

# Briefe aus Alumni Newsletter

# Berlin

of the KRUPP INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR STANFORD STUDENTS IN GERMANY



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On May 31, 2007, a group of past, active and prospective interns were invited by the Krupp Foundations to the Villa Hügel to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the „Krupp Internship Program“ with Prof. Dr. Beitz, President Emeritus of Stanford University Prof. Gerhard Casper, Board Members of the Stanford Club of Germany, and representatives of Stanford in Berlin.

## Grußwort der Krupp-Stiftung

by Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Berthold Beitz

**Am 31. Mai diesen Jahres** konnten Vertreter der Universität Stanford und der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung auf Villa Hügel das 25jährige Jubiläum des „Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany“ feiern. Besonders dankbar bin ich, daß Prof. Dr. Gerhard Casper, Präsident der Stanford Universität von 1992 bis 2000, zur Jubiläumsfeier gekommen ist. Er hat in seiner bemerkenswerten Rede historische Zusammenhänge zwischen der Universität Stanford und der Firma Krupp aufgezeigt. Die Rede ist in dieser Ausgabe des Newsletters abgedruckt.

Neben den aktuellen Stipendiaten waren auch Vertreter der ersten Stunde anwesend: Kenneth Kaufmann, langjähriger Berater des Präsidenten der Universität, und Claus Zoellner vom Stanford Club of Germany. Gemeinsam haben wir 1982 in Essen das „Krupp Internship Program“ auf den Weg gebracht.

Ein Vierteljahrhundert ist nunmehr vergangen, seit die ersten Studenten der Stanford Universität in Kalifornien auf Einladung der Krupp-Stiftung nach Deutschland kamen, um als Unternehmenspraktikanten Land und Leute kennenzulernen. Mehr als 850 junge Frauen und Männer haben seither an dem Austauschprogramm teilgenommen und ihre Praktika in über 350 Unternehmen, Forschungsinstituten, kulturellen Einrichtungen oder Schulen absolviert. Sie alle wurden stets hervorragend betreut von Dr. Karen Kramer und ihrem Team in Berlin.

Seit 2005 informiert der „Alumni Newsletter“ aktuelle und ehemalige Stipendiaten des Programms – ich begrüße das sehr und wünsche mir, daß mit dieser Publikation alle Teilnehmer des „Krupp Internship Program“ Deutschland im besten Sinne verbunden bleiben.

Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Berthold Beitz  
Vorsitzender und geschäftsführendes Mitglied des Kuratoriums  
der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung

## What's New in Berlin

by Karen Kramer



**Contemporary society is obsessed with novelty:** Good things have to be *new* things if we are to notice them at all. But the exciting news in the Krupp Program this year was unquestionably something old – namely the program itself. Together with Prof. Dr. Berthold Beitz and other officials of the Krupp Foundation, the Stanford Club of Germany, alumni of the Program, and emeritus President of the University Prof. Gerhard Casper, whose keynote speech is reprinted here, we celebrated **the first quarter century** of the Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany at the Villa Hügel in Essen. And whereas one cannot properly speak of a history this venerable as being „new,“ its impact over time is *news*-worthy.

That the program has thrived for 25 years is a tribute not only to the foundation that so generously supports it or to the work of the coordinators who have placed over 850 of you in fine internships, but first and foremost to you, the interns who contributed to and profited from cross-cultural experiences in the workplaces of this country. This annual newsletter arose from our desire that the memories and learning you took with you when you returned to Stanford would continue to resonate in your personal and professional lives. By giving you a brief sampling of recent developments in Germany and by inviting each new cohort of interns to share their experiences with you, we hope to make past insights productive for the present.

Two exciting curricular changes this year *were* new. In order to make it easier for students in technical and pre-med fields to study in Berlin, we implemented a new spring quarter language course that covers German 2 and 3 in one quarter, thus enabling students who have completed one quarter on the home campus to fulfill the language requirement for the Krupp Program with just one quarter of residency in Berlin and to commence their internships immediately thereafter. The pilot run of this →

new course worked out marvelously; students were able to communicate sufficiently well in their internships despite the brief period of linguistic training.

The other exciting curricular development was that we implemented a service learning component in Maria Biege's advanced language course, working with the volunteer non-profit Treffpunkt Hilfsbereitschaft. The quarterly H.G. Will Trips on European Expansion in '06-'07 took students to Bucharest, Cyprus and Tallinn; these proved to be particularly apt cities for a group of neo-Berliners: In Cyprus, students were able to visit both sectors of a divided country; they sensed a rift there which gave them a more concrete understanding of the post-

war division of Berlin. And the long-planned trip to Tallinn in Estonia commenced the day after riots erupted there over the moving of a Soviet-era war memorial; the discussions of the deeper roots of the strife and its complicated history were intense and engaging. The H.G. Will Trips are ably designed and mentored by Jean Monet Prof. Uli Brückner, who teaches the New Europe series at Stanford in Berlin and has written an assessment of the experiences the group had in Tallinn in this issue of *Briefe aus Berlin*.

We encourage you to get in touch with us, and welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have for this newsletter. ■

## Der „Verkehr des Friedens“

25-jähriges Jubiläum des „Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany“

Villa Hügel, 31. Mai 2007 by Gerhard Casper



**Lieber, sehr geehrter Herr Beitz,  
Meine Damen und Herren,  
Dear Stanford students,**

You are, of course, included in „meine Damen und Herren“, however, it just strikes me as simply wrong not to recognize you separately, since you are the *sine qua non* of our get-together today. The invitation that I received to speak at this luncheon specified German as the language of choice and German I shall use. I leave it up to you to correct its slightly rusty character: as distinguished from never-rusting Nirossta steel made by ThyssenKrupp, the ability to speak languages suffers over time from insufficient use.

Also, noch einmal,

**Lieber, sehr geehrter Herr Beitz,  
Meine Damen und Herren,**

zur Wende vom 19. zum 20. Jahrhundert fragte die *Berliner Illustrierte Zeitung* ihre Leser, „Welches ist die wohlthätigste Erfindung oder Entdeckung des Jahrhunderts?“ Die meisten Einsender nannten „die Eisenbahnen“. Die konkurrierenden Vorschläge zeigen eindrucksvoll, was das 19. Jahrhundert sonst noch hervorgebracht hat: die Elektrizität, den Telegraphen, die Röntgenstrahlen, die Narkose, die Schutzimpfung usw. usf. Ein eher anspruchsloses Gemüt sah den Höhepunkt in der Ansichtspostkarte.

