



Peter Rosei

WHO WAS EDGAR ALLAN?

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Residenz classic

First published in 1977, "Wer war Edgar Allan?" marked Peter Rosei's literary breakthrough. An enigmatic game of deception, it is also a rapturous homage to a deeply autumnal Venice and to Poe, the master of cryptic storytelling. Sympathetically adapted into film by Michael Haneke in 1984, the novel combines hallucinatory delirium with precise societal diagnosis. A drug-addicted student roams through Venice, a shady Contessa falls from the roof garden of her palazzo, a drug syndicate quietly rules behind the scenes, and a mysterious gentleman by the name of Edgar Allan seems to be pulling many dark strings. This new edition features Walter Pichler's cult cover and makes the post-war classic available to a wide readership once more.

PETER ROSEI

born in Vienna in 1946, Rosei studied at Vienna University and received a doctorate in law in 1968. He has been a freelance writer since 1972, based in Vienna and travelling extensively. His numerous awards include the Franz Kafka Prize 1993, the Anton Wildgans Prize 1999 and the Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art 2007. He was awarded the Decoration of Honour for Services to the Republic of Austria in 2016. Most recently published: Die "Wiener Dateien" (boxed set of 5 books, 2016), "Karst" (2018), "Die große Straße" (2019).