

ABOUT PATRICK ROTH

PATRICK ROTH is a German-American writer. He moved to the US in his early twenties and lived there for many years. He began his artistic career as a director and screenwriter in Los Angeles; in the early 1990s, he switched to prose and developed his cinema-influenced style as a storyteller. He is renowned as a writer of biblical-archetypal narratives, dramatized in a cinematically expressionistic prose that makes the mythical themes come alive again.

A prime example of this approach, unique in contemporary German literature, is “Die Christus Trilogie” (The Christ Trilogy), which caused a sensation among audiences and critics at its first publishing in the 1990s. His recent novel “Sunrise – Das Buch Joseph” (Sunrise – the Book of Joseph, 2012), which tells the fictional story of Mary’s husband, was nominated for the “German Book Prize”.

Alongside the images of the Bible, Roth’s work also explores the world of film and its heroes, as in “Meine Reise zu Chaplin” (My Journey to Chaplin, 1997), “Die Nacht der Zeitlosen” (Night of the Timeless 2001), “Starlite Terrace” (2004; English translation by Krishna Winston, 2013, cf. <https://www.amazon.de/-/en/Patrick-Roth/dp/0857420828>) and “Die amerikanische Fahrt” (The American Ride, 2013).

He has received many awards for his literary work, including the “Preis der Stiftung Bibel und Kultur” (the Bible and Culture Foundation Prize), the Hugo Ball Prize, and the “Literaturpreis der Konrad Adenauer Stiftung” (Konrad Adenauer Foundation Prize for Literature). He was awarded poetry lectureships at the universities of Frankfurt (2002) Heidelberg (2004/2012), and Vienna (2021), and received an honorary doctorate from the University of Lucerne (2015). He has been a Resident Scholar of the C. G. Jung-Study Center of Southern California since 2007 and is currently a member of its Board of Directors. His latest work, the short novel “Gottesquartett” (God’s Quartet), appeared in 2020.