Die Eisenbahnen. Für jemanden aus dem amerikanischen Westen ist diese Antwort fast selbstverständlich, denn ohne die transkontinentale Eisenbahn, ohne die Verknüpfung der Union Pacific Railroad, von Osten kommend, mit

der durch die Sierra Nevada gebauten Central Pacific Railroad, am 10. Mai 1869, auf dem Promontory Summit in Utah, wäre die Erschließung des amerikanischen Westens sehr viel später erfolgt. Der Mann, der den letzten Nagel (er war aus Gold) in die Schienenverbindung einhämmerte, war einer der vier Gründer der Central Pacific Railroad, Leland Stanford. Der goldene Nagel, the „gold spike“, wird bis heute in Stanford verwahrt.

Die Leser der *Berliner Illustrierten Zeitung* haben fraglos nicht an Leland Stanford gedacht, als sie die Eisenbahnen zur „wohlthätigsten“ Erfindung des 19. Jahrhunderts erklärten. Aber aus der zugegebenermaßen etwas provinziellen Perspektive von Stanford-Studenten und -Professoren hat das Adjektiv „wohlthätig“ in diesem Zusammenhang einen besonderen Klang, denn es war das durch ihre Eisenbahninvestitionen erworbene Vermögen, das Leland und Jane Stanford wohlthätig zur Gründung der Universität verwendeten.

Das ThyssenKruppsche Firmensymbol besteht aus drei Ringen. Diese drei Ringe werden auch von der Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung benutzt. Wie die Einheimischen sehr wohl wissen, erinnern die drei Ringe an die Erfindung des nahtlosen Radreifens für Eisenbahnen durch Alfred Krupp in den Jahren 1852/ 1853. Die nahtlosen stählernen Radreifen, die die Radkörper umschließen, lassen die Eisenbahnräder über hunderttausende von Kilometern auf harten Stahlschienen rollen und können, wenn abgenutzt, relativ leicht ersetzt werden. Aus der Geschichte wissen wir, dass die Firma Krupp die Radreifen insbesondere an die nordamerikanischen Eisenbahnen verkaufte. Diese Verkäufe trugen zu ➔



dem weltweiten Erfolg des Kruppschen Unternehmens bei. Wie Alfred Krupp selbst – in einem berühmten Brief an Alexander von Humboldt aus dem Jahre 1858 – zugibt, waren es die „Werkzeuge für den Verkehr des Friedens“, die zunächst einen bedeutenderen Rang als die Kanonen einnahmen.

Eine Anzeige der Firma „Fried. Krupp, Essen, Germany“, in *The Car-Builders Dictionary* von 1888 betont: „After a test of over 25 years, the ‚Krupp Tire‘ has proved itself to be the best in the market and parties intending to order Locomotives would do well to insert in their specifications that ‚Krupp Tires‘ be used on Drivers and thereby obtain an article that gives satisfaction.“ In einer Werbung der Canadian Pacific Railway um Passagiere heißt es: „Krupp Crucible Steel Tires are used exclusively throughout the whole C.P.R. SYSTEM for your safety.“ Später wurden auch Schienen bei Krupp gekauft. Im Jahre 1874 verschiffte Krupp 175.000 Tonnen Eisenbahnschienen von Hamburg an die Ostküste Amerikas. Aus dem Jahr 1880 haben wir einen Beleg dafür, dass Leland Stanfords Eisenbahngesellschaft, die Central Pacific Railroad, Kruppsche Schienen verwandte.

Sie sehen, worauf ich, etwas phantasievoll, hinausweitere. Das 1982 durch Berthold Beitz und die Initiative von Ken Kaufman und Claus Zöllner gegründete Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany ist nicht das Einzige, was die Krupp-Stiftung und Stanford gemeinsam haben. Der Erfolg der Eisenbahnen, der Stanford ermöglicht hat, hat auch zum Erfolg der Firma Krupp beigetragen. Und, wie seinerzeit Leland und Jane Stanford, „desiring to promote the public welfare“, ihr Vermögen der Universität widmeten, hat Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, vor vierzig Jahren, seine Firma der Stiftung, d.h., dem Gemeinwohl, übertragen.

Zu den Klischees unserer Zeit gehört die „Globalisierung“. Dem Phänomen wird ein Neuigkeitswert eingeräumt, der ihm nicht wirklich zukommt. Das ausgehende 19. Jahrhundert dachte weltweit. In Hamburg, das für Herrn Beitz und mich einen gemeinsamen Nenner darstellt, stand auf der Titelseite der Hauptbücher in den Kontoren der Kaufleute das Motto „Mein Feld ist die Welt“. Alfred Krupp sah die Zukunft seines Unternehmens in der ganzen Welt. Im Siegel der Stanford University steht das deutsche Motto „Die Luft der Freiheit weht“. Das Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students knüpft an diese Traditionen an. Es stellt aber auch etwas Besonderes dar, das es wert ist, betont zu werden. Der Grund, warum ich auf den Begriff „Globalisierung“ leicht allergisch reagiere, liegt vor allem in der Tatsache, dass er häufig eine Weltkultur projiziert. Nun haben sich kulturelle Unterschiede über die Jahre, über die Jahrhunderte ohne Frage abgeschlif-

fen. Denken wir etwa an den weltweiten Siegeszug der zuerst von dem bayerischen Immigranten Levi Strauss in San Francisco an die Goldgräber vermarkteten Blue Jeans. Bei ihrem Erfolg handelt es sich nicht allein um eine Oberflächlichkeit, sondern die Sache geht tiefer. Die Jeans sind nicht nur ein Bekleidungsstück, das sowohl Frauen wie Männer in der ganzen Welt tragen, sondern sie symbolisieren auch Informalität und Gleichheit in Umgang und Lebensweise. Insofern sind sie in der Tat Ausdruck einer Weltkultur.

