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PRESS RELEASE

Doris Dörrie to serve as curator of the forum:autoren at the eighth Munich Literature Festival

Munich, January 20, 2017 – The movie director and writer Doris Dörrie accepted the position of curator of the forum:autoren (forum:authors) at the eighth Munich Literature Festival (November 15 through December 3, 2017). As motto for her program she picked **“Alles Echt. Alles Fiktion”** (“It’s all real. It’s all fiction”) with which she aims to explore the question of truth and fiction in literature, film and media.

The forum:autoren will address the overall theme through readings, performances, film presentations, lectures and interdisciplinary discussions. Together with her guests from literature, film, theater, academia and journalism, Doris Dörrie plans to delve into the question of documentary and autobiographical storytelling and to explore the rules of the fascinating game of fiction and reality as played in both literature and film. Scientists and experts will be invited to discuss theories of storytelling and perception as well as the perspective of psychology on lying.

Doris Dörrie explains: “We are living in a paradox: The documentary is booming. At the same time, everything is fiction. Something will happen. Then, before we know it, a fictional version of it will appear. The main thing: It has to be a good story. The rule applies to everything: politics, the press, social media and autobiographic literature. You name it. Everything becomes the stuff of narratives. What is still true? We invent ourselves in the social web and churn out endless narratives in series, advertising, business and politics. Where is reality? Everything appears to be fantasy, invention, fabrication. All the while, the lifeblood is seeping out of traditional fiction in literature. We yearn for the real, the true and the authentic. The radically autobiographical. It is a paradox for authors: They should become visible, dreaming up as little as possible. The dramaturgy of this narrative goes like this: Nothing is true any longer. But it still should feel that way.”

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“We are really happy to announce that the great film director and writer Doris Dörrie accepted our invitation to serve as curator at our next festival,” said **Tanja Graf, the Managing Director of the Munich Literature Festival**, and **Dr. Hans-Georg Küppers, the Head of Arts and Culture at the Bavarian State Capital of Munich**. “Her topic, ‘Alles Echt. Alles Fiktion,’ could hardly be more timely. We are extremely eager to see how Doris Dörrie’s concept will add new fuel to the cultural-political and aesthetic discussion of our times.”

Doris Dörrie, a native of Hanover, Germany, studied acting and film in Stockton, California, and New York. She also attended the University of Television and Film in Munich. She made her international breakthrough in 1985 with her comedy “Männer” (Men), a movie that turned her into one of Germany’s most successful directors. In 1997, she became a professor of applied dramaturgy and story development at the University of Television and Film in Munich. She became head of creative writing there in 2009. Doris Dörrie lives in Munich.

Doris Dörrie has directed 32 motion pictures and documentaries. She has also written 23 books and directed seven plays and operas. Her movies include the comedy Männer (1985), which won a Bambi media award and the German Film Prize, and “Kirschblüten-Hanami” (Cherry Blossoms), a work from 2008 that received the Bavarian Film Prize for best movie of the year. Her latest film is “Grüße aus Fukushima” (Greetings from Fukushima), a movie that has won high acclaim from both viewers and reviewers. Like her 2000 film “Erleuchtung garantiert” (Enlightenment Guaranteed), the movie navigates along the border between documentation and fiction. As a writer, Doris Dörrie has made a name for herself through her stories and novels, all of which were published by Diogenes Verlag. These works include: a collection of four stories called “Liebe, Schmerz und das ganze verdammte Zeug” (Love, Pain and That Other Damn Stuff) that was published in 1987, the novel “Bin ich schön?” (Am I Pretty?) that appeared in 1994, the novel “Was machen wir jetzt?” (What Will We Do Now?) that was released in 2000 and the 2002 novel “Das blaue Kleid” (The Blue Dress) that won the prize of the Leipzig Book Fair. In 2011, her novel “Alles inklusive” (All Inclusive) became a best-seller like “Das blaue Kleid.” Her latest book, “Diebe und Vampire” (Thieves and Vampires), was published in 2015. Doris Dörrie is a member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts. In 1996, she was awarded the

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German Cross of Merit. She was also presented with the Honorary Cultural Award of the Bavarian State Capital of Munich.

You will find photos and additional information about the Munich Literature Festival at www.literaturfest-muenchen.de

The Munich Literature Festival is hosted by the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels – Landesverband Bayern (the German Publishers & Booksellers Association – Bavarian Branch) and the Literaturhaus München (the Munich House of Literature) in cooperation with the Kulturreferat der Landeshauptstadt München (the Department of Arts and Culture for the Bavarian State Capital of Munich). With the friendly support of the Bavarian State Ministry of Education, Science and the Arts.

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