

**Erich Kästner****23<sup>rd</sup> February 1899 – 29<sup>th</sup> July 1974****DRESDEN**

- 23.2.1899 Erich Kästner is born in Dresden.  
His mother Ida is a hairdresser and his father Emil Richard is a saddler.
- 1906 Erich Kästner starts school in the IV Bürgerschule, which is located in the Tieckstraße in Dresden.
- 1913 Confirmation on Palm Sunday in the Dreikönigskirche (Church of the Three Kings).
- 1913 Erich Kästner enters the Freiherrlich von Fletscher teacher training school in Dresden.
- 1914 Erich Kästner goes on holiday to the Baltic Sea with his mother and his cousin Dora. They travel back to Dresden early when the First World War breaks out.
- 1917 Erich Kästner is drafted into the military – due to a heart condition he is dismissed in 1918 and graduates from the teacher training school in Strehlen.

**LEIPZIG**

- 1919 Erich Kästner passes his Abitur (A-Levels) in the König-Georg-Gymnasium with distinction. He is awarded the Golden Scholarship from the city of Dresden and enrolls at the University of Leipzig. His subjects are German Literature, History, Philosophie and Dramatics.
- 1921 During the summer semester he studies in Rostock, and during the winter semester he studies in Berlin.
- 1922 He continues his studies in Leipzig and works as a journalist for the newspaper *Neue Leipziger Zeitung*.
- 1923 Erich Kästner meets Erich Ohser. A long-term friendship begins.
- 1925 Erich Kästner finishes his degree and receives a doctorate in philosophy. He continues working as a journalist for the *Neue Leipziger Zeitung*.
- 1926 He goes on his first trip abroad with his mother Ida to Italy and Switzerland.

**BERLIN**

- 1927 Erich Kästner is fired by the *Neue Leipziger Zeitung* and moves to Berlin.
- 1928 Erich Kästner travels to Paris with Erich Ohser.  
He meets Walter Trier, who will later illustrate his children books. His first collection of poems *Herz auf Taille* is published.
- 1929 Erich Kästner's first children's book *Emil and the Detectives* is published.
- 1930 Erich Kästner travels to the Soviet Union with Erich Ohser.
- 1933 Erich Kästner was forbidden to publish any further works in Germany.  
His books were among those burned during the Nazi book burnings.  
He was interrogated for the first time by the Gestapo.
- 1937 Second interrogation by the Gestapo; Kästner travels to Bad Reichenhall and meets with Walter Trier daily in Salzburg.
- 1938 Erich Kästner travels to London.
- 1942 Erich Kästner is forbidden to publish in Germany and abroad.
- 1944 Erich Kästner's flat in Berlin burns down during an air raid. He moves in with Luise Lotte Enderle.

## MUNICH

- 1945 Munich – Erich Kästner works as the culture editor for the newspaper *Neue Zeitung*, the cabaret *Die Schaubude* was founded.
- 1946 For the first time since the war Erich Kästner travels to Berlin, and then to Dresden, where he is reunited with his parents.
- 1951 Erich Kästner co-founds the cabaret *Die kleine Freiheit* in Munich. His mother dies in Dresden.
- 1957 Erich Kästner's son Thomas is born. His father Emil dies in Dresden.
- 1961 Erich Kästner becomes ill with tuberculosis and in 1962 and 1964 recuperates for lengthy amounts of time in Agra in Ticino, Switzerland.
- 1967 Erich Kästner's last book *Der kleine Mann und die kleine Miss* (The Little Man and the Little Miss) is published.
- 29.7.1974 Erich Kästner dies of Oesophageal cancer in Munich.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

- Federal (German) Film Prize (Bundesfilmpreis) for "Das doppelte Lottchen" (1950)
- Literature Prize (Literaturpreis) of the City of Munich (1956)
- Georg-Büchner-Preis (1957)
- Hans Christian Andersen Medallion of the International Board for Juvenile Books (1960)
- First Prize ("Goldener Igel") in the International Humorists Competition of the Bulgarian youth magazine "Narodna Mladesch," Sofia (1966)
- German Freemasons Literature Prize, award of the Lessing Ring (1968)
- Cultural Award of the State Capital of Munich (1970)
- Gold Medallion (Goldene Ehrenmünze) of the State Capital of Munich (1974)

## A SELECTION OF HIS WORKS

- |      |  |                    |
|------|--|--------------------|
| 1928 | Herz auf Taille  | Poetry             |
| 1929 | Emil und die Detektive (Emil and the Detectives)                         | Children's novel   |
|      | Lärm im Spiegel  | Poetry             |
| 1930 | Ein Mann gibt Auskunft   | Poetry             |
| 1931 | Fabian   | Novel              |
|      | Pünktchen und Anton (Anna Louise and Anton)                              | Children's novel   |
| 1932 | Gesang zwischen den Stühlen  | Poems              |
| 1933 | Das Fliegende Klassenzimmer (The Flying Classroom)                       | Children's novel   |
| 1934 | Drei Männer im Schnee  | Novel              |
| 1935 | Emil und die Drei Zwillinge (Emil and the Three Twins)                   | Children's novel   |
| 1936 | Dr. Erich Kästners Lyrische Hausapotheke                                 | Poetry             |
| 1938 | Der kleine Grenzverkehr  | Novel              |
| 1946 | Bei Durchsicht meiner Bücher   | Poetry             |
| 1949 | Das doppelte Lottchen (Lottie and Lisa)                                  | Children's novel   |
| 1952 | Die kleine Freiheit  | Chansons and prose |
| 1954 | Die Schildbürger   | Retelling          |
| 1955 | Die dreizehn Monate  | Poetry             |
| 1957 | Als ich ein kleiner Junge war (When I Was a Little Boy)                  | Novel              |
| 1961 | Notabene 45  | Diary              |
| 1963 | Der kleine Mann (The Little Man)   | Children's novel   |
| 1967 | Der kleine Mann und die kleine Miss (The Little Man and the Little Miss) | Children's novel   |