



Robert Streibel

APRIL IN STEIN

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April in Stein tells of life and survival in prison, forced labour and political resistance, but above all the mass murder in Krems for the first time.

During the Nazi tyranny, the prison in Krems-Stein was the largest in the "Ostmark" or 'Eastern March'; the Nazi's name for Austria. This was where dissidents were imprisoned – communists and "saboteurs", resisters from Austria and Eastern Europe. On April 6 1945, the prison governor opens the gates of the prison when faced by the advancing Red Army, but the SS, SA and local people hunt and kill hundreds of political prisoners in an unprecedented massacre. Some manage to escape, some survive by hiding in cellars, and their reports form the basis of Robert Streibel's polyphonic panorama.

ROBERT STREIBEL

born in 1959 in Krems an der Donau, studied history in many cities including Vienna, and has been director of the Community College in Hietzing since 1999. As a historian, he has conducted numerous research projects on National Socialism, Judaism, exile and numerous commemorative actions on expulsion and resistance in the Nazi state. Publications include "They Were Suddenly All Gone: The Jews of the Provincial Capital Krems", "February in the Province: A Investigation into the 12th February 1934 in the Northeast" and most recently "Krems 1938-1945. A History of Adaptation, Betrayal and Resistance."