

Translated excerpt

**Karen Exner**

***Hüte und andere Kopfbedeckungen aus aller Welt***

Carlsen Verlag, Hamburg 2024

ISBN 978-3-551-52291-7

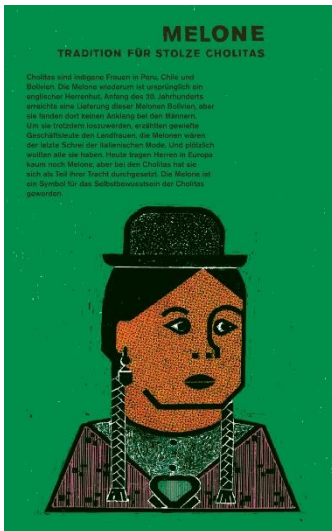
pp. 12, 14, 17, 23, 27-29, 36, 38, 42, 47, 74

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***Hats and Other Headware From All Over the World***

Translated by John Reddick

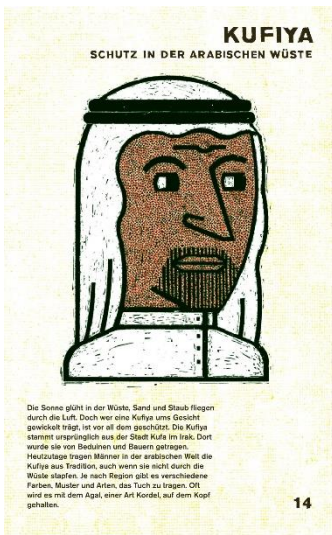




## THE BOWLER

### TRADITIONAL FOR PROUD CHOLITAS

Cholitas are indigenous women in Peru, Chile and Bolivia, whereas bowler hats were originally headgear worn by men in England. At the beginning of the 20th century a delivery of bowler hats arrived in Bolivia, but they didn't appeal to men there. In order to offload them, crafty businessmen assured local women that bowlers were the very latest Italian fashion, and suddenly they all wanted to have one. Bowlers are almost never worn by men in Europe nowadays, but they have become part of the cholitas' traditional dress. Bowler hats have become a symbol of the cholitas' self-confidence.



## THE KEFFIYEH

### PROTECTION IN THE ARAB DESERT

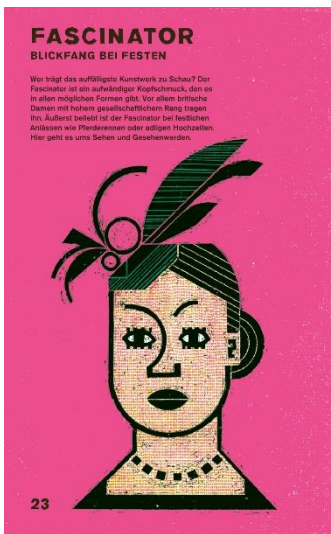
The sun glows burning hot in the desert, sand and dust fly through the air. But anyone with a keffiyeh wrapped around their head is well protected. Originally the keffiyeh came from the city of Kufa in Iraq, where it was worn by bedouins and peasants. These days men in Arabic countries wear the keffiyeh for traditional reasons, and not only when they're crossing the desert. The types, colours and patterns of keffiyeh vary according to region. They are often kept in place on the wearer's head by an 'agal', a kind of cord.



## THE BOBBLE HAT

## A FLUFFY SHOCK-ABSORBER

A woolly winter hat only looks cool if it has a pom-pom on the top. For seafarers the pom-pom was not merely decorative. The spaces below deck were narrow and constricted, and seamen could easily bang their heads. The pom-pom was meant as a shock-absorber. Soldiers in some countries also sported pom-poms on their headgear. The colour of the pom-pom showed what unit the wearer belonged to.



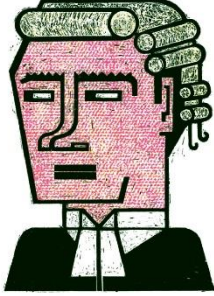
## THE FASCINATOR

### AN EYE-CATCHER FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

So who's wearing the most egregious example of the milliner's art? The fascinator is a lavish decoration for the head, and comes in a huge multiplicity of different forms. They are worn mostly by high-society British women. The fascinator is extremely popular for festive occasions such as horse race meetings and aristocratic weddings, where it is all a question of seeing and being seen.

