Axel Hacke, Dirk Schmidt
The Columnist Manifesto

The best of 1001 columns

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Axel Hacke has been writing for the Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazin for 25 years, practically never missing a copy in that time. As this year will see his 1001st column, the time seems right for a Columnist Manifesto collecting the very best of his unmistakably playful takes on life and the times. His stories and reflections, full of charm, merriment and melancholy, have found a place in the hearts and minds of more than a generation. Selected and annotated by the author, this beautiful linen-bound edition complete with bookmark ribbon means that the perfect text is always to hand to lighten and brighten every day. A manifesto of the everyday lives we all know but now see in a new light. A manifesto of the words we use, celebrated here in all their wondrous oddity, and of the maddest misunderstandings they sometimes cause. A manifesto for self-helpers in search of answers to the conundrums of bringing up children and living with partners. Die Zeit described Hacke as “indefatigable” and in his column, featuring everybody and everything from Bob Dylan to Putin, from fishes in space to the sex life of the Nubian ibex, Axel Hacke never misses an opportunity to poke fun, to wonder, to smile.
Axel Hacke’s task – as he sees it himself – has always been to take weighty issues and see their lighter side. And what could be better than to hold this weighty volume in your hand and feel life getting a little lighter and beginning to soar?

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Axel Hacke

Axel Hacke is an Author and columnist for the Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazin living in Munich. He’s one of the most renowned authors in Germany and his books have been translated into several languages. His most recent publication was Im Bann des Eichelhechts (2021). For more, visit www.axelhacke.de

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Dirk Schmidt

Dirk Schmidt, born in 1980, studied communication design. He is married and has two daughters. He works as a freelance graphic designer and illustrator in Munich. Together with his mother, he invents picture book stories and illustrates them.

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