

JOHANN REICHHART

INTRODUCTION TO JOHANN REICHHART

JOHANN REICHHART WAS A SIGNIFICANT FIGURE IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, KNOWN PRIMARILY FOR HIS ROLE AS AN EXECUTIONER IN NAZI GERMANY. HIS LIFE AND CAREER PROVIDE A STARK INSIGHT INTO THE DARKER ASPECTS OF HUMAN HISTORY, PARTICULARLY DURING A TIME WHEN THE WORLD WAS ENGULFED IN TURMOIL AND MORAL AMBIGUITY. THIS ARTICLE DELVES INTO THE LIFE, CAREER, AND LEGACY OF JOHANN REICHHART, EXPLORING THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT, HIS ACTIONS, AND THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF HIS ROLE.

THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF REICHHART'S LIFE

TO UNDERSTAND JOHANN REICHHART'S ACTIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS, IT'S CRUCIAL TO EXAMINE THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT IN WHICH HE LIVED. THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY WAS MARKED BY SIGNIFICANT UPEHAVAL:

- **WORLD WAR I (1914-1918):** THE AFTERMATH OF THE WAR LEFT GERMANY POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY UNSTABLE.
- **THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC (1919-1933):** A PERIOD CHARACTERIZED BY POLITICAL STRIFE, HYPERINFLATION, AND THE RISE OF EXTREMIST MOVEMENTS.
- **WORLD WAR II (1939-1945):** THE WAR BROUGHT ABOUT UNPRECEDENTED ATROCITIES, PARTICULARLY THE HOLOCAUST, WHERE MILLIONS OF LIVES WERE LOST.

REICHHART'S LIFE UNFOLDED AGAINST THIS BACKDROP, SHAPING NOT ONLY HIS CAREER CHOICES BUT ALSO THE MORAL DILEMMAS FACED BY INDIVIDUALS IN A SOCIETY GRAPPLING WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF AUTHORITARIAN RULE.

EARLY LIFE AND BACKGROUND

JOHANN REICHHART WAS BORN ON MARCH 21, 1905, IN THE SMALL TOWN OF WUNSIEDEL, BAVARIA. HIS EARLY LIFE WAS RELATIVELY UNREMARKABLE, WITH LITTLE INDICATION OF THE PATH HE WOULD TAKE. HOWEVER, CERTAIN ASPECTS OF HIS UPBRINGING WOULD LATER INFLUENCE HIS CAREER CHOICES:

1. **FAMILY BACKGROUND:** REICHHART CAME FROM A FAMILY WITH A LONG-STANDING ASSOCIATION WITH THE PROFESSION OF EXECUTION. HIS FATHER WAS AN EXECUTIONER, WHICH MEANT THAT THE TRADE WAS SOMEWHAT NORMALIZED IN HIS HOUSEHOLD.
2. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING:** WHILE THERE IS LIMITED INFORMATION REGARDING HIS FORMAL EDUCATION, IT IS KNOWN THAT HE WAS TRAINED IN THE ART OF EXECUTION, A PROFESSION STEEPED IN TRADITION AND RIGOR.
3. **CAREER CHOICES:** AFTER HIS TRAINING, REICHHART TOOK ON THE ROLE OF AN EXECUTIONER, BECOMING ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE FIGURES IN THIS GRIM PROFESSION.

ROLE AS AN EXECUTIONER

REICHHART'S CAREER AS AN EXECUTIONER BEGAN IN THE 1930s, A PERIOD WHEN THE NAZI REGIME WAS CONSOLIDATING POWER. HE BECAME KNOWN FOR HIS EFFICIENCY AND PROFESSIONALISM, ATTRIBUTES THAT WERE HIGHLY REGARDED IN A ROLE THAT DEMANDED A COLD AND DETACHED DEemeanor.

EXECUTION METHODS

THE METHODS EMPLOYED BY REICHHART WERE IN LINE WITH THE PRACTICES OF THE TIME, WHICH INCLUDED:

- **HANGING:** A COMMON FORM OF EXECUTION THAT WAS VIEWED AS A HUMANE METHOD DURING THIS PERIOD.
- **GUILLOTINE:** INTRODUCED AS A MORE MODERN AND EFFICIENT MEANS OF EXECUTION, IT WAS USED IN SEVERAL HIGH-PROFILE CASES.
- **FIRING SQUAD:** EMPLOYED FOR MILITARY PUNISHMENTS AND CRIMES DEEMED PARTICULARLY HEINOUS.

