking. We are proud that NBG plays a role in that endeavour, which we share with our partners and with the many organisations working with translated literatures and cultures.

The past two decades have also seen the literary translator transform into a public figure – 'speaking out, acting up', as Katy Derbyshire tells us. Translators are central to NBG's success, too, and this issue is dedicated to those who support our work in so many ways, contributing readers' reports, preparing sample translations, and translating many of the books that we recommend for publication. With thanks to our partners and all those involved in the project, we invite you to delve into these pages, and look forward to the conversations that they stimulate – and to the next twenty years.


Charlotte Ryland

Editor


Jennifer Calleja

Acting Editor

Information for editors

The books that we review in NBG are selected by independent juries in London and New York.

Our jurors and reviewers are industry experts: publishers, agents, scouts, booksellers, translators and academics.

Our only guiding principle when selecting the books is quality: we are looking for outstanding works and voices.

Most of the books reviewed by NBG are guaranteed translation funding. See page 48 for full details.