Dennoch, das vielleicht Interessantere ist, wie tief kulturelle Unterschiede noch gehen und wie weitverbreitet die Unkenntnis der immer noch wichtigen Kulturen (Plural!) ist. Eines der Bücher über den zweiten Irak-Krieg (Rajiv Chandrasekaran, *Imperial Life in the Emerald City*) z.B., detailliert tiefe Verständnislosigkeit seitens der Angestellten der Coalition Provisional Authority über den Islam, über Irak, über seine Stämme, seine Konfessionen. Selbst bei globalen Unternehmen können wir keine Weltkultur annehmen. Das *Wall Street Journal* brachte kürzlich einen faszinierenden Bericht über die Konflikte bei SAP zwischen deutschen Ingenieuren einerseits und SAPs Leuten im Silicon Valley andererseits. Auf Europa beschränkt illustriert das Airbus-Unternehmen ähnliche Grenzen. Und leider ist es so, dass im großen und ganzen weder Schulen noch Universitäten viel leisten, um der weitverbreiteten Ignoranz entgegenzusteuern.

Der ganz besondere Grund, das 25-jährige Jubiläum des Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany zu feiern, liegt in der Tatsache, dass die Krupp-Stiftung und Stanford davon ausgingen und weiterhin davon ausgehen, dass das Studium in Berlin, die Unterkunft in Familien nicht wirklich genügen. Die vertiefte Kenntnis, das kulturelle Verständnis kommen im täglichen Umgang am Arbeitsplatz: ob in kulturellen Einrichtungen, in der Wirtschaft, in der Forschung, bei Behörden oder in Interessengruppen. Gegenwärtig schreibt ein Stanford-Student, Kalani Leifer, seine Honors Thesis bei mir, der im Krupp Internship Program bei der Deutschen Bahn gearbeitet hat und für den dies eine einzigartige Vertiefung seiner Deutschlandkenntnisse gebracht hat.

Damit sind wir nun sozusagen wieder bei Eisenbahnen, bei Alfred Krupp und Leland Stanford angekommen. Der „Verkehr des Friedens“ besteht nicht nur aus Fortbewegung, sondern gerade auch aus Verharren am Platz, am Platz der anderen. Das ist es, was die Krupp-Stiftung den Stanford-Studenten ermöglicht. Dafür sind wir zutiefst dankbar. ■

Gerhard Casper is President Emeritus, Peter & Helen Bing Professor in Undergraduate Education and Professor of Law, and Senior Fellow at The Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University.

## Die Reise nach Essen

by Ellen Bernard



**Die Reise nach Essen** war für mich voller neuer Eindrücke. Selbst die Abfahrt vom riesigen Berliner Hauptbahnhof werde ich nicht vergessen. Als Schülerin hatte ich einmal ein Referat über den ICE gehalten und nun selbst damit zu fahren, fand ich unglaublich spannend. Man könnte sagen, ein Zug ist einfach ein Zug und eigentlich gar nicht so interessant, aber ich habe bei dieser Bahnfahrt ganz konkret erfahren, dass ich tatsächlich – endlich – in Deutschland war !

Obwohl ich von der Deutschen Bahn ziemlich beeindruckt bin, muss ich einräumen, dass der Zug als solcher nicht der Schwerpunkt meiner Reise war: An unserem ersten Tag in Essen bekamen wir eine Führung durch die Villa Hügel, die man wohl eher als Schloss bezeichnen muss. Wir sahen nicht nur die Bibliothek, sondern auch eine Ausstellung zur Geschichte und den Erfindungen der Firma Krupp. Unsere Tour-Führer erzählten uns viele einzigartige Details über das Schloss – u.a. wie das Luftkreislaufsystem aufgebaut wurde und dass die Kammern der männlichen und weiblichen Bediensteten durch eine Eisentür voneinander getrennt waren.



Nach der Tour trafen wir uns mit ehemaligen und gegenwärtigen Teilnehmern des Praktikantenprogramms sowie mit Mitgliedern des Stanford Club of Germany und nicht zuletzt mit Prof. Dr.h.c. Berthold Beitz, der besonderen persönlichen Anteil an unserem Praktikantenprogramm genommen hat. Es war eine Ehre, ihn zu treffen und mit ihm zu Mittag zu essen. Für mich war das Ganze eine neue Erfahrung – das Händeschütteln vor den Medien (ich wurde plötzlich schüchtern, gab irgendeinen schwerverständlichen Satz von mir, nickte seltsam mit dem Kopf und sprintete davon), das Festessen mit mehreren Gängen und Gabeln, das Foto für die Zeitung. Ich fand alles ein bißchen überwältigend, doch genau so

sind alle neuen Erfahrungen und ich bin froh, dass ich die Gelegenheit dazu hatte.

Am Nachmittag besichtigten wir das Red Dot-Designmuseum, das sich auf dem Gelände der ehemaligen Zeche Zollverein befindet. Es war eines der besten Museen, das ich je gesehen habe, wobei ich nicht mit Sicherheit sagen kann, ob der Herd mit einem Wok-förmigen Loch darin (damit der Wok nicht kippt), der bequemste Lehnstuhl der Welt oder unser witziger Führer, der uns eine ganze Stunde lang zum Lachen brachte, das Beste daran war. Auf alle Fälle würde ich gern noch einmal das Designmuseum besuchen und mir alles viel genauer anschauen.

Die beste Erfahrung der ganzen Reise war meiner Meinung nach aber unser Besuch des Stahlwerkes in Duisburg am folgenden Tag. Natürlich wird Stahl oft im Alltag verwendet, jedoch denke ich normalerweise nicht darüber nach, woher der Stahl kommt und wie er produziert wird. Ich hatte keine Ahnung, wie heiß und bunt und hell fließendes Metall ist oder wie gewaltig die Gebäude und das Gelände eines Stahlwerkes sind. Unsere Führer waren besonders freundlich und hilfsbereit und sie haben uns sogar mit einer historischen Eisenbahn durch das Gelände gefahren. Ich machte Unmengen von Fotos, doch auch ohne diese werde ich die Bilder dieses Besuches im Kopf behalten.

Über die Rückfahrt nach Berlin kann ich leider nicht viel berichten – ich habe ziemlich lange geschlafen. Anstatt die Rückreise zu beschreiben, möchte ich mich lieber ganz herzlich bei allen bedanken, die unsere Reise ermöglicht und so spannend gemacht haben: bei der Krupp-Stiftung, insbesondere Herrn Beitz, den Tourenführern, den Stanfordianern in Kalifornien und in Berlin – und der Deutschen Bahn. ■

Ellen Bernard (Linguistik), Stanford in Berlin-Studentin im Frühjahr 2007, Sommerpraktikantin 2007 bei der Berliner Übersetzungsfirma ABC-Global.

