

## Book burning

This photomontage was published on the cover of AIZ on 10 May 1933, the day that the national socialists' burnt books on Berlin's Opernplatz (now known as Bebelplatz).

Heartfield situated the pile of burning books in front of the Reichstag, with Joseph Goebbels in the foreground. The pile includes work by banned authors, including Thomas Mann, Karl Marx, Erich Maria Remarque and Egon Erwin Kisch. Heartfield changed the composition of the montage slightly when he used it for the biography published by his brother Wieland when John returned from exile in England. He replaced the book by Kisch in the foreground with *Ein Mensch unserer Zeit* ('A Man of Our Times') by Johannes R. Becher, with a cover he himself had designed, in a tribute that highlighted Becher's role in the Resistance.