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Nature's Mutiny: How the Ice Age of the Long Seventeenth Century Transformed the West and Shaped the Present

Die Welt aus den Angeln

review

In his new book, historian and polymath Philipp Blom turns his attention to a period that shaped early modern European history: the little ice age. From 1570 until 1700 Europe underwent severe climatic changes. What was the impact on society, art, science and culture? Blom employs contemporary accounts by eye witnesses – Marlowe, Montaigne and Shakespeare among them – to give the reader a vivid insight into what life was like in the seventeenth century, and explores the effects that social upheaval, initiated by climate change, had on European thinking. The result is thought-provoking and entertaining in equal measure.

Accompanied by high quality illustrations, *The Nightmare of Reason* effortlessly ties together intellectual and natural history and shows that the two are more closely interwoven than one might think. A thoroughly European book, Blom takes examples from all over Europe to create an impression of the changes sweeping the continent during this momentous time. A truly fascinating book for anyone interested in history, science and climate change.

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We are delighted that this
book has now been
published in English
translation.

rights information

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Carl Hanser Verlag was established by its eponymous owner in 1928 in Munich, and its founder's interests in both literature and science have been maintained to the present day. The firm publishes fiction and non-fiction for both adults and children. Its authors include Italo Calvino, Umberto Eco, Jostein Gaarder, Lars Gustafsson, Milan Kundera, Harry Mulisch, Philip Roth, Susan Sontag, Botho Strauß, Raoul Schrott, Rafik Schami, Alfred Brendel, Elke Heidenreich and ten Nobel prizewinners, among them Elias Canetti, whose works have been translated into more than thirty different languages.