

Matias Faldbakken – Scandinavian Misanthropy



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Matias Faldbakken

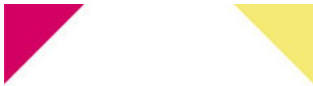
Unfun

Matias Faldbakken

Macht Und Rebel

Matias Faldbakken

The Cocka Hola Company



Abo Rasul
Unfun
Skandinavisk misantropi 3
Cappelen Damm



Cappelen Damm 2008
256 pages
Original title: *Unfun*
Skandinavisk Misantropi 3

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Matias Faldbakken

Unfun *Scandinavian Misanthropy #3*

Five years after *Macht und Rebel*, Matias Faldbakken returns with *Unfun – Scandinavian Misanthropy III*, drawing his Scandinavian Misanthropy trilogy to an explosive close through a discussion of violence and its ultimate consequence – death. Using the dramaturgy of the rape/revenge flicks of the 70s as a framework for his narrative, Faldbakken cooks up a grotesquely hilarious and challenging story about the crew around the online slasher game Deathbox, at the center of which are the “violence intellectual” Slaktus and his former girlfriend and victim Lucy, an anarchist who embodies the horror film’s Final Girl trope. Problematizing concepts of oppression, freedom, and power in different contexts, Faldbakken lets Lucy mete out revenge on her oppressors in a narrative littered with references to popular culture, which bears Faldbakken’s trademark of being at once seriously disturbing and highly entertaining.

Sex, violence and drugs – no one can write about it with such force as Matias Faldbakken.

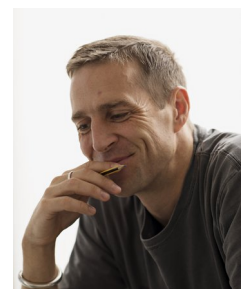
- Vanity Fair, Germany

Masterful. With Unfun, Abo Rasul – the pen name of conceptual artist Matias Faldbakken – completes one of contemporary Scandinavian literature’s most important projects.

- Information, Denmark

Matias Faldbakken

Acclaimed Norwegian artist Matias Faldbakken (b. 1973), unanimously hailed as the freshest new voice to emerge in Norwegian literature during the past decade, made his literary debut in 2001, with the much praised and award-winning *The Cocka Hola Company – Scandinavian Misanthropy I*. Two years later, it was followed by the equally critically acclaimed and fervidly debated *Macht und Rebel – Scandinavian Misanthropy II*. In Spring 2008, Matias Faldbakken brought the trilogy to a close with *Unfun – Scandinavian Misanthropy III*, thereby completing one of the most exciting and original literary projects in contemporary Scandinavian fiction. *The Hills* is Faldbakken’s first novel in nine years and the very first he writes under his own name.





Cappelen Damm 2003
332 pages
Original title: *Macht Und Rebel*
Skandinavisk Misanthropi 2

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Matias Faldbakken

Macht Und Rebel *Scandinavian Misanthropy #2*

What makes Scandinavian misanthropy particular? According to Norwegian new-born literary supernova Matias Faldbakken, it is the particular mixture of a welfare state, high standards of living, modern corporate culture, consumer ideology and a society that not only is tolerant, but downright benevolent towards its own opponents and deviators from the norm. The Scandinavia of Faldbakken is a place of early adapters – pure heaven if you're in the world of marketing and want to test new consumer products, new strategies, new cultural habits and new ideologies. Only, there are no ideologies left according to Faldbakken. In the world that he depicts, talk is cheap, nothing is shocking and perversion is the norm. In short, anything goes.

The second novel of Matias Faldbakken takes the nihilistic satire from his first novel to yet another level. In *Macht Und Rebel – Scandinavian Misanthropy II*, Faldbakken shows a world where all choices are fakes and the inescapable poverty is the absolute loss of values. There is simply nothing to rebel against. This time, Faldbakken takes on the counter-culture as prime target for his satire.

There is a bleakness here and a linguistic subtlety which makes other young contemporary literature seem like babbling Winnie the Pooh books ... all the same the novel is unusually funny because the absurdity of modern times is hit off to a T.

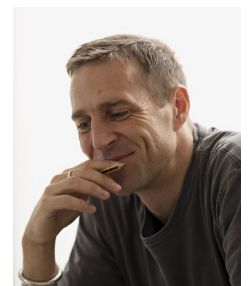
- Verdens Gang, Norway

Masterful, but uncomfortable, Norwegian novel takes the pursuit of provocation and novelty to its limits. Macht Und Rebel is a brilliant novel: it stages an apparently intellectual dilemma as an existentialist drama.

- Information, Denmark

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Cappelen Damm 2001
455 pages
Original title: *The Cocka Hola Company*
Skandinavisk Misanthropi 1

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Matias Faldbakken

The Cocka Hola Company *Scandinavian Misanthropy #1*

The debut novel of young Norwegian writer Matias Faldbakken is a contemporary satire to end all satires. *The Cocka Hola Company - Scandinavian Misanthropy I* is the ferociously funny chronicle of a war against the welfare society and its underlying values. Relying on most people's inherent hypocrisy and double standards, Simpel and his band of social misfits to stage a series of equally amusing and revealing assaults on middle-class norms. Not since the early sixties has the clown-mask been used to spit out such bitter truths about the human condition in modern-day Western civilisation.

The Cocka Hola Company is a bizarre experience ... it is highly unlikely that there will be any books quite like The Cocka Hola Company for some time.

- Verdens Gang, Norway

One of the most sensational debut novels in 20 or 30 years.

- Hamar Arbeiderblad, Norway

Entertainment with a satirical sting and a well-structured, unimaginable story.

- Dagsavisen, Norway

Finally a sensual counterpart to Michel Houellebecq's conservative book about relationships has shown up ... there aren't enough words of praise to shower on Faldbakken's fiendishly funny novel.

- SZ, Germany

Faldbakken tells the story of this group of people so unbelievably comically that upon reading it you immediately 'get high on' this misanthropic utopia! How filthy everything really is, is seldom shown so clearly as in this novel.

- SPEX, Germany

The Norwegian author Matias Faldbakken's first novel is by no means cynical but rather multi-faceted and insanely funny.

- Glamour, Germany

Unbridled and exuberantly comic, Faldbakken narrates his shady story and creates colorful, headstrong characters like the 'porno ideologue' Ritmeester, the badly brought-up seven-year-old Lonyl or the

spineless, hot-tempered Simpel. Dizzying!

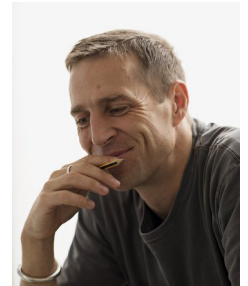
- go München, Germany

Faldbakken has a serious message behind his multi-faceted, comic figures: Modern man must find a free zone in order to find himself and thereby avoid sinking down into the muck of consumer society.

- 20 Minuten, Switzerland

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