

Epitaph for Pinnau

Kant, Immanuel (1724–1804): German philosopher

Borowski; Vasianski: Biographers of Kant

Hamann, Johann Georg (1730–1788): Author of philosophical studies

Young Gentleman at the Window

Schopenhauer, Arthur (1788–1860): German philosopher

Schopenhauer, Heinrich Floris (Father): Banker, committed suicide

Michael, Tobias: Choir master at St. Thomas Church, Leipzig, from 1631 to 1657

Boehlendorff

Boehlendorff, Kasimir Anton Ulrich (1775–1825): German revolutionary poet

Fichte, Johann Gottlieb (1762–1814): German philosopher

Herbart, Johann Friedrich (1776–1841): German philosopher

Hölderlin, Johann Christian Friedrich (1770–1843): German revolutionary poet

Lenz, Jakob Michael Reinhold (1751–1792): Dramatist

Woltmann, Karl Ludwig von (1770–1817): Historian

Lausanne 1797: Swiss uprising following the French Revolution

La Harpe, Frédéric César (1754–1838): Swiss revolutionary who instigated French aid for the uprising

Ochs, Peter (1752–1821): Swiss statesman directed by Napoleon to work out the constitution for the newly founded Helvetic Republic

Briefly,

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Johannes Bobrowski was born in 1917 and grew up in Königsberg, East Prussia, now part of the Soviet Union. The traditions of the town always fascinated him — its literature, theology and philosophy and later he was to include some of these in his writings. In 1938, Bobrowski went to Berlin to study the history of art at the university but within less than a year he was back in East Prussia, drafted as a soldier in the Nazi Wehrmacht. . . . Having grown up in the Baltic lands he was keenly aware of the history-old oppression of the Baltic peoples and the Jews by the Germans and as a soldier he was to see that this oppression had not changed. Taken prisoner in the Soviet Union in 1945, he returned to Berlin in 1949 where he began work as an editor in a publishing house. His first collection of poems, "Sarmatian Times," was published in 1961. His verses recall life in East Prussia, the landscape, past mingling with present and underlying all the guilt of the Germans. In only a few years he gained an international reputation and has been published in twelve languages. Holder of many literary prizes — 1962: Alma Johanna Koenig (Austria); "Group 47" (Federal Republic of Germany); 1965: Heinrich Mann (German Democratic Republic) and Charles Veillon (Switzerland) — Bobrowski died at forty-eight, on the threshold of a career with a bright future.

Johannes Bobrowski
I Taste Bitterness

Most of the stories in this collection are published in English for the first time. They were written by a modern German poet who produced three volumes of poetry, two novels and more than thirty stories in six years and died at the outset of his creativeness at forty-eight. Unorthodox in both style and language, they represent something new and exciting in the world of literature. Seven Seas Books is pleased to present this latest volume in its series of translated works by authors of the German Democratic Republic.



SEVEN SEAS BOOKS