When visiting the steel factory of the ThyssenKrupp Stahl AG in Duisburg, the opening of the blast furnace is always an exciting moment.

Students Raimanu Koenig, Nicholas Werner and Shameel Ahmad get ready for the tour.





# Status Report on the Krupp Internship Program by Wolf-Dietrich Junghanns

**The status is not quo**, it is in development: The anniversary year was, to be sure, a year of continuity (as in engineering, finance and urban development) but also one of expansion. As you may remember, we try out new hosts every year, but this year’s internships mark trends worthy of note: there is an increase of interest in transportation, health, the arts, and the process of internationalization.

Last year we began a cooperation with Deutsche Bahn (DB) in Berlin to support their efforts to internationalize the company as a global player in transportation and logistics, and also to give our students a chance to experience work and life on the higher management level outside the „consulting track“ for which they are often deemed too young. Three interns pioneered and this year we placed six interns at DB, in human resources (e.g. employer branding), on huge international infrastructure projects, strategic development – the IPO is still a controversial political issue... – as well as in marketing and sponsoring: Shameel Ahmad (Economics, Mathematics), Di Dang (Philosophy and Religious Studies, Studio Art), Raimanu Koenig (German, Management Science and Engineering), Riaz Rahim (Economics), Anne Sweigart (Political Science, Economics) and Lauren Talbot (Economics). Older alumni will remember that it used to be rather unusual to have more than one intern

Andrew Helppie-Schmieder demonstrates baseball at Potsdamer Platz - the roadshow of his internship host, ITMS Marketing, led him to 20 German cities.



at the same company at the same time. Luckily, the DB management is so massive that there is little danger multiple interns will cross paths too often and hence forget their intention to speak German. We are very grateful for the unique opportunity that working at Deutsche Bahn provides.

Hospitals are proving to be an ideal place to learn not only medical practices but also German; patients are usually grateful for conversation (both medical and non-medical) and interns often have more time for them than the other personnel. And pre-meds, or (as they are now somewhat oddly called in the spirit of hypercorrectness) pre-health students can test whether they are cut out for health work with real blood in real people. Some German hospitals provide more opportunities for practical learning than US clinics. Therefore the medical internships are a special, or rather especially exciting, field in our program. This year, in addition to our traditional internship with the Krankenhaus Berlin-Lichtenberg



Javier Francisco „Franz“ Fernandez explored various parts of the human skeleton at the Berliner Charité.

(Jessica Lin; Biology, Humanities), Tyler Burns (Biology) explored various departments at the renowned Charité in Berlin. It was our first „hands-on“ medical internship with the Charité, after Nancy Ojeda Mata helped to market their course of studies „Health and →



Society" in 2006; her excellent work opened the door for placing Tyler in hands-on health practice at the Charité. Another premiere was the internship awarded to Nicole Espinoza (Biology, International Relations) at the famous Robert-Koch-Institut in Berlin; Nicole did research on the social causes of contagious diseases. And with Samuel Early we welcomed our first student of Biomedical Engineering, a major which was introduced only in 2003. Samuel was brave enough to leave Berlin in order to do microprosthesis research in St. Ingbert near Saarbrücken at the Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering. He was their first Krupp intern since Victoria Jew in 1996. Javier Fernandez (Mechanical Engineering) also worked in Biomechanics at the Charité Center for Musculoskeletal Surgery, and we hope to find more students for this research group.

That Berlin is an art center is not new, of course. But the gallery boom is; some now count more than 400 of them. Michele Kraus (Studio Art, History; Stanford in Berlin student '06) took advantage of this development and returned to Berlin for an internship with Galerie Jette Rudolph GmbH in Mitte, close to the Martin-Gropius-Bau. Again and again Berlin tourists are disappointed to learn that the summer is the time for *Theaterferien* so that there is not much drama going on, especially at the big performance venues. However, one can intern in the off-scene. Amy Byrd (English) and Johanna Santos-Bassetti (Studio Art) did just that. Amy helped to run the business of the international performance company plan b, and Johanna worked as *Dramaturgin* for the Cabula6 production of former Stanford Drama Department professor Ehren Fordyce, who taught at the Berlin center in last winter and plans to work in European experimental theater from a base in Berlin.

Film and Media Studies is another new major at Stanford—finally, the university is drawing more strongly on its links to Hollywood (see the cover story of the last issue of the *Stanford* magazine). Film major Nicholas Werner decided to check out not only the *Berlinale* this winter (see his review in this issue) but also the production sites in Potsdam-Babelsberg as Assistant Digital Assets Manager for the upcoming „Speed Racer" movie. 90 years ago the UFA was founded there, and after the war the DEFA used the facilities that survived. Today international producers use the Babelsberg studios because of the lower production costs and subsidies by the German government – it was not only the proximity of Berlin that prompted Tom Cruise to produce *Valkyrie*, which tells the story of the attempted assassination on Hitler on July 20, 1944, at this studio.

One of the noteworthy features of both the Berlin Program and the Krupp Internship Program, we are told, is the relatively high number of international students.

Daniel Vogel  
(Computer Systems Engineering, Economics)  
with his colleagues of the Siemens AG Siemens VDO Automotive plant in Regensburg.



This year we welcomed students from Canada, Colombia, France/USA, Mexico, Pakistan, Spain/ USA, Turkey, and Uruguay. One student, Daniel Vogel (Computer Systems Engineering, Economics) from Mexico City was able to use not only his advanced German but also his native Spanish to negotiate business for Siemens VDO Automotive in Regensburg with, among others, their division in Gualadajara, an international cooperation that is likely to expand after the sale of the Regensburg plant to Continental AG (one of the new developments of this summer which made his internship particularly exciting).

Finally, though sports marketing is not trendy yet among students, we are increasing our efforts to draw more student athletes to Berlin. Andrew Helleppie-Schmieder (Economics, Political Science) ventured to start his internship even before spring quarter classes ended, in order to participate in a road show for Major League Baseball (MLB) in 20 German cities. ITMS Sports Marketing, his internship host, represents the league in the country, with Bad Nauheim, north of Frankfurt, as their base. FDR once used this quiet spa, and Army Private Elvis was stationed here in the late fifties: Andy's efforts were no doubt equally memorable. The MLB faces serious challenges, as the example of the NFL Europe shows: Except for the Amsterdam team, it consists lately only of German teams („Berlin Thunder" was one of them). Not surprisingly, the NHL has now decided to close down altogether because of massive financial losses; instead, they want to stage regular NFL games occasionally in Europe. It is not only in sports that the →

Americanization of German culture does seem to be a question more of *how* you do things than of *what* you do.

