Writer, Translator and Publisher Ilija Trojanow was born in Bulgaria and has lived in Germany, Kenya, Nairobi and later in Bombay, after his family had fled Bulgaria. After his studies in Munich he founded a publishing house and has been writing several critical books, essays and newspaper articles since. In 2006, his bestseller novel Der Weltensammler (Carl Hanser) was published and awarded with the "Preis der Leipziger Buchmesse". In his work he critically addresses political and cultural issues. In the 1990s Trojanow wrote several non-fiction and travel books about Africa, published an anthology of contemporary African literature and translated African authors into German. His first novel, Die Welt ist groß und Rettung lauert überall, appeared in 1996. In it he recounts his family’s experiences as political refugees and asylum seekers. After that appeared the science fiction novel Autopol, created on the Internet as a “novel in progress,” Hundezeiten, a travel account of a visit to his Bulgarian homeland, and books dealing with his experiences in India. Trojanow’s books have been translated in 25 languages and awarded with several prizes. Over the past years he has also taught at various universities and in 2013 raised his critical voice towards the US and the NSA.