REICHHART'S ROLE WAS NOT LIMITED TO MERELY CARRYING OUT EXECUTIONS; HE WAS OFTEN INVOLVED IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS, SUCH AS PREPARING THE NECESSARY LEGAL DOCUMENTS AND COORDINATING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

HIGH-PROFILE EXECUTIONS

THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, REICHHART WAS INVOLVED IN NUMEROUS HIGH-PROFILE EXECUTIONS, INCLUDING:

- **POLITICAL DISSIDENTS:** MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO OPPOSED THE NAZI REGIME MET THEIR END AT THE HANDS OF EXECUTIONERS LIKE REICHHART.
- **CRIMINALS:** HE ALSO EXECUTED INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED OF SERIOUS CRIMES, OFTEN UNDER THE NEW, STRINGENT LAWS ENACTED BY THE NAZIS.
- **WAR CRIMINALS:** FOLLOWING THE WAR, REICHHART'S SKILLS WERE UTILIZED IN THE EXECUTION OF WAR CRIMINALS, ALTHOUGH THE NUMBERS WERE FEWER COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS YEARS.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF EXECUTION

WHILE REICHHART WAS KNOWN FOR HIS PROFESSIONALISM, THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF HIS WORK CANNOT BE UNDERSTATED. EXECUTIONERS OFTEN FACED SIGNIFICANT INTERNAL CONFLICTS AND SOCIETAL STIGMA. SOME OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS INCLUDE:

1. **DESENSITIZATION:** THE REPEATED EXPOSURE TO DEATH CAN LEAD TO A NUMBNESS TOWARDS THE ACT OF KILLING, CREATING A BARRIER TO EMOTIONAL RESPONSE.
2. **ISOLATION:** EXECUTIONERS OFTEN FOUND THEMSELVES OSTRACIZED FROM SOCIETY, LEADING TO FEELINGS OF LONELINESS AND DESPAIR.

3. **MORAL CONFLICT:** MANY EXECUTIONERS GRAPPLED WITH THE MORALITY OF THEIR ACTIONS, PARTICULARLY IN A REGIME THAT UTILIZED CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AS A TOOL OF POLITICAL CONTROL.

REICHHART'S CAREER, WHILE SEEMINGLY DETACHED AND EFFICIENT, WAS LIKELY FRAUGHT WITH INTERNAL STRUGGLES THAT REFLECTED THE BROADER MORAL DILEMMAS FACED BY INDIVIDUALS DURING THIS TUMULTUOUS TIME.

POST-WAR LIFE AND LEGACY

AFTER WORLD WAR II, JOHANN REICHHART'S LIFE TOOK A TURN AS THE WORLD RECKONED WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE NAZI REGIME. HIS ROLE AS AN EXECUTIONER BECAME A FOCAL POINT OF SCRUTINY, AND HE FACED SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES:

DENAZIFICATION PROCESS

FOLLOWING THE WAR, GERMANY UNDERWENT A DENAZIFICATION PROCESS AIMED AT REMOVING FORMER NAZIS FROM POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE. EXECUTIONERS LIKE REICHHART WERE OFTEN INCLUDED IN THIS PROCESS, LEADING TO:

- **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:** SOME EXECUTIONERS WERE TRIED FOR THEIR ACTIONS DURING THE WAR, ALTHOUGH MANY ESCAPED SIGNIFICANT PUNISHMENT.
- **PUBLIC OPINION:** THE SOCIETAL VIEW OF EXECUTIONERS SHIFTED DRAMATICALLY, WITH MANY BEING LABELED AS WAR CRIMINALS.
- **PERSONAL REFLECTION:** FOR SOME, INCLUDING REICHHART, THE POST-WAR YEARS WERE A TIME OF REFLECTION AND GRAPPLING WITH THEIR ACTIONS DURING THE WAR.

DEATH AND REMEMBRANCE

JOHANN REICHHART PASSED AWAY ON JULY 6, 1972. HIS LEGACY REMAINS CONTROVERSIAL, AS HE IS OFTEN VIEWED THROUGH THE LENS OF HIS PROFESSION AND THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED DURING THE NAZI REGIME. THE DEBATE SURROUNDING HIS ACTIONS CONTINUES TO PROVOKE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT MORALITY, JUSTICE, AND THE HUMAN CAPACITY FOR VIOLENCE.

