

Ceremony to mark the 120th birthday of Herbert Witzenmann

To mark the 120th birthday of the writer, anthroposophist and entrepreneur Herbert Witzenmann, the Unesco City of Literature Heidelberg is honouring his poetic and philosophical work. In collaboration with the Heidelberg Cultural Office and Alanus University, his daughter Dorothea Paschen is organising a public event in the Hebelhalle in Heidelberg.

Where: Hebelhalle, Hebelstr. 1, 69115 Heidelberg When: Sunday, 16 February 2025, 3:00 pm



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Herbert Witzenmann (*16 February 1905 in Pforzheim; †24 September 1988 in Heidelberg) grew up as the son of the factory owner Emil Witzenmann. He originally wanted to become a pianist, but this was not possible due to a tendon weakness in his hand.

In 1924, he met Rudolf Steiner, which had a lasting impact on his life. Karl Jaspers, with whom Witzenmann studied philosophy in Heidelberg, also had a significant influence on his life.

Throughout his life, Herbert Witzenmann wrote poetry and was heavily involved in the Anthroposophical Society. He led various sections at the Goetheanum in Dornach and founded the Seminar for Free Youth Work, Art and Social-Organics in 1973.

In his works, he was primarily concerned with epistemology and aesthetics.

Witzenmann studied philosophy, music, art and literature history as well as mechanical engineering. Together with his brother Dr Walter Witzenmann, he ran the family business as managing director from 1943 to 1966. These years were characterized by the reconstruction of the company after the destruction of the war and the establishment of Witzenmann GmbH as a medium-sized company with a global reputation.

In the late 1970s and 1980s, Witzenmann work once again experienced an unexpected upswing, accompanied by a lively programme of seminars and lectures throughout Europe. Invitations also took him to North and South America. The majority of his written work was produced during this period, when Witzenmann became one of the most influential figures in anthroposophy.

Witzenmann extensive estate is administered by the Herbert Witzenmann Foundation, which he himself established. A number of educational institutions, working groups and other initiatives, including the "Herbert Witzenmann Centre" based in Dornach, are dedicated to cultivating his impulses today.

Pforzheim, 07/02/2025



The Witzenmann Group

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Further information can be found at:

	Witzenmann: Innovation: Digitalisation:	https://www.witzenmann.de/de/ https://www.witzenmann.de/de/innovation/ https://www.witzenmann.de/de/digitalisierung/
6	Witzenmann: Philip Paschen:	<u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/witzenmann-gmbh/</u> https://www.linkedin.com/in/philip-alexander-paschen-b31264/
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Picture and caption

Caption Herbert Witzenmann *16 February 1905 in Pforzheim †24 September 1988 in Heidelberg © Family Dorothea Witzenmann