And what's new in Essen?! For the first time, Essen hosted the Love Parade this past August, with a reported 1.2 million participants from all over Germany and abroad. After the Berlin Senate and the parade's organizers were once again unable to reach an agreement on the downside of this no longer political demonstration (noise, garbage removal, park damage), the *Rhein-Ruhr-Gebiet* seized the unique chance to advertise the region by hosting the parade until 2011. After all, Essen will be the Europäische Kulturhauptstadt in 2010 ([http:// www.kulturhauptstadt-europas.de](http://www.kulturhauptstadt-europas.de))! The Ruhr valley cities Dortmund, Bochum, Duisburg and Gelsenkirchen will be the next venues for the Love Parade (<http://www.loveparade.de>). Those who know the Ruhr Pott won't be surprised to learn that the good people of Essen and their guests had no problems fusing their traditional soccer with techno culture under the motto „Love is everywhere.“ Indeed. ■



The new building of the US embassy will soon be completed (view from the Tiergarten).



## 2011: Die Welt zu Gast bei Freundinnen !

**As the FIFA announced on Oct 30 in Zürich**, the 6th Women's Soccer World Cup will be held in Germany 2011. Except for Berlin, the games will largely be hosted in cities with small and medium size stadiums: Augsburg, Bielefeld, Bochum, Dresden, Frankfurt am Main, Leverkusen, Magdeburg, Mönchengladbach, Sinsheim, Wolfsburg and also Essen. The Deutsche Fußballbund wants to draw on the enthusiasm of the men's tournament in 2006 and the recent defense of the world title by the German national team in Beijing to promote women's soccer in the country on a grand scale. Given the successful development of the women's national team and of the leading club teams of Frankfurt a. M. and Potsdam, such a step is overdue. On the other hand, the desire to make women's soccer the number one sport among females threatens to reduce the diversity of – and

the interest in – a sports landscape already dominated by soccer. The crisis of track and field, the core of the Olympic program, in recruiting young people and in sustaining the infrastructure and media awareness is a significant indicator of this problem. Nevertheless, this is the chance for all of you to get tickets for a big soccer event and to visit your German friends again! And those fans of sports and Germany who don't want to wait that long can attend the 12th Track and Field World Championship in Berlin in 2009 (not to mention the European Soccer Championship hosted by our neighbors Austria and Switzerland in 2008). ■

Links: UEFA EURO 2008: <http://www.uefa.com>

IAFF: <http://www.berlin2009.org>

DFB: <http://www.dfb.de/index.php?id=501432>

FIFA: <http://www.fifa.com/aboutfifa/developing/women/index.html>



# My Internship: The Love of Labor

by Michele Kraus

Michele Kraus with her boss Jette Rudolph and preparing a new show.



**This is my third arts internship** and my second internship working for a business whose employees would happily work for free. Before returning to Berlin for the Krupp Internship I had worked at a nonprofit arts camp in Mountain View with the mission of providing arts for all, and at Christie's Fine Art Auction House, selling wildly overpriced art to the wealthy and fabulous. I wanted this to be my entry into the gallery world, the middle ground, where I could meet living, successful career artists and maybe go to their parties. My introduction to the Berlin arts „scene“ was through the *Galerie Jette Rudolph*, a contemporary gallery in Mitte known for supporting emerging artists and for a casual working atmosphere. Unexpectedly, all summer I was having flashbacks not to my prior experience at commercial Christie's, but to my time at the arts camp, where my co-workers would constantly tell me they didn't mind the low pay because of how much they loved their work.

My most significant contributions to the gallery were clearly due to my English fluency. I have translated press releases, helped artists write personal statements to apply for positions in the United States and corrected English texts. In addition, I have been working on creating artist portfolios for upcoming art fairs. The most exciting times to be an intern in the gallery were the weeks before new shows. Preparing the exhibitions meant working directly with the artists, helping them unpack and hang their artwork. For the last show, one of the paintings was so big it had to be stretched onto its frame inside the gallery. After years of museum going, it was very exciting to handle actual, real-life works of art. The Krupp Internship gave the gallery an extra hand that they could never have afforded, and gave me a job I wouldn't normally have been paid to do. Last week we went to Art Forum Berlin, an international art fair held every September in Berlin, and I proudly represented my gallery to a world audience.

The internship has been most valuable to me by situating me in Berlin's artistic center. I lived in an artist commune in Mitte, where I met people from all over the world whom I could never have met had I stayed on the Stanford campus. Because of the friends I have made at my house and in the gallery, I felt included in the Berlin art scene. Now that I have returned to the Bay Area, I only hope that I can find an arts community as welcoming and passionate as the one I am a part of in Berlin. A few Fridays ago, while listening to a rockabilly/country band at a party that seemed like it was taking place in the 1950s, my co-worker Julia, the rockabilly, explained to me that she doesn't really get paid to work in the gallery. In her ever-improving English, she told me that for everyone involved it is a labor of love. ■

Michele Kraus (History, Studio Art), Stanford in Berlin student in winter 2006, intern with Galerie Jette Rudolph GmbH in Berlin, in summer 2007.

## Den Vereinigten Staaten

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

**Amerika, du hast es besser  
Als unser Kontinent, das alte,  
Hast keine verfallene Schlösser  
Und keine Basalte.  
Dich stört nicht im Innern  
Zu lebendiger Zeit  
Unnützes Erinnern  
Und vergeblicher Streit.**

**Benutzt die Gegenwart mit Glück!  
Und wenn nun eure Kinder dichten,  
Bewahre sie ein gut Geschick  
Vor Ritter-, Räuber- und Gespenstergeschichten.**

Aus: Xenien (1827). In: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832): Werke, Bd. 1, Gedichte und Epen (Hamburger Ausgabe). München: Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag 1998, S. 333 (mit zeitgenössischer Grammatik).