CONCLUSION

IN EXAMINING THE LIFE OF JOHANN REICHHART, WE GAIN INSIGHT INTO A COMPLEX FIGURE WHO OPERATED WITHIN ONE OF THE DARKEST CHAPTERS OF HUMAN HISTORY. HIS ROLE AS AN EXECUTIONER SERVES AS A POIGNANT REMINDER OF THE MORAL COMPLEXITIES FACED BY INDIVIDUALS IN POSITIONS OF POWER DURING TIMES OF POLITICAL UPHEAVAL. AS SOCIETY CONTINUES TO REFLECT ON THE EVENTS OF THE PAST, FIGURES LIKE REICHHART CHALLENGE US TO CONFRONT UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS ABOUT JUSTICE, PUNISHMENT, AND THE HUMAN CONDITION. UNDERSTANDING HIS LIFE AND ACTIONS IS ESSENTIAL NOT ONLY FOR HISTORICAL ACCURACY BUT ALSO FOR GRAPPLING WITH THE ETHICAL QUESTIONS THAT RESONATE TODAY.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO WAS JOHANN REICHHART AND WHAT WAS HE KNOWN FOR?

JOHANN REICHHART WAS A GERMAN EXECUTIONER DURING THE EARLY TO MID-20TH CENTURY, KNOWN FOR CARRYING OUT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF EXECUTIONS IN NAZI GERMANY, PARTICULARLY DURING WORLD WAR II.

WHAT IMPACT DID JOHANN REICHHART HAVE ON THE PERCEPTION OF EXECUTIONERS IN HISTORY?

REICHHART'S ROLE AS AN EXECUTIONER DURING A TUMULTUOUS PERIOD HAS SPARKED DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE MORAL IMPLICATIONS OF HIS PROFESSION, THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EXECUTIONERS, AND THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF STATE-SANCTIONED KILLINGS.

HOW MANY EXECUTIONS DID JOHANN REICHHART PERFORM?

JOHANN REICHHART IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT OVER 3,000 EXECUTIONS, MAKING HIM ONE OF THE MOST PROLIFIC EXECUTIONERS IN MODERN HISTORY.

WHAT TECHNIQUES DID JOHANN REICHHART USE FOR EXECUTIONS?

REICHHART PRIMARILY USED THE GUILLOTINE FOR EXECUTIONS, WHICH WAS A COMMON METHOD IN GERMANY DURING THAT TIME, KNOWN FOR ITS PERCEIVED EFFICIENCY AND CLEANLINESS.

WHAT IS THE LEGACY OF JOHANN REICHHART IN MODERN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT?

REICHHART'S LEGACY RAISES IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ETHICS OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIONERS, AND THE SOCIETAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS JUSTICE AND RETRIBUTION IN HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS.

Johann Reichhart

johann reichhart: Flight and Concealment Susanna Schrafstetter, 2022-09-06 Between ten thousand and twelve thousand Jews tried to escape Nazi genocide by going into hiding. With the help of Jewish and non-Jewish relatives, friends, or people completely unknown to them, these U-boats, as they came to be known, dared to lead a life underground. Flight and Concealment brings to light their hidden stories. Deftly weaving together personal accounts with a broader comparative look at the experiences of Jews throughout Germany, historian Susanna Schrafstetter tells the story of the Jews in Munich and Upper Bavaria who fled deportation by going underground. Archival sources and interviews with survivors and with the Germans who aided or exploited them reveal a complex, often intimate story of hope, greed, and sometimes betrayal. Flight and Concealment shows the options and strategies for survival of those in hiding and their helpers, and discusses the ways in which some Germans enriched themselves at the expense of the refugees.

johann reichhart: A Noble Treason Richard Hanser, 2012-08-22 Sophie Scholl and her brother Hans were handsome, bright university students in 1942 Germany. As members of the Hitler Youth, they had once been enthusiastic supporters of the German renewal promised by National Socialism. But as their realization of Nazi barbarism grew, so did their moral outrage. Hans and Sophie formed a small group of like-minded friends, which initially included two medical students, a student of philosophy, and a fifty-year-old professor. They self-identified as Christians from various traditions-Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox-and they called themselves the White Rose. In a

darkened studio lent them by an artist, they printed eloquent anti-Nazi leaflets, which they ingeniously spread throughout Germany. A Noble Treason tells the true story of this underground group at the University of Munich that instigated, organized, and carried out the first overt resistance to Hitler's regime. What gives A Noble Treason its unforgettable and inspiring quality is the personality, character, and courage of the White Rose members, as they resisted the pull of wartime patriotism and overcame their fear of the terrible price they would pay for their dissidence. The story of the White Rose is one of faith-inspired idealism in deadly conflict with ideological tyranny. Its theme is the ultimate victory of that idealism despite its bloody-and seemingly final-destruction by the state.

