

Press Reviews

Reinhold Bilgeri has filmed his bestseller "A Breath of Heaven" – a highly extravagant production by Austrian standards.

Wolfgang Wieser: Wiener Zeitung, July 2010

(...) Only a few movies become Hollywood blockbusters on the screens of cinemas all over Austria.

(...) The film adaptation of the novel is one of the most ambitious movie productions ever made in German-speaking countries.

Martina Zudrell, Vorarberger Nachrichten, June 24th, 2010

(...) Everything he undertakes is done with stubborn consequence, which lastly turns into a success. That's the way it will probably go with his movie, too.

Matthias Hermann, Buchmedia Magazin, Spring/Summer 2010

The nicest compliment was made by tourists, who were standing in the midst of our film park and inquiring where the film park was located. They couldn't tell that the church (...) wasn't actually the real thing.

Reinhold Bilgeri in an interview with Circe, March 2010

(...) Depicts people and landscapes "as authentically as possible."

(...) Bilgeri, who's a teacher of German and philosophy, came up with "an awesome story" for his first novel, as author Michael Köhlmeier words his praise for his friend.

(...) The leading male actor Jaron Löwenberg: (...) "Bilgeri has incredible ties to the people here. He knows how they feel and how they react. He was highly capable in conveying that to me."

(...) Bilgeri's first novel is a local chronic, a social study and a love story all at once.

Susi Donner, Schwäbische Zeitung online, March 14th, 2010

(...) The tiny village (...) looks as though it was already here in the very same place several decades ago.

Martina Zudrell, Vorarberger Nachrichten, March 11th, 2010

Bilgeri has engaged the Who's Who of the German-speaking movie industry. For example, his friend Hans Funck (...) or cameraman Tomas Erhart (...)

Hannes Mayer, Neue Vorarlberger Tageszeitung, March 11th, 2010

(...) And I spontaneously fell in love with this heart-warming couple and their infinite love of life with and for each other.

Daniela Schimke about the Bilgeri Couple in Madonna, March 6th, 2010

(...) What Beatrix and Reinhold Bilgeri have risked with their movie about the avalanche catastrophe of Blons fills me with admiration and genuine awe.

Robert Schneider, the author of "Brother of Sleep" in a letter to the editor in Vorarlberger Nachrichten, December 8th, 2009

(...) Honesty (...) straightforwardness (...) two characteristics, which you can't hesitate to attribute to Bilgeri, whom you'll remember from the height of his career as a singer and musician. (...) The ease with which his story flows will put you under a spell (...) Reinhold Gruber, Oberösterreichische Nachrichten, October 22nd, 2009

(...) Three years ago you heard word of his novel of the same name. The story of a courageous woman is a social novel, as well as a village chronicle, and a documentary of the horrific avalanche catastrophe of 1954 in Blons.

(...) A great drama with convincing details in the interplay of the visual and musical. Christa Dietrich, Vorarlberger Nachrichten, December 2nd, 2008

(...) So much more than a big novel can be made of it. In a movie you always have to decide what to omit in order to fill 90 minutes, says Bilgeri. The camera can only depict certain moments or seconds. (...) Captured in time, illuminating the depths and depicting the truth much more precisely than in film. (bitte klären??)

(...)

(...) From the first word on, the author knows how to transport the reader into the world he created, into which he has woven his family history.

Heidi Rinke-Jarosch, Echo, Vol. I, 2008

(...) and was awarded the eighth place on the renowned Austrian Schwarzer Bestseller List for the paperback edition of his first novel.

Vorarlberger Nachrichten, February 12th, 2008

The literary prize of the Vorarlberg Buch- und Medienwirtschaft goes to Reinhold Bilgeri with his debut novel "A Breath of Heaven."

(...)

(...) The readers have cast their vote (...) and already 30,000 copies of it have been sold.

Beate Malu, Neue Vorarlberger Tageszeitung, July 19th, 2008

(...) For decades he has been a leading figure in Vorarlberg's culture. (...) He's written radio plays, screenplays, comedy shows and short stories.

Feldkircher Anzeiger, July 24th, 2008

World literature, written right here (...) the book is on the bestseller lists. Exciting, entertaining, dramatic, heartwarming – Bilgeri has launched a respectable work of literature on the market.

Christa Dietrich, Vorarlberger Nachrichten, December 15th, 2007

(...) The great German publishing house Verlag Piper bought the paperback rights for "A Breath of Heaven." This will ensure that the novel "A Breath of Heaven" is available on the book market for a long time.

Christa Dietrich, Vorarlberger Nachrichten, August 26th, 2006

(...) has not only managed to become an international figurehead of Austropop music, but also a sensitive writer, whose works might even conquer Hollywood.

Verena Daum: Wann & Wo, November 30th, 2005

(...) Bilgeri has packed a lot into this book: the contrast between rich and poor, a tragic love story and a natural catastrophe (...) but the novel is still not overladen (...)

Ulrike Breit, Neue Vorarlberger Tageszeitung, September 23rd, 2005

(...) First of all, it's a good read. And when "her eyes have already confessed" and "the tremolo in her voice gives away what she couldn't express," or when she "felt it like the morning dew," you know that the author doesn't shy away from creating trivial sentences.

Christa Dietrich, Vorarlberger Nachrichten, September 17th, 2005

"This story about love and death, based on the greatest avalanche catastrophe that ever took place in the Alps, is well worth watching."

Jacqueline Jurek, KuL, August 1st, 2010

"In the historical novel, which is generously sprinkled with stardust, as well as simultaneously being a tragic love story and a critical social study with an ecological twist, the author recalls the epochal natural catastrophe that happened in the Walser Alpine community of Blons (...). You can say there's a lot in the novel (...). The highly professional movie that cost around 4 million euros to make with international stars (incl. Krista Stadler, Jaron Löwenberg, Erwin Leder, as well as the French comedy star Eric Judor in a cameo role) is also a Vorarlberg family project."

Wolfgang Paterno, Profil, July 12th, 2010

"This movie is a tearjerker, which might not be everyone's thing in this cool and mellow age," says Bilgeri. "There will be young people, who think it's sentimental, but there are also people, who long for true emotions."

Simone Harr, Schwäbische Zeitung, July 20th, 2010

"*A Breath of Heaven* depicts sentiments that appear to have been revived from the 1950s. The spoken language sounds historically authentic and modern at the same time, which reflects its tenderness."

Marga Swoboda, Kronen Zeitung, June 4th, 2010

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