## GERICHTSPERÜCKE AUTORITÄT IM VERHANDLUNGSSAAL

In britischen Gerichtssälen tragen Anwältinnen und Anwälte lange Roben und Perücken aus Pferdehaar. Die Tradition stammt aus dem 17. Jahrhundert, als fließendes Wasser knapp war. Damals trugen viele Menschen Perücken, um ihr ungewaschenes Haar zu verdecken. Gerichtsangehörige waren auch froh, dass die Perücken im Alltag nicht von ehemaligen Angeklagten erkannt zu werden. Heutzutage ist es nicht mehr nötig, ungewaschenes Haar zu verdecken. Doch für den Anwalt ist die Perücke immer noch Teil der Berufsbeleidung. Sie hebt ihn von den anderen Menschen im Gerichtssaal ab und verleiht ihm Respektabilität.



## THE JUDICIAL WIG

### AUTHORITY IN THE COURTROOM

In British courtrooms the lawyers wear long robes and horsehair wigs. The tradition goes back to the seventeenth century, when running water was hard to come by. In those days many people wore wigs to disguise their unwashed hair. Court staff were also glad that their wigs prevented them from being recognised in everyday life by people who had once stood in the dock. It isn't necessary these days for unwashed hair to be hidden from view. But for lawyers, wigs remain part of their court 'uniform'; wigs distinguish them from others in the courtroom and lend them an air of prestige.

## PERÜCKEN VIELSEITIGES ZWEITHAAR

Seit Jahrtausenden nutzen Menschen Perücken. Im alten Ägypten waren sie Schönheits- und Statussymbole. Je feiner die Haarpracht, desto wohlhabender war die Person, die sie trug. Ähnlich verhielt es sich mit der Glorie, einer traditionellen koreanischen Perücke. Sie wurde von Frauen von hohem sozialen Status genutzt. Bei den Huli aus Papua-Neuguinea schmücken die Männer ihr Haar. Dafür verwenden sie ihr eigenes Haar. Sie lassen es jahrelang wachsen und verarbeiten es schließlich zu einer mit bunten Federn verzierten Perücke. Auch auf dem Kopf von Marie-Antoinette, der letzten französischen Königin, war jede Menge los. Der Poet, ein Turmhirer aus Draht, Kissen und Fremohaar, sorgte dafür, dass sie garantiert euffel. Ihre Frisuren waren teilweise so hoch, dass sie nicht aufrecht durch eine Tür gehen konnte. Eine besondere Attraktion war ihr Poet mit anhängendem Schirmrand. Manchmal ermöglichen Perücken den Personen, die sie tragen, weniger aufzufallen, etwas zu verdecken oder in eine Rolle zu schlüpfen. Schauspielerinnen oder Clowns nutzen sie und sie sind auch an Karneval beliebt. Ghengis-Khan, der die Welt eroberte, verdeckte nach der Hochzeit in der Öffentlichkeit ihr Haar mit Hüten, Tüchern oder einer Perücke, die Schatol genannt wird. Manche Menschen tragen Perücken, wenn sie kein oder wenig eigenes Haar haben. Zum Beispiel wegen einer Krankheit, einer medizinischen Behandlung oder weil ihr Haar im Laufe ihres Lebens ausgefallen ist.



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## WIGS

## A MULTIFUNCTIONAL EXTRA LAYER OF HAIR

People have been using wigs for thousands of years. They were a status symbol in ancient Egypt. The more elegant the wig, the more prosperous its wearer was. It was the same with the gache, a traditional Korean wig which was worn by high-status women. In Papua New Guinea men decorate their head with a 'huli', for which they use their own hair. They let it grow for years and years and then turn it into a wig decorated with multicoloured feathers. There was a lot going on, too, on the head of Marie-Antoinette, the last French queen! The pouf, a tower hairstyle built up with wire, cushion pads and other people's hair, ensured that she stood out. Her hairstyles were sometimes so mountainous that she couldn't walk upright through doorways. One particularly appealing style of hers was a pouf incorporating a model ship.

Sometimes wigs enable their wearers to be *less* noticeable, to conceal something or to play a role. Clowns and actresses use them in this way, and they're also often worn at carnivals. Once they are married, very strict orthodox Jewish women hide their hair in public with hats, headscarves, or a wig called a sheitel. Many people wear a wig if they don't have much or any hair of their own, for example because of illness or medical treatment or because they have lost their hair over the course of their life.



