



The Last Window-Giraffe

*Péter Zilahy, with a Foreword by Lawrence Norfolk,
and Translated by Tim Wilkinson*

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Size: 214 x 138mm; 8.4 x 5.4

Illustrations: 75+ colour photographs and illustrations

Rights Held: World

Description

An inventive and humorous dictionary-novel of dictatorship, and a thrilling personal journey behind the Iron Curtain.

‘Péter Zilahy is just the vagabond polymath the New Europe needs. Don’t wait. Climb aboard the rollercoaster today. Read *The Last Window-Giraffe* as an elaborate, erudite, gut-wrenching belly-laugh at everything that went wrong and all the people who failed to fix it.’ —*Lawrence Norfolk, author of ‘In the Shape of a Boar’*

The Last Window-Giraffe is a playful and personal journey through the political unrest of the seventies and eighties. It was inspired by a Hungarian children’s dictionary, entitled ‘Window-Giraffe’, which explained the whole world in simple terms; a world where everything was in order and all problems were easily solved. Popular across Europe for the best part of a decade, *The Last Window-Giraffe* is a politically infused rendition of the original: quirky, astute and powerful. Péter Zilahy draws on his travels around the soft dictatorships of Eastern Europe, offering his acerbic observations on the often bizarre spectacle. In one instance he describes the carnival-like protests against the Milosevic regime in Belgrade simply and humorously. This reflects, like the format of the book, the manner in which the regime treated their people like children.

Filled with his own striking photographs, Zilahy gives fascinating insight into a whole other universe behind the Iron Curtain. *The Last Window-Giraffe* is one of the most unusual, beguiling books you will ever read. For more information please see the book website: www.lastwindowgiraffe.anthempressblog.com

Readership: For the general fiction reader and anyone interested in literary fiction, experimentation with the novel form and postmodern writing.

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Foreword by Lawrence Norfolk; A-Z Entries; Biographical Index

About the Author

Péter Zilahy was born in 1970 in Budapest, Hungary. He is a writer and performer with diverse interests. His books have been translated into 18 languages. In 2001 he was a lecturer at New York University. His dictionary-novel ‘The Last Window-Giraffe’ won the Book of the Year Prize in Ukraine in 2003.

Lawrence Norfolk is the author of three novels, including ‘In the Shape of a Boar’.

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