

Press Release:**Opening of the 17th European Literature Days
in the Minoritenkirche in Krems
20.11.–23.11.2025**

What is Authentic? is the theme for Thursday's launch of the 17th European Literature Days with **Martina Hefter** and **Eva Weber-Guskar** +++ Prize-giving ceremony of the Austrian Book Trade Honorary Award for Tolerance in Thought and Action to **Eva Menasse** +++ More readings and discussions including with **Raphaëlle Red**, **Jonas Lüscher**, **Nava Ebrahimi**, **Georgi Gospodinov**, **Christoph Peters**, **Gabriela Wiener**, **Pajtim Statovci**, **Hanna Bervoets**, **Jörg Piringer** and **Elisabeth Klar** +++ Watch the festival opening and other events via **livestream**.

What is considered today as “authentic” – and who decides about this? In an age where the boundaries are fluid between what is authentic, believable and artificial, this year's European Literature Days highlight a theme from a variety of perspectives that will influence our thinking and actions. The curator and artistic director Walter Grond has again succeeded in gathering together renowned authors and philosophers from across Europe to explore common questions about authenticity and fiction, digital identities and the power of the narrative:

“Science, of all things, which promised to put an end to the world of presumptions, is producing a world in which, thanks to its simulations, networks and AI-generators, in the words of Heraclitus, apparently ‘everything flows’. Basically, belief is making a comeback in our lives in a drastic way”.

Under the headline theme **What Is Authentic?** on **Thursday evening** the festival opening takes place in the Klangraum Krems Minoritenkirche with **Martina Hefter** (Berlin) and **Eva Weber-Guskar** (Bochum). On **Friday and Saturday**, more discussions and readings follow including with **Jörg Piringer** (Vienna), **Raphaëlle Red** (Berlin), **Jonas Lüscher** (Munich), **Georgi Gospondinov** (Sofia), **Nava Ebrahimi** (Graz), **Christoph Peters** (Berlin), **Pajtim Statovci** (Helsinki), **Clare Clark** (London), **Hanna Bervoets** (Amsterdam) and **Gabriela Wiener** (Madrid). The European Literature Days close on **Sunday** with the presentation of this year's **Austrian Book Trade Honorary Award for Tolerance in Thought and Action** to **Eva Menasse**.

Watch the following events from home via **livestream**:

Thursday, 20.11.2025

19.30 – Opening

What Is Authentic?**Martina Hefter** and **Eva Weber-Guskar** in conversation

Moderator: Katja Gasser

Friday, 21.11.2025

11.00 – Dialogue

Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence in Publishing

Emma House// Moderator: Rosie Goldsmith

11.40 – Reading and Dialogue

ChatGPT, Data Poetry and Alternative Futures

Jörg Piringer and **Paul Feigefeld** // Moderator: Rainer Moritz

17.00 – Reading and Dialogue

The Afterlife of The Past

Raphaëlle Red // Moderator: Rainer Moritz

17.40 – Reading and Dialogue

The Curiosity for Knowledge of the Future

Jonas Lüscher // Moderator: Rainer Moritz

Saturday, 22.11.2025

11.00 – Reading and Dialogue

Queer, Fluid, Posthuman

Elisabeth Klar and **Kes Otter Liefte** // Moderators: Irene Zanol and Rebekka Zeinzinger

12.20 – Reading and Dialogue

Nerds, Non-White, Non-Male

Simoné Goldschmidt-Lechner // Moderators: Irene Zanol, Rebekka Zeinzinger

17.30 – Reading and Dialogue

Fabulous Reality

Patjtim Statovci // Moderator: Rosie Goldsmith

18.10 – Reading and Dialogue

Fake Paintings

Clare Clark // Moderator: Rosie Goldsmith

The events will be broadcast on the **YouTube-channel** of the European Literature Days:

www.youtube.com/c/LiteraturhausEuropa

The full programme and information about tickets are available at:

<https://www.europaeischeliteraturtage.at/de>

Press photos can be downloaded [here](#)

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