

Franco Supino

Born in Solothurn in Switzerland in 1965 of Italian parents, Franco Supino was brought up bilingually (German & Italian). He studied German Language & Literature as well as Romance Languages & Literature in Zurich and Florence, completing his studies with a dissertation on the German poet, Günter Eich. Supino currently lives in Solothurn, where he offers a theatre course for the canton, in addition to teaching short courses at the teacher training college.

While still at school, Supino published his early writings in anthologies and magazines. Some were broadcast on radio. As a student, he produced a radio play, as well as short stories & several features for Swiss Radio. In 1991, the premiere of his theatre play, *Cafe Terminus*, followed. 1995 saw the publication of his first novel, *Musica leggera* (now in its third edition), a book of which Peter Bichsel wrote, "Supino has produced a book which hundreds of writers before him wanted to write, or did write, but failed. *Musica leggera* is the simplest and most serious love story in the world; a love story, which was also our story."

Book Publications

Ciao amore, ciao. Novel. Rotpunktverlag, Zürich 2004.

Gesang der Blinden (Song of the Blind). Novel. Nagel & Klimche, Zürich 1999.

Die Schöne der Welt oder Der Weg zurück (The Beauty of the World or the Way Back). Novel. Nagel & Klimche, Zürich/Frauenfeld 1997.

Musica leggera. Novel. Rotpunktverlag, Zürich 1995 (third edition).

Prizes & Awards

Bursary from the Canton of Solothurn, 1986

Pro Helvetia Bursary, 1998

Bursary from the city of Stuttgart, 2000 (Schriftstellerhaus)

Residency in Rottweil, 2001 (Stadtschreiber)

Literature Prize of the Canton of Solothurn, 2001

Kurt Alten Cultural Foundation Prize, 2003