johann reichhart: Hitler's Henchmen Helmut Ortner, 2022-11-04 Helmut Ortner reveals a staggering history of perpetrators, victims and bystanders in Hitler's Germany. He explores the shocking evidence of a merciless era – and of the shameful omissions of post-war German justice. Johann Reichhart was a state-appointed judicial executioner in Bavaria from 1924 until the end of the war in Europe. During the Nazi era, he executed numerous people who were sentenced to death for resisting National Socialism, including many of those involved in the 20 July 1944 bomb plot on Adolf Hitler. As a member of the SS-Totenkopfverbände, the SS organisation responsible for administering the concentration and extermination camps, Arnold Strippel served at a number of locations during his rise to the rank of SS-Obersturmführer. These included Natzweiler-Struthof, Buchenwald, Majdanek, Ravensbrück and Neuengamme, where he was responsible for murdering the victims of a series of tuberculosis medical experiments. Like Reichhart, Erich Schwinge was also involved in the legal sphere during the Third Reich. A German military lawyer, in 1931 he became a professor of law and, from 1936, wrote the legal commentary on German military criminal law that was decisive during the Nazi era. Aside from the part they played in Hitler's regime, these three men all had one further thing in common – they survived the war and restarted their careers in Adenauer's Federal Republic of Germany. In Hitler's Henchmen, Helmut Ortner uncovers the full stories of Reichhart, Strippel, Schwinge and others like them, Nazi perpetrators who enjoyed post-war careers as judges, university professors, doctors and politicians. Had they been gutless cogs in the machinery of the Nazi state, or ideologized persecutors? Ortner reveals that it was not only their Nazi pasts that were forgotten, but how the suffering of the victims, including resistance fighters such as Georg Elser and Maurice Becaude, and their relatives was suppressed and ignored.

johann reichhart: An Academic Biography of Liu Ching-Chih Yongyan Li, 2022-09-30 This book is an academic biography of Liu Ching-chih, a renowned musicologist and translation scholar, and a prolific music critic in Hong Kong. Three Library Collections named after him are housed in the University of Hong Kong Libraries, the Hong Kong Central Library, and the Library of the Institute of Chinese Studies of the University of Heidelberg. This volume of life writing is distinguished from average biographies by its reliance on systematic analyses of an extensive array of texts and interview data. The chapters integrate chronologies, narratives, analyses and intertextual connections, with the voice of Liu foregrounded, to present a multifaceted character whose decades-long scholarship spanned across music criticism, the history of new music in China, and translation. Several chapters document Liu's process of working on his major book projects, including A Critical History of New Music in China and A Critical History of Music in Hong Kong. One chapter portrays Liu as a scholar-music critic, and another features his leadership at the Hong Kong Translation Society. A chapter that documents Liu's immensely rich array of academic and cultural services in Hong Kong is followed by a linguistic and cultural profile of the scholar. The ending chapter, on the biography project itself, traces the evolution of the project, explains the research methodology, and provides a metadiscoursal account of the writing of the book. The book provides a valuable reference for those who want to know about humanities scholars, public intellectuals, music criticism, music research, and civic societies in Hong Kong, for those who are curious about the academic exchange between Hong Kong and mainland China during the 1980s-1990s, and for those who are interested in an interdisciplinary approach in life writing research and the genre of life writing concerning in particular scholars.

