



reading by

Mirjam Pressler

9 June 2001, 1.30-3pm

Goethe-Institut London

Mirjam Pressler was born in Darmstadt in 1940. She studied art and went to live in Israel for some time. After her return to Germany she started writing at the age of 40. Her first work, "Bitterschokolade", brought her the 'Oldenburger Jugendliteraturpreis' in 1980. Apart from her own writings, Mirjam Pressler has become famous for her translations from Hebrew and Dutch.



Mirjam Pressler has been awarded numerous prizes. In 1994 she received the 'Sonderpreis des Deutschen Jugendliteraturpreises' for her complete translation works, in 1995 the 'Deutsche Jugendliteraturpreis' for "Wenn das Glück kommt, muss man ihm einen Stuhl hinstellen" and in January 2001 the 'Karl-Zuckmayer-Medaille' for her contribution to the German language.

- The reading will be introduced by Esther Kinsky (translator).
- Mirjam Pressler will read from 3 works including her new book "Malka Mal"
- The reading is open to teachers of German and their A-level students as well as the general public.
- Admission: £ 3

Please send your cheque with the completed application form to:

Barbara Homrighausen, Goethe-Institut, 50 Princes Gate, London SW7 2PH. Application deadline: 31 May 2001

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Contact: School/College:

Address:

Tel: Number of students:

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Mirjam Pressler will read from:

ICH SEHNE MICH SO. DIE LEBENSGESCHICHTE DER ANNE FRANK. (THE STORY OF ANNE FRANK), 1992,

- in English and/or German
- Beltz & Goldberg ISBN 3-407-80740-8
- MacMillan Children's Books, ISBN 0-333-74412-8

Anne Frank, the young Jewish girl who died in the German concentration camp Bergen Belsen in 1945, became famous all over the world through her diary. Mirjam Pressler complements this diary with her biography. She gives us an insight into Anne's life, not only into her time in hiding but also into the years before that and those after her arrest. Mirjam Pressler brings us closer to Anne's personality, her talent, her hopes and fears.

SHYLOCKS TOCHTER (SHYLOCK'S DAUGHTER), 1999,

- in English and/or German
- bfb/Goldmann 2001 ISBN 3-442-72637-9
- MacMillan Children's Books 2001, ISBN 0-330-48410-9

Venice at the end of the 16th century: Jessica, daughter of the Jewish merchant Shylock, flees from the ghetto and converts to Christianity when she marries her beloved Lorenzo, a Christian nobleman. Mirjam Pressler reworks the Jessica-Lorenzo-plot of Shakespeare's drama "The Merchant of Venice" and concentrates on the world of the Jews: their every-day life, their customs and traditions.

MALKA MAI, spring 2001,

- in German
- Beltz & Goldberg 2001 ISBN 3-407-80879-8

This novel about a tragic mother-daughter relationship is based on a true story.

In 1943 the Jewish doctor Hanna Mai flees with her two daughters, Minna and Malka, from Poland to Hungary. She has to leave 7-year-old Malka behind on a farm when the girl becomes ill. Despite the loving support of the Polish family, Malka ends up in a ghetto, where she has to fight hunger and cold, illness and persecution by the Germans. The small girl develops astonishing strategies to survive.

Our library stocks the books by Mirjam Pressler and copies of the passages read.

(Library opening hours: Mon-Thu 12-8pm, Sat 1-5pm)