## My Internship: Rotations in a German Hospital

by Tyler Burns

**I spent the summer of 2007** working as a *Famulant* at the Virchow Clinic of the Universitätsklinikum Charité in Berlin. There, I performed the duties of a medical student in his or her first clinical year of schooling – this despite the fact that I am but a premed student. Despite the challenge, I had a great time, and I acquired a great deal of medical and cultural insight. Furthermore, the internship helped me decide whether I would like to get an MD, a PhD, or both.

My shift started between 7 and 8, depending on the rotation, and ended at around 4. The commute was a total of about 50 minutes from my room to the ward. I lived in a boat house in the small lake town of Wannsee in southwest Berlin, where I lived with the Berliner Ruder-Club. It was great because I had several built-in local friends... somewhat like a frat. I also learned how to row.

I began in nephrology, where it became clear that my German needed a bit of work if I was going to make it through this internship. What followed was a strong cocktail of German notebooks, medical databases, needles, and patients. I was drawing blood from patients by the end of the second week, as well as changing their IVs. It took a while, but I finally became confident at drawing blood. After about a month of nephrology, which helped me understand the basic structure and management of a ward, it was time to move to the ICU.

The intensive care unit is where people on the brink of death are helped and saved (or not) by a team of non-specialist doctors who are skilled in a broad array of medical subjects. The rotation was psychologically taxing, to say the least. The patients were sicker (many of them comatose), the German was more intense, and the

pace was much faster. My main tasks were taking blood and doing EKGs. Under exceptional circumstances, I did a few other things, like resuscitation. I typically ended a day feeling less at ease than when I started it. Nonetheless, all my co-workers were doctors, and they helped me cope when the shock factor invaded my comfort zone.

After 3 weeks in ICU, I was off to general surgery. I took blood every morning. It's funny how in nephrology it had at first been intimidating even to see a co-worker do it, but now it was no problem to go in by myself and take the blood while making small talk with my limited, American-accented German. I would then scrub down and go into the OP, where I would be the extra pair of hands at the surgeon's command, holding back organs that might interfere with the surgeon's work. I now have a much better understanding of what lies beneath the belly... both how it looks and how it feels.

I finished off in neurology, where I followed a neurologist around the hospital and observed several neurological examinations. I also learned how to interpret EEGs, and I watched a CT scan of a suspected stroke victim.

The internship was very valuable, in that it taught me about German culture, the German health system, and a lot about whether or not I want to be a doctor. I am very thankful for all the doctors who took me in and helped me along, as well as everyone who helped me get and structure this internship. Now, I have worked in both a hospital with patients as well as in a lab developing treatments for patients. I now know that I would like to spend the rest of my life focusing on research, an insight I would not have had without my internship at Charité. Given the vast amount of clinical work I was able to see and do, I highly recommend this internship for anyone considering becoming a doctor. ■

**Tyler Burns (Biology), Stanford in Berlin student in fall 2006, summer intern at the Universitätsklinikum Charité, Berlin, in summer 2007.**



Tyler Burns learns how to analyze peritoneum images and does a heart and lung exam.



# Filmtips

## Prinzessinnenbad

<http://www.prinzessinnenbad.de>

Im vergangenen Jahr zeigte der Spielfilm „Knallhart“, wie schwierig das Jugendleben in Kreuzberg sein kann. Nun portraitiert dieser Dokumentarfilm drei unternehmungslustige Freundinnen auf dem Weg ins Erwachsenenleben. Sie sind 15 und die Schule ist nicht ihr Lieblingsort. Noch ist ungewiß, was nach der Party kommt oder ob überhaupt noch etwas kommt

## Du bist nicht allein

[http://www.oeifilm.de/film\\_kurz.php?film\\_id=170](http://www.oeifilm.de/film_kurz.php?film_id=170)

„Traurige Komödie“ oder „Sozialdrama“? Die Kritik ist sich uneins, aber das Hauptdarstellerduo überzeugte alle: Katharina Thalbach und Axel Prahl zeigen das Leben von Hartz-IV-Empfängern am Eastgate in Berlin-Marzahn und parodieren die Märchen staatlicher Sozialpolitik. Auch dieser Film handelt vom „Prekariat“ (eines der Unwörter des Jahres 2006).

## Vier Minuten

<http://www.vierminuten.de>

Das äußere „Gefängnisdrama“ ist ein Film über die innere Freiheit, um die eine alten Klavierlehrerin und ihre Schülerin, eine junge Gefangene, kämpfen. Das musikalische Material ist von Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert und Schumann; das Duell um den eigenen Ton bestreiten Monica Bleibtreu und Hannah Herzsprung.

## Yella

<http://www.yella-der-film.de>

Christian Petzold („Die innere Sicherheit“, „Gespenster“) liefert die Geschichte zum soziologischen Befund: Die Frauen verlassen Ostdeutschland. Eine Buchhalterin aus Wittenberge geht nach Hannover, aus den kaputten Vergangenheiten von klassischer Industrie und DDR in die bereits kaputte Zukunft des Private-Equity-Kapitalismus. Das ist präzise photographiert und doch kein Neorealismus, sondern eine Phantasie nach Beethovens „Mondscheinsonate“. Nina Hoss träumt vom Neuanfang auf den Wegen von Yella Rottländer, die einst in Wim Wenders Klassiker die „Alice in den Städten“ (1974) spielte. Außerdem verehrt Petzold Alfred Hitchcock!

## Auf der anderen Seite

<http://www.auf-der-anderen-seite.de>

Nach „Gegen die Wand“ ist das der zweite Teil von Fatih Akins Trilogie „Liebe, Tod und Teufel“. Anhand von sechs deutschen und türkischen Charakteren zeigt auch er europäische „Identitäten in Bewegung“. Die These: Der Tod kann neue Begegnungen ermöglichen und auch eine verbindende Kraft sein

## Am Ende kommen Touristen

<http://www.amendekommen-touristen.de>

Sven, der deutsche Zivi (Zivildienstleistende), dient in Óswiecim in der Begegnungsstätte des ehemaligen KZ Auschwitz. Er steht zwischen dem 80-jährigen Lagerüberlebenden Krzeminski und der jungen Dolmetscherin Ania, zwischen Vergangenheit und Zukunft der deutsch-polnischen Geschichte, die unpräzise und mit Humor verhandelt wird.

