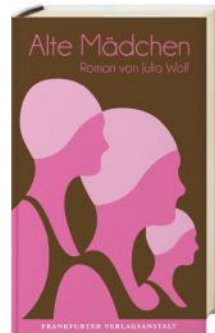


photo © Franziska Rieder



OLD GIRLS

BY JULIA WOLF



Alte Mädchen

Novel. German.

Release: September 2022

Rights held: World Rights



Licher Literature Prize

In *Old Girls*, Julia Wolf lets three generations of women have their say – and sketches a panorama of female life in the Federal Republic that hasn't been seen before in contemporary German literature.

»Old Girls has everything you could want from a contemporary German-language novel: The failure of a petty-bourgeois family, silence, and the experiences of powerlessness in German post-war history, all told as a kaleidoscopic exploration of female subjectivity. Julia Wolf writes a history of consciousness, creating a picture of the postwar milieu that has not been seen before.«

LAUDATIO FOR THE ROBERT GERNHARDT PRIZE

It's always the daughters who ask! The three ›girls from East Prussia‹, Anni, Else and Hannelore, are asked to model for a photography campaign for their senior citizens' residence. While *Germany's Next Topmodel* plays on television, these three women in their mid-nineties negotiate what they want to say about their lives – and what not.

In the car on the way to Poland, Gudrun sends a voice message. She wants her niece to know about her grandmother's death. But she digresses, talks about her escape at the end of the war, her childhood in the 1950s. Suddenly it becomes clear: she has something she wants to confess.

Undine, Jenny and Thao spend a weekend in Berlin before Jenny has her first child. Along with memories of their childhood and youth in the 1980s and 1990s, social differences come to light again. As they reevaluate their life choices, the contractions begin.

Written in three parts – »Marjellchen,« »Neue Heimat, altes Haus,« and »MILF« – Julia Wolf portrays three generations of women, tracing the wounds, values, and experiences of wartime. With this novel, she contributes an important narrative of female subjectivity to German post-war history, opening our eyes to where we come from, where we are going, what we should take with us, and what we should let go.

Julia Wolf is an author and translator. Her debut *Alles ist Jetzt* (FVA 2015) was followed by the novel *Walter Nowak bleibt liegen* (FVA 2017), which won the 3sat Prize and the Nicolas Born Debut Prize, and was nominated for the German Book Prize 2017. She received the Robert Gernhardt Prize and the Licher Literature Prize for *Old Girls*. As part of the author collective »Writing with CARE/RAGE,« Julia Wolf has worked on the topic of care work and artistic production. She lives with her family in Leipzig.

Please contact:

Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt / Nadya Hartmann

Tel +49 69 74 30 55 97

hartmann@fva.de