

Uwe Westphal

Journalist and Author

Berlin and London

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Uwe Westphal is a renowned German author and journalist. He has worked for the international PEN association of writers, and as a journalist and producer for PBS and CBS in New York. He is the author of four history books about the Third Reich, numerous essays, and articles in the United Kingdom and Germany. His work has also appeared on Radio 4 and BBC.

During his visit in Atlanta, Uwe Westphal presents his book “Fashion Metropolis Berlin - The Rise and Destruction of the Jewish Fashion Industry”.

Alongside Paris, Berlin was a metropolis for ready-to-wear and fashion from the middle of the 19th century. Young entrepreneurs, mostly of Jewish origin, settled here and invested in creative designs and innovative production methods. The urban woman of the 1920s would be unthinkable without the clothes from the Manheimer brothers or the Wertheim department store. In the 1930s, the National Socialists destroyed this unique tradition: many highly respected Jewish ready-to-wear stores were "Aryanized," the owners expropriated, expelled or murdered. The excitingly told account brings fashionable Berlin back to life and painfully illustrates the great injustice in the 1930s.

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