

Elke Heinemann is a German writer, poet and publicist. She studied history and comparative literature, received scholarships from the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes and the DAAD in Grenoble and Oxford and obtained an M.A. and Ph.D. at the Freie Universität Berlin. She also graduated from the Henri-Nannen-Schule for Journalism in Hamburg. In addition to numerous articles in anthologies, magazines, newspapers and on the internet, she has published several books, most recently *Fehlversuche. Kein Kinderbuch* (2018), a novel about the little girl Elisa, who escapes from a difficult home into her own fantasy world with her imaginary twin sister Alise.

Elke Heinemann's work is characterized by a socially critical and at the same time formally innovative literature. In her novels she uncovers trivial myths, role clichés and everyday violations of human dignity. She is primarily interested in the concerns of girls and women, to which she devotes herself with irony, linguistic wit and a unique visual language. By combining montages into collages, mixing spoken language and prose, incorporating fairy tales and folk songs, opera libretti and pop songs, she deviates from linear storytelling.

She fundamentally wants to know how people, influenced by the internet, television and popular literature, construct reality. Questioning hierarchical-economic structures and revealing the concepts of reality associated with them is of central importance for her literature. What dreams and role models influence us, what desires and fears? What influence does the media have? What is authentic and what is synthetic? It is important for Elke Heinemann to say what is not said, cannot be said or must not be said.

She has also received multiple awards as an author of radio plays and radio features. Her work *Ezra Pound Reloaded. Was vom Dichter übrig bleibt. Nachgesang* was nominated for the 2017 Prix Marulic. Her latest radio features date from 2020 and are dedicated to the German writer W.G. Sebald, who lived and taught in Norwich and was the founding director of the British Centre for Literary Translation (*Briefe an einen Verstorbenen. Memorial für den Schriftsteller W.G. Sebald*) and to writing in nature about nature (*Natur an Autorin – Autorin an Natur: #Strandgänge. Audioblog*). For Elke Heinemann, nature writing is the appreciation of nature in the Anthropocene. Nature is also the theme of her most recent cycle of poems (*Gestein. Proben A-Z, reimfrei*), excerpts of which were published in the *Jahrbuch der Lyrik 2022*, the most important annual anthology of contemporary German-language poetry.

Elke Heinemann has also been intensively involved with the digital transformation. The multimedia digital version of her collection of experimental prose and poetry *Nichts ist, wie es ist. Kriminalrondo* received the Deutsche eBook Award at the 2015 Frankfurt Book Fair. In 2015 and 2016 she published the celebrated column *E-Lektüren* on literature in the digital space in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, which has been available in one volume since 2017.

After lengthy stays in Paris and London, Elke Heinemann now lives in Berlin. She is a member of the PEN-Zentrum Deutschland, PEN Berlin and the Verband deutscher Schriftstellerinnen und Schriftsteller (VS). She was a juror at various literary competitions in Germany, Austria and South Tyrol, such as the 2017 Franz-Tumler- Literaturpreis for German-language debut novels. She has also received numerous literary prizes and grants herself, most recently the Literaturpreis Ruhr 2018 for her complete works, a government sponsored working grant from the VG WORT in 2021 and the Venice Fellowship of the Federal Republic of Germany 2022.

More informations and contact: <https://www.elke-heinemann.de>

Selected Works

Novels

Fehlversuche. Kein Kinderbuch, Bern 2018/eBook
Kiss off. Bestseller in Echtzeit, Hamburg 2008/eBook 2016
Der Spielplan. Ein Liebesroman, Hamburg 2006/eBook 2016

Monographs

E-Lektüren, Berlin 2017/eBook
Meret Oppenheim. Eine Portrait-Collage, Hamburg 2006/eBook 2016
Babylonische Spiele. William Beckford und das Erwachen der modernen Imagination, München 2000/Open Access 2014

Prose and Poetry

Nichts ist, wie es ist. Kriminalrondo, Berlin 2015/eBook/enhanced eBook

Prose, Essays, Poetry

in various anthologies and magazines like Zeno, Metamorphosen, Sinn und Form, Signaturen, die horen, Fixpoetry, Jahrbuch der Lyrik (e.g. mädchen von mavrovouni, drei, Zeno 2021, gedicht in zahlen, unmöglich oder reenactment für moria, die horen 2022, Numen/Dolmen, Jahrbuch der Lyrik 2022)

Radio Plays and Radio Features

in various programmes of ARD, ZDF, ORF, SDR (e.g.: Natur an Autorin – Autorin an Natur: #Strandgänge, WDR/BR 2020; Briefe an einen Verstorbenen. Memorial für den Schriftsteller W.G. Sebald, WDR/SR/DLF 2020)