

Verlag Voland & Quist
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A Brief Introduction to Bas Böttcher

"I consider my body of work to be sensuous events. They take place on literary stages, on television, in bookstores, discotheques, libraries, books, at festivals and on CDs."

Bas Böttcher was born in Bremen on December 31, 1974 and has lived in Berlin since 2000. He studied Media Design at the Bauhaus in Weimar.

Bas Böttcher is one of the founders of the German language spoken word scene. His writings are regarded as classics of contemporary slam poetry. They are included in schoolbooks and major anthologies of German composition (Der Neue Conrady, Lyrikstimmen, et al). With Wolf Hogeckamp, he published the first Poetry Clip DVD in 2005 (Voland & Quist/Lingua Video). At the Verlag Voland & Quist, he also published the poetry books "Dies ist kein Konzert" (lit. "This is not a Concert", 2006), "Noenomade" (2009) and "Vorübergehende Schönheit" (lit. "Transient Beauty", 2012).

Among the many venues where Bas Böttcher has performed are: the Bibliothèque National de France (Paris), the University of Berkeley (San Francisco), Neue Nationalgalerie (Berlin), Schloss Bellevue (Berlin), the Palace of Culture (Warsaw) and the Book Fair in Beijing (2007).

Bas Böttcher has created innovative media formats for poetry. He developed the electronic hypertext "Loopool" as a new form of expression in the Internet (Sonderpreis in 1998 from Die ZEIT, ARD-online and IBM), the "Poetry Clip" as an audiovisual format and the Textbox for live performances. The Textbox was presented worldwide as part of the Woerdz Festival (Lucerne), at the Centre Pompidou (Paris), and at many book fairs, including Taipei, New Delhi, Abu Dhabi and Sao Paulo.

Bas Böttcher teaches at the Deutsche Literaturinstitut in Leipzig, at the Deutsche Literaturarchiv Marbach, at the Kulturakademie Baden-Württemberg, at the Goethe-Institut and at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg.

The Neue Züricher Zeitung calls him "a pop poetry pioneer"; the *Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung* compares him with Jandl and Ringelnatz.

Releases to Date (selection):

- 2009 "Lyrikstimmen – Die Bibliothek der Poeten" (Hörverlag)
- 2009 **Textsammlung with DVD & CD "Die Poetry-Slam-Expedition"** (Schroedel)
- 2009 **Audio-CD with Textbook "Neenomade"** (Voland & Quist)
- 2006 **Audio-CD with Textbook "Dies ist kein Konzert"** (Voland & Quist)
- 2006 Audio-Anthologie 1901 - 2004 "**Anna Blume trifft Zuckmayer**" (Der Hörverlag)

- 2005 DVD release: **"Poetry Clips (Vol. 1)"** (Lieblingslied-Records) First collection of texts from spoken word poetry on video and DVD
- 2004 Essay: **"Jahrbuch der Lyrik 2005"** (C.H.Beck)
- 2003 CD: **"Alles Lalula"** (Lido Hörbuch) Original recordings from Schwitters to the present
- 2003 Anthology contribution: **"Lyrik von Jetzt"** (DuMont)
- 2001 Audiobook: **"Lyrik Eins"** (Hörverlag) With Robert Gernhardt, Bas Böttcher, Cees Nooteboom, Albert Ostermaier, Peter Rühmkorf, Volker Braun, et al
- 2000 Anthology contribution: **"Der neue Conrad"** (Artemis & Winkler)
German poetry from the origins to the present

Selected Prizes and Scholarships:

- 2007 **Botschafter der Sprache** (Ambassador of Language) during the Year of the Humanities
- 2005 Ecrivain en residence (Writer in residence) at the **Sorbonne Nouvelle**, Paris
- 2001 One-year work scholarship at the **Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie**
- 2000 Scholarship at the **Literarischen Colloquium Berlin**

Tours and Festivals:

- 2008 Großer Saal at the **Hamburger Schauspielhaus, Casino der Burgtheaters, Wien**
- 2008 Taipei Book Fair
- 2007 Textbox Project at the **Centre Pompidou** (Paris, France)
- 2007 Textbox Project in **Beijing**
- 2006 Opening of **"Expolangues"** (Paris, France)
- 2005 Official Celebration of the **"Day of German Unity"**, (Potsdam, Germany)
- 2005 **"Tage der deutschsprachigen Literatur"** ("Days of German Language Literature")
(Klagenfurt, Austria)
- 2004 **"Poetry on the Road"** (Bremen, Germany)
- 2003 " **"Roma Poesia"** (Rome, Italy)
- 2001 **"Internationales Literaturfestival Berlin"** (Berlin, Germany)
- 2000 & 2001 **"Poetry International Rotterdam"** (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)
- 2000 - 2005 Reading tours at the invitation of Goethe-Instituts (USA, Canada, UK, France, Italy, Switzerland, Greece, Brazil, Georgia, et al)
- 2002 - 2006 **"Leipzig liest"** ("Leipzig reads"), **"Hamburger Lesetage"** ("Hamburg Reading Days"),
"Lange Büchernacht" ("The Long Night of Books") (Munich, Germany)
- 1999 **"Euro-San Francisco Poetry Festival"** (San Francisco, USA)
- 1995 **"Deutsch-Nuyorican Poetry Festival"** (New York, USA)

Press Reviews:

Rolling Stone: "The acoustic effect of Bas Böttcher's poems creates a stunning musical quality."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung: "Making poetry and being cool suddenly come into harmony, so that real art emerges in a playful, casual way, far removed from some of the forced pretentious productions of the literature industry."

Focus: “Intelligent lyrics [...] plays on words, alliterations and ambiguous scene depictions – as effortless as fish in an aquarium.”

Die Welt: “Böttcher’s body of work stands with the tradition of Afro-American spoken word performances. It is this type of rhythmic presentation that imbues his pieces with their singular, poetic attraction.”

Neue Zürcher Zeitung: “A pop-poetry pioneer”

Partners & Sponsors:

André Heller - Artevent

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

Berlin Verlag

Berliner Volksbank

BIZ Beijing

Bödecker-Kreis e.V.

Buch Basel

Buchmesse Jerusalem

Buchmesse Taipei

Buchmesse Abu Dhabi

Casa Encendida, Madrid

Centre Pompidou, Paris

Der Hörverlag

DFB Kulturstiftung

Department of Education and Research

Deutschlandfunk

Deutschlandradio

Expolangue, Paris

FIFA

Frankfurter Buchmesse GmbH

German Ministry for Education and Research

Goethe Forum München

Goethe House New York City

Goethe-Institut Moskau

Goethe-Institut Riga

Goethe-Institut Rom

Hamburger Schauspielhaus

Heinrich-Heine-Institut

Initiative Deutsche Sprache

Land der Ideen

LCB - Literarisches Colloquium

Leipziger Buchmesse GmbH
Leseland Hessen Berlin
Leipziger Buchmesse
Lido Hörbuch
LitCrawl, San Francisco
LiteraturWERKstatt Berlin
Literaturhaus Hamburg
Literaturhaus München
Literaturhaus Köln
MTV
Nuyorican Poets Café, New York City
Poetry International, Rotterdam
Robert Bosch Foundation
Rotbuch
Staatsgalerie Stuttgart
Staatliche Museen in Berlin
State Department, Germany
Stiftung Lesen
Scholz & Friends
Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris
Villa Aurora, Santa Monica
Volkswagen
WDR TV
ZDF TV
ZKM - Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie