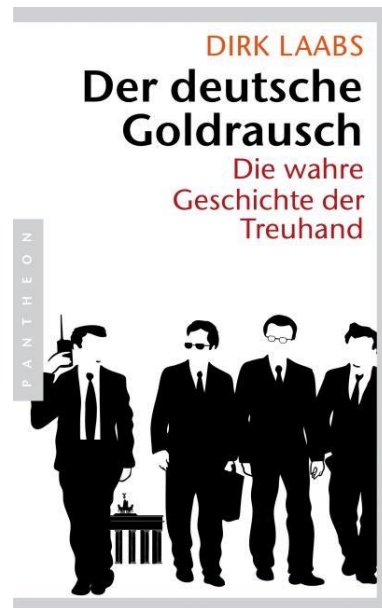


A new look at the history of German reunification



Dirk Laabs
The German Gold Rush
[Der deutsche Goldrausch]
The true story of the Treuhand

Pantheon
384 pages
Format 13,5 x 21,5 cm
February 2012

Dirk Laabs was born in 1973 and is an author and film maker. His film *The Strangers in Paradise – Why holy warriors kill* was awarded the 2004 documentary film prize of Bavarian Broadcasting. His most recent book is *The German Gold Rush*. The true story of the Treuhand (2012) which was awarded the Opus Primum Prize for the best scientific publication in 2012 by a promising young writer.

Dirk Laabs here tells the story of the Treuhand, or the "Trust Agency", that monumental public authority that originally came on the scene to stop the state-owned property of East Germany from being sold off and in the end was responsible for three million people losing their jobs. It is a story that took place in the shadows of reunification.

Laabs gives us a new view of the period after the fall of the Berlin Wall; his investigative book is an economic thriller cum history book.