## Projekt Gold. Eine deutsche Handball-WM

<http://www.projektgold.kinowelt.de>

Beim Fußball-„Sommermärchen“ hat es mit der Weltmeisterschaft bekanntlich nicht geklappt, dafür aber beim Handball-„Wintermärchen“ im Januar, ebenfalls in Deutschland. Zum ersten Mal seit 1978 konnten die Männer den Titel im Hallenhandball gewinnen und wieder war das Land bereit zu feiern. Der Film zeigt nicht nur die Stationen des Triumphes, sondern vermittelt auch einen guten Eindruck von diesem schnellen und harten Sport, den manche für das deutsche Äquivalent von American Football halten, nur viel spannender eben ... Und – Politik ist immer im Spiel –, das Finale gegen Polens Team in Gegenwart der Präsidenten beider Länder hatte aufgrund der *aktuellen* Spannungen zwischen beiden Regierungen symbolischen Wert. (Es ist bedauerlich, aber nicht verwunderlich, daß es über das jüngste „Herbstmärchen“, den Gewinn der Fußballweltmeisterschaft der Frauen in China, keinen Film geben wird.)

## Full Metal Village

<http://www.flyingmoon.com>, <http://www.wacken.com>

Wacken, ein Dorf in Schleswig-Holstein, beherbergt seit 1990 jeden Sommer das Wacken Open Air, das weltweit größte Heavy Metal Festival (so die Eigenwerbung). Ein größerer Gegensatz zur Landwirtschaft läßt sich kaum denken. Aber die *zwei* Formen von Kult und Gemeinschaft scheinen sich gut zu vertragen. Anhand der Festivalvorbereitungen hat die koreanische Nachwuchsfilmern Sung-Hyung Cho der Dorfgemeinde ein Denkmal gesetzt. Der zu Recht preisgekrönte *Heimatfilm* hat zum Teil deutsche Untertitel, denn Holsteinisch (ein niederdeutscher Dialekt) verstehen nicht einmal alle Deutschen.

## Filmportale

Newsletter für aktuelle Kritiken deutscher und internationaler Filme, Filmliteratur u.a.:

<http://www.filmportal.de>, <http://www.film-zeit.de>

## BERLINALE FEATURE REVIEW

### Die Fälscher (The Counterfeiters)

by Nicholas Werner



**World War II truly is fascinating in the sense** that it has so many strange stories embedded within it. Each government involved in the war funded pretty much any line of research, any strategy at all, that had even a vague chance of helping the war effort. Some of these led to

some truly bizarre moments in history, one of them being Operation Bernhard, the largest counterfeiting operation yet attempted. In brief, towards the war's end the Nazi government tried to mass-produce British pounds and American dollars in order to flood and hyperinflation the enemy's economy, while at the same time providing the Germans with some much-needed extra cash. For some reason, they employed Jews in concentration camps for this task. Die Fälscher is their story.

It's a great premise with the possibility for great moral quandaries: should we be producing these pounds and helping the men who want to destroy our race? →

REVIEW



Or should we sacrifice our friends for some undefined „greater good“? To its credit the film does hit all the points it needs to hit, and offers appropriate counter-arguments to each point of view. We see the members of Operation Bernhard enjoying the privileges of working for the Nazis (good food and good accommodations), and then slowly growing more guilty over said privileges as they hear about the fate of their brethren in the camp itself. Unfortunately the film is just a little bit too neat in doing so. That is to say, each character seems to be playing a pre-defined role that allows him to best demonstrate the conflicting needs of the camp. We have the guy who wants to hurt the Nazis however he can, the guy who wants to survive no matter what, and the guy who couldn't care less. Their resulting arguments are equally clean-cut and don't sound like natural arguments so much as the pre-written discourses on a moral dilemma that they are.

I wouldn't say that these characters are one-dimensional; the problem is more that they are so clearly fulfilling a specific function that they just don't feel real. Frankly, this is true of the rest of the film as well. The direction is fine, but never outstanding or noteworthy in any way. The script is never clunky, but also never particularly remarkable. The actors do what they can with the roles their given. Really, this is an example of an intriguing idea being turned into a good, not great, film by capable, not fantastic, artists. ■

Link: <http://www.diefaelscher.at>

Nicholas Werner (Film and Media Studies), Stanford in Berlin student in fall and winter 2006–07, intern with Studio Babelsberg GmbH in Potsdam („Speed Racer“ project) in spring and summer 2007.

## Am Rande



US Ambassador William R. Timken, Jr. (Stanford class of 1960, BA Humanities & Sciences) and his wife Sue Timken meet Knut, das Eisbär-Baby, at the Berliner Zoo in April 2007. Courtesy of the US Embassy Berlin.

# How to come back?

## Tips for recent alumni:

The Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung offers fellowships for U.S. scientists and scholars:

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de>

The Bavarian American Center (BAC) Professional Internship Program: internships for graduate students and recent graduates pursuing a career in public administration or international relations: <http://www.cdsintl.org/fromusa/bac.htm>

The Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program enables young professionals from the US to spend a year working in their field in Germany: <http://www.bosch-stiftung.de>

The Robert Bosch Foundation in cooperation with Deutsches Studentenwerk (DSW) and CDS International, Higher Education Administration Program (HEAP): internships in the field of student affairs: <http://www.cdsintl.org>

The Bundeskanzler-Stipendium für Führungsnachwuchskräfte aus den U.S.A, in cooperation with Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung:

[http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/de/programme/stip\\_sonst/buka.htm](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/de/programme/stip_sonst/buka.htm)

The Bundestagspraktikum, officially called „Internationales Parlaments-Praktikum,“ offers five-month-long paid internships: <http://www.bundestag.de/ipp>

The Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDS) provides practical training opportunities in business, finance, and engineering for up to 18 months: <http://www.cdsintl.org/fromusa/ipgerm.htm>

The Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) and the German Committee of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE) help people find internships:

<http://www.daad.de>, <http://www.iaeste.de>

The German-American Fulbright Commission has special programs for U.S. citizens: <http://www.fulbright.de>

The International Cooperative Education (ICE) helps arrange summer jobs and internships: <http://www.icemenlo.com>

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V. (KAS) provides stipends to German and international graduate students for further education and graduate work, especially for young people who want to become leaders in the fields of politics, business, science, media and culture: <http://www.kas.de> (see: Begabtenförderung)

The Foreign Policy Internship at American Academy in Berlin: for graduate students in their Public Policy Program (background in US foreign policy and international affairs is preferred): <http://www.americanacademy.de>



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You may also call or write to Katharina Hauser, Head Student Services at +49(0)30-21 23 12 111, [hauser@hertie-school.org](mailto:hauser@hertie-school.org).

