

Michal Hvorecký

Writer in Residence / March / Slovakia

The author and journalist Michal Hvorecký was born in Bratislava, where he lives today. His fight against anti-democratic structures and for the preservation of a free press is very evident in his literary works. Michal Hvorecký studied art history and semiotics-oriented aesthetic theory at the University of Nitra. He was granted a residency at University of Iowa and lived in Belgium, Germany and Austria.

Globalisation (in his novel *City* 2006), the dissolution of political and economic systems in the East, in addition to the fast-growing turbo-capitalism and arising poverty (in *Eskorta*, 2009) and the excesses of tourism (in *Tod auf der Donau* 2012) are crucial key themes in Hvorecký's work that distinguishes itself by the masterful use of black irony.

The author writes mostly in Slovakian. His first German play *Slowakisches Institut. Eine Satire* premiered at the Theater Forum Schwechat in 2009.

His most recent novel *Trol* was very well received by both critics and readers. The story is placed in an Eastern Europe of the near future. An army of trolls rules over the internet – commenting, hounding and stirring up hatred...

Reading

Michal Hvorecký presents *Trol* on March 6th, 18.30h, at the Slovak Institute Vienna (Wipplingerstraße 24-26, 1010 Vienna). The German translation will be read by Sylvia Treudl.