SHEITEL

MAN WEARING A HULI WIG

A POUF

AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WIG

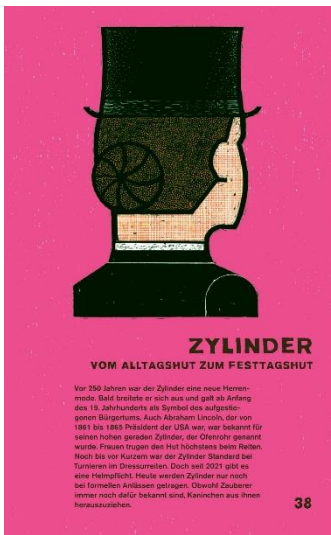
A GACHE



## THE PARTY HAT

### GIVING YOUR HEAD A FESTIVE AIR

When people start donning paper hats and blowing into toy trumpets, it means it's party time! No one really knows where this tradition began. Even in ancient Egyptian times people wore conical hats made out of beeswax on festive occasions. In the years between the mid-nineteenth century and the start of the twentieth children in Europe and the USA had to stand in the corner wearing pointed hats as a punishment for naughty behaviour. Perhaps these hats were the forerunners of party hats: anyone wearing a party hat can step out of line, and normal rules are suspended for the duration.



## THE TOP HAT

### FROM EVERYDAY WEAR, TO A HAT FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Two hundred and fifty years ago top hats were a new fashion for men. They soon grew in popularity, and by the beginning of the nineteenth century they had become a symbol of middle-class success. Abraham Lincoln, president of the USA from 1861 to 1865, was renowned for his tall, straight top hats, known as ‘stovepipes’. Women only wore top hats when on horseback, and until quite recently top hats were standard wear at dressage competitions; but helmets became mandatory in 2021. These days top hats are only worn on formal occasions, though conjurors are still well known for pulling rabbits out of them.



### BASEBALLKAPPE

EINE KAPPE FÜR ALLE

Die Baseballkappe kommt aus den USA. Baseballspieler tragen sie ursprünglich, um sich vor der Sonne zu schützen. Inzwischen haben Baseballkappen viele Fans. Sie sind praktisch, einfach herzustellen und deshalb mittlerweile weltweit bei vielen Menschen beliebt. Schau mal genau hin: Menschen nutzen die Kappe auch, um ein Statement zu machen. Die Logos oder Sprüche auf den Kappen erzählen viel über ihre Trägerinnen und Träger.

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# BASEBALL CAPS

## A HAT FOR EVERYONE

Baseball caps originated in the USA. They were originally worn by baseball players to protect themselves from the sun, but over time baseball caps have become highly popular! They are practical, easy to manufacture, and in consequence they now appeal to people right across the world. And take a closer look: the logos and mottos to be seen on people's baseball caps tell us a lot about their wearers.



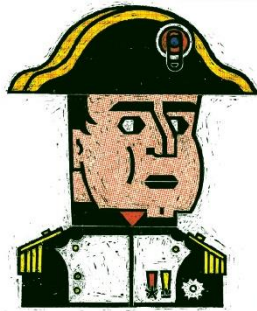
## THE ASIAN CONICAL HAT

### PROTECTION FROM SUN AND RAIN

In Vietnam the sun shines a lot, and depending on the season there can be sudden, heavy downpours. Countryside people who spend a lot of time outdoors therefore wear conical hats. But this type of hat is also popular in other South-East Asian countries besides Vietnam. It provides shade when the sun is shining, and acts as a mini-umbrella when it's raining. It is woven out of rice straw or palm leaves, making it waterproof. A chin strap ensures that it stays on the wearer's head. The conical hat is multifunctional. Its low profile makes it useful for drinking from, and for storing and carrying things.

## ZWEISPITZ MARKENZEICHEN NAPOLEONS

Obwohl der französische General und Kaiser Napoleon Bonaparte seit über 200 Jahren tot ist, haben einige seiner Zweispitze überlebt. Die Filzhüte sind genauso berühmt wie ihr Träger. Ende 2023 wurde ein napoleonischer Zweispitz für fast zwei Millionen Euro versteigert. Beim Zweispitz ist die Halbkugel an den Seiten so hochgeklappt, dass sich zwei Spitzen bilden. Er wurde ab 1790 als militärische Kopfbedeckung verwendet. Üblicherweise wurde er mit den Spitzen nach vorne und hinten getragen. Aber Napoleon trug ihn mit den Spitzen zu den Seiten neigend. So konnte man ihn auf dem Schlachtfeld sofort erkennen.



# THE COCKED HAT

## NAPOLEON'S TRADEMARK

Although the French general and emperor Napoleon Bonaparte has been dead for more than two hundred years, some of his cocked hats have survived. This particular type of felt hat is as famous as its wearer. In late 2023 one of Napoleon's cocked hats was sold at auction for more than two million euros. On a cocked hat the brim is folded upwards on both sides to create two points. It was used as military headgear from 1790 onwards. Usually it was worn with the points to front and back, but Napoleon wore his with the points facing sideways, making him instantly recognisable on the battlefield.