johann reichhart: American Hangman French L. MacLean, 2025-06-06 The first biography of MSgt. John C. Woods, infamous US Army hangman of the Nuremberg trials MacLean meticulously separates fact from the mythology surrounding this enigmatic figure This is a follow-on book to *The Fifth Field*, winner of the 2013 Richard G. Trefry Award from the Army Historical Foundation

johann reichhart: *My Ancestors* Horst H. Geerken, 2025-05-26 Letters, diaries and documents from many centuries in the past provided the details for this enthralling read, but it is no ordinary collection of dry-as-dust facts. It is a chronicle stretching back into the Middle Ages, the history of a fascinating, influential and many-branched family with exciting life-stories to relate. The authors grandfather was the artist Johann Hinrich Geerken, and his aunt was housekeeper to Albert Einstein. This richly illustrated volume tells the tales of farmers and inventors, artists and artisans, but also of courageous women who had to see their families through difficult times alone. Among the ancestors described are the famous master tower-clock maker Johann Michael Mannhardt, whose clocks continue to tell the correct time, and Wilhelm Emmanuel Johann Mannhardt, an academic and Mennonite whose works are still published today. The book takes us to Meiji-period Japan, where Carl August Schenk the scientist taught at the University of Tokyo and is still honoured as the father of Japanese mineralogy, to Indonesia where the author lived and worked for many years, and on to Australia, America and Greece, where many of the family live today. Many interesting historical anecdotes and illustrations make the book well worth reading, not just for the family. It is a document of modern and contemporary history.

johann reichhart: *Watching Jesus Die* Woodrow Michael Kroll, 2023-12-28 What if you could transport yourself back to the first century, walking the dusty streets of Jerusalem, late on Thursday night before Passover? And what if you were tagging along behind eleven men led by Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane? You'd leave the Upper Room and go deep into the Kidron Valley to the garden. There the temple police and a half-crazed crowd arrive brandishing torches. Jesus is taken to the palace of Annas and then to the High Priest Caiaphas. What insight do we gain from history, archaeology, and most importantly the New Testament about where they lived? In the morning Jesus would be sent to the Chamber of Hewn Stone. What was this place and why is it important to the Passion narratives? On to Pilate's Judgment Hall where new archaeological evidence questions its traditional location. You pick up the trail again on the Via Dolorosa and follow Jesus to Jerusalem's killing field. There you find the Savior dying on a Roman cross. In just a few hours you have followed him from the Upper Room to Joseph's tomb and have gained valuable insight into each stopover to help you on your own journey to Calvary.

johann reichhart: *A Cartography of Resistance* Keith Grint, 2024-07-30 Resistance is universal, but why does it occur, and fail or succeed? Resistance is often regarded in traditional management books as a problem to be overcome because it is seen as short-sighted or self-interested. Grint suggests, however, that resistance is not necessarily right or wrong. From resistance to the Roman Empire, to slavery, to the Nazis, to racism, to the state and capital, to patriarchy, and to imperialism, this book ranges across time and place to explain the success or failure of resistance. While many contemporary approaches focus on leadership as the explanatory variable, *A Cartography of Resistance* expands the approach to include management and command of resistance movements - and of their opponents. Many of the case studies explore the failures, as well as the successes, of resistance and the book suggests that even the failures reveal a fundamental truth about the human condition: just because the situation looks bleak for those suffering from oppression does not mean they surrendered meekly. Rather many seemed to adopt the same attitude that led Sisyphus to keep rolling the boulder up the hill: they were determined not to let their situation define or defeat them.

johann reichhart: *Hitler's Banker* Jean-François Bouchard, 2023-07-04 1932. The economic crisis in Germany was unprecedented—a severe recession, 6 million unemployed, and a collapse in the popularity of Chancellor Brüning, who was criticized for his lack of foresight and who stubbornly focused on a single objective—reducing public deficits and restoring the state's finances under pressure from other European countries. All the while far-right parties, which would soon take power, were experiencing an irrepressible rise. How can one not be struck by the similarity between