The Hertie School of Governance is a project of the Hertie Foundation <http://www.ghst.de>.

**P.R. KANTATE „IN BALIN“**

(Originaler BERLINGUA-Text)

Wo jehn die jeilen Parties ab – IN BALIN!  
Wo sind die schönen Mädchen – IN BALIN!  
Wo sind die coolen Typen, Alta – IN BALIN!  
Wo steppt der Bär – IN BALIN!

Alle wollnse nach Balin ziehn  
weilse meinen hier sei et wundawundaschön.  
Doch nach ein paar Jahr'n schon  
fangse alle an richtig krass abzustöhn'n  
Weil hia de Leute dichta stehn  
Und sich mit fremden Jesicht ansehen  
Sich jejenseitich uffn Trichta jehn  
Man kann dit allet nich vastehn  
Wie soll man hia auf Numma Sicha jehn...

Wo herrscht die harsche Freundlichkeit – IN BALIN!  
Wo lebt jeda nach seina Façon – IN BALIN!  
Wo quatscht jeda seinen eignen Jargon – IN BALIN!  
Wo steppt der Bär ?

Wo hab' ick imma' n Koffa stehn  
Wat nennt ma jerne Spree-Athen  
Wo jibz wieda'n Bolle Supamarkt  
Und wat bleibt imma meine Heimatstadt  
Wo jibz am ersten Mai Remmidemmi  
Wo? Na O-Straße, Kotti, Görli Görli  
Welche Stadt hat den Charme einer alten Alki-Diva  
Hat irgendjemand wat verpasst, wenn er noch nie hier war?

Currywurst im Angebot, Pissecken mit Hundekot  
Müggelsee mit Rudaboot, der Hochbahnhof im Abendrot  
Muffgeruch im Untergrund, Tags und Pieces kunterbunt  
Bars und Kneipen, schick und schäbig, Clubs, Cafés,  
nich wenig szenig  
Wessis in Ostberlin, Ostler die das nich verstehn,  
Baulücken und Kriegsruinen  
Touris am Gendarmenmarkt, den Hackeschen schon abjehakt  
Balin is wirklich stark?

Wo is die U-Bahn sonnengelb – IN BALIN!  
Wo hält sich jeda für nen Held – IN BALIN!  
Wat is dit größte Dorf der Welt – BALIN!  
Wo steppt der Bär – IN BALIN!

Balin is richtig Knorke  
Balin is nich vakehrt  
Balin is eene Wolke  
Balin is eine Reise wert

Lieba Leiakastenmann, fang nochma von vorne an  
Ey Mista Selecta, give us a Rewind!  
Und hau dit Ding noch ma von Anfang rein!

Wo jehn die jeilen Parties ab...

Aus der CD „DICK IN JESCHÄFT“, Stock & Stein 2007.  
Mit freundlicher Genehmigung von P.R. Kantate  
(P.R. = PlattenReiter = D.J.).

Links: P.R.: Kantate: <http://www.plattenreiter.de>

Video von P.R.KANTATE / A KANDZORRA SHOT und Nadja Klews:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-BSNEYzfgc>

Versionen: <http://www.myspace.com/prkantate>

# Vraisemblable: Ich liebe Berlin

by Victoria Degtyareva

**I spent my last evening in Berlin** singing bad karaoke with „the number one boss man“ of StudiVZ.net – the German version of Facebook. We were invited to the unofficial office party, thrown by the boss man himself, by my friend’s German friend, who works in customer service. The beer was good; the people were friendly; the party, much like the city itself, was crazy cool.

It was the perfect end to a perfect weekend in a perfect city. Although Berlin is more than 700 years old, everything about it – the architecture, the food, the people, the nightlife – feels edgy, modern and young. Unlike Paris – which, in its quest to retain tradition and culture, is like a museum replica of a city, stuck in the 18th century – Berlin is alive and constantly evolving.

A part of that modernity, no doubt, is simply out of necessity. With large parts of the city demolished during the Second World War only to be followed by the division of Germany and Soviet occupation, the city had no choice but to rebuild and to redefine its identity. But instead of trying to copy the old or completely erasing the

remains of the past, Berliners created an unexpected harmony of past and present.

The city is riddled with half-ruined pre-war buildings that have been perfectly integrated into their very post-modern surroundings. A perfect example is the Kurfürstendamm, a chic, commercial boulevard in West Berlin that looks like a weird mix between the Champs-Élysées and Times Square. In a square in the middle of the boulevard stand the remains of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church. The neo-Romanesque church, which was built in the late 1890s, was destroyed by air raids during WWII, with only a section of the belfry tower remaining. The belfry now stands in ruins, with a gaping hole in the back, the tip of the tower broken off and visible fire damage throughout. An absolutely, unquestionably modern grey tower with a shining gold cross stands alongside the remains, serving as the replacement for the destroyed sections of the church. This initially jarring medley of old and new, ruined and whole, pervades the entire city, helping it to retain its culture while still

Kunsthau Tacheles, Berlin, view from Oranienburger Straße.

The demolition of the Palace of Republik slowly proceeds, but in the meantime the Bundestag has voted to rebuild the facade of the old Palace – with cultural functions as yet to be defined ...



acknowledging that, yes, this is the 21st century. Something Paris has yet to do.

But apart from just looking really damn cool, the city’s day-to-day life itself reflects this hip, edgy culture. From something as simple as having a tram that runs all night (a luxury when you’re coming from Paris) or being able to buy a delicious *Döner Kebab* at 3 a.m. for less than two euros to an unbelievably innovative and artsy nightlife, the city’s focus is on the young. At the risk of sounding clichéd, it changes with the times, instead of trying to impose a stifling facade of tradition.

Even the most youthful bars in Paris, unless I’ve just →

OPINION



been going to the wrong places, have an oddly orderly feeling about them. They're hip, but in that sense of hip where bouncers do a „wardrobe check“ before letting you in, and the cocktails are absurdly overpriced. In Berlin, all rules go out the window. There's a bar, for instance, called „The Hole.“ It's hidden in a basement and the only way in is to literally climb through a hole in the ground.

And then there's Tacheles, an indescribably crazy art project/bar and club complex in East Berlin. Originally built to house small businesses and boutiques, the five-story building was taken over by the Nazis in the '30s and became the central