the economic and political situation in Germany in 1932 and that of some Western countries in 2022? In a fictionalized biography tracing the astonishing career of Hjalmar Schacht, a German financial genius of the last century, Jean-François Bouchard indirectly highlights the interest in drawing inspiration from the economic methods that worked at that time. With this perspective, the current economic situation does not seem to be without a solution. In 1933, Hitler appointed Hjalmar Schacht as Minister of the Economy. A child from a modest background, severely raised in the working-class neighborhoods of the port of Elba, brilliant at school but also mocked by his classmates, he developed a distant, haughty and arrogant personality very early on. After studying philosophy and economics (he wrote his thesis on mercantilism), he climbed the ladder of power one step at a time. As currency commissioner of the Weimar Republic, Hjalmar Schacht reduced inflation and stabilized the Mark with a miraculous initiative—the creation of a transitional currency, the Rentenmark, backed by mortgages. The population embraced the idea. It was a masterly success. For Schacht, the savior of German currency, devotion to his country was boundless. He became close to the NSDAP and participated in Hitler's rise to power, attracted by his economic program. Quickly appointed president of the Reichsbank in a still very weak Germany, he did not try to restore the balance of the state's accounts. Quite the contrary! Abolishing the dogma of balanced public finances, he applied an economic policy close to the New Deal (launching major works) and implemented his own solutions (repatriation of German capital, limiting imports to only those raw materials necessary for rearmament, organizing Germany's insolvency vis-à-vis external creditors, creating MEFO bills, etc.). It was the end of unemployment that became the factor of social stabilization for Adolf Hitler, and of consolidation of his power and of military hegemony. In this regard, sadly, the incredible story of Hjalmar Schacht is the most painful demonstration of this process. Jean-François Bouchard began a classic executive career in 1986 after studying law, with positions in the banking industry and at the corporate level. He also taught financial analysis at the University of Toulon. In 1995, he joined the Inspection Générale de la Banque de France. From then on, he carried out control missions in French and foreign banks (France, Europe, the Caribbean and Africa), as a specialist in banking supervision, risk control and the fight against money laundering. In 2005, he was resident advisor for two years to the National Bank of Romania, where on behalf of the European Commission, he piloted the upgrading program of this institution in view of Romania's admission to the European Union, which took place on January 1, 2007. He then went to Bulgaria to work on the preparation of that country's entry into the euro, a project that did not materialize in the end due to the turbulence in the euro zone, and the Bulgarian political authorities preferred to give up. Back in France, he was appointed head of mission at the Autorité de contrôle prudentiel; he also headed the Lyon branch of the Banque de France for three years. As head of mission, he participated in the major European bank assessment exercise, before the European Central Bank took over banking supervision in the framework of the Banking Union. At the end of this large project, he left in June 2014 as resident advisor to the International Monetary Fund in Libreville, Gabon. He is in charge of banking supervision for Central Africa, i.e., the six countries of the CEMAC zone (Gabon, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, and Chad), as well as for the Democratic Republic of Congo (Congo Kinshasa) and Burundi.

johann reichhart: Die unsichtbare Guillotine Ulrich Trebbin, 2023-02-28 2014 konnte Ulrich Trebbin aufdecken, dass die Guillotine, mit der die Geschwister Scholl ermordet wurden, seit Jahrzehnten im Depot des Bayerischen Nationalmuseums in München vor der Öffentlichkeit verborgen wurde. Im Königreich Bayern wurden damit Menschen hingerichtet, die aus Lust, Hass oder Habgier gemordet hatten. Ab 1933 dann eliminierte der NS-Staat mit der Guillotine vor allem sogenannte Volksschädlinge und Widerstandskämpfer. Bekannt sind vielen noch die Mitglieder der Weißen Rose oder der Räuber Kneißl, doch die allermeisten der insgesamt mehr als 1.300 Opfer des Fallbeils sind heute vergessen. 1945 schließlich ließ der Staat die Guillotine von der Bildfläche verschwinden. Bis heute. Denn sie ist mit einem Ausstellungsverbot belegt, und niemand darf sie sehen. Dieses Buch erzählt die Geschichte dieses schrecklichen und spannenden Gegenstandes – mit Fingerspitzengefühl, ohne Sensationsgier.

johann reichhart: Hingerichtet in München-Stadelheim Irene Stuibler, 2004

johann reichhart: White Knights in the Black Orchestra Tom Dunkel, 2022-10-11 They were a small group of conspirators who risked their lives by plotting relentlessly to obstruct and destroy the Third Reich from within. The Gestapo nicknamed this shadowy confederation of traitors the "Black Orchestra." This is their tension-filled story. As the "Final Solution" unfolds, a loose network of German military officers, diplomats, politicians, and civilians are doing everything in their power to undermine the Third Reich from the inside: reporting troop movements to the Allies, feeding disinformation to the Nazi high command, plotting to assassinate Adolf Hitler, and more. The Gestapo nicknames this shadowy confederation of traitors the "Black Orchestra." Its players include Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a dissident Lutheran pastor, and his brother-in-law Hans von Dohnanyi, a staff attorney at the Abwehr, the German military intelligence service. In this tension-filled narrative, Tom Dunkel traces the perilous movements of these "white knights" as they and their families face constant danger of being exposed and executed. Some act out of moral outrage and patriotism. Some want to atone for their own Nazi sins. When their treasonous activities are finally discovered, Hitler's SS and the Gestapo are hell-bent on taking bloody revenge as the end of the war rapidly approaches and lives hang in the balance. White Knights in the Black Orchestra is a tautly written, meticulously reported account of men and women heroically resisting Hitler's ruthless regime. It packs the punch of the best espionage thrillers, but the cat-and-mouse drama and plot twists are grounded firmly in fact. This is a stirring story of people willing to risk all by doing the right thing in a country gone mad, a story that may prompt readers to ask themselves "What would I have done?"

johann reichhart: The Nazi Death Camps Winston Ramsey, 2022-09-21 In the 12 years that the National Socialist Party was in power in Germany, upwards of 15,000 concentration and labor camps were established in the Greater Reich and the occupied countries to incarcerate all who were deemed enemies of the state. Contents includes: GERMANY Dachau, Oranienburg, Sachsenhausen, Buchenwald, Ohrdruf, Flossenbürg, Neuengamme, Ravensbrück, Niederhagen/Wewelsburg, Bergen-Belsen, Mittelbau-Dora-Nordhausen, Arbeitsdorf. AUSTRIA Mauthausen. BELGIUM Breendonk, Mechelen: Caserne Dossin. CZECHOSLOVAKIA Theresienstadt. ESTONIA Vaivara/Klooga. FRANCE French Transit Camps, Natzweiler-Struthof, Wieselgrund/Vaihingen. HOLLAND Westerbork, Amersfoort, Herzogenbusch/Vught. ITALY Fossoli, Bolzano, Risiera di San Sabba. LATVIA Riga-Kaiserwald. LITHUANIA Kauen. NORWAY Falstad, Grini. UNITED KINGDOM Alderney, Channel Islands. BERLIN Wannsee Conference and Operation 'Reinhard'. POLAND The Warsaw Ghetto, Majdanek-Lublin, Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Chelmno, Gross-Rosen, Stutthof-Danzig, Krakow-Plaszow, Auschwitz, Birkenau, War Crimes Trials.

johann reichhart: Confessions Victor Urban, 2024-02-14 This is the story of my family and their struggles through a very tough time during WWII and their strength, faith in God, and tenacity during a very dark period in history--a story of a family finding strength and courage to carry on when all was dark. It begins with the birth of my dad and carrying on to the time of new beginnings for my family in America. Enjoy a tale of time.

johann reichhart: Beheaded by Hitler Colin Pateman, 2017-05-17 From 1933 during the Nazi era when Hitler refashioned the German judicial system in line with his oppressive regime, many crimes became capital offences which led to a drastic increase in the number of executions. In 1936, the Reich Minister of Justice, Franz Gurtner, acting upon Hitler's direction, ordered that the fallbeil, a variation on the guillotine, replace the hand axe as the official method for all civil executions throughout Germany. To meet this new demand for 'justice', many prisons were designated as execution sites and equipped with a 'Tegel Fallbeil', named after the inmates of the Tegel prison in Berlin who first built these atrocious contraptions. Beheaded by Hitler: Cruelty of the Nazis, Judicial Terror and Civilian Executions 1933-1945 provides the reader with a chilling insight into the judicial terror that took place and the harrowing stories of execution by fallbeil of civilians who were convicted of domestic resistance to the Nazi regime, treason and other offences after so called 'trials' by the Volksgerichtshof or People's Court. This exceptionally well researched book also explains the Nazi judicial system, the prisons selected for central execution sites and the Nazi

officials and executioners that carried out Hitler's cleansing. Illustrations: 55 black-and-white photographs

johann reichhart: *Spies, Saboteurs and Secret Missions of World War II* Tony Matthews, 2022-05-04 What kind of courage does it take for an ordinary married couple to confront the Nazi regime of Hitler's vicious Third Reich? And why did two men betray their fellow secret agents after landing on American shores with the intention of carrying out sabotage attacks on a massive scale? Why did the Germans murder more than two hundred and sixty innocent men in retaliation for a botched Resistance attempt to steal a simple truckload of meat? From technical wizardry that goes disastrously wrong, to underwater warfare with a sting in its tail, this new book by Tony Matthews delves into a wide range of top-secret stories, including black propaganda missions, calamitous Resistance operations and accounts of espionage activities at the very highest level. *Spies, Saboteurs and Secret Missions of World War II* is a fascinating insight into some of the most astonishing clandestine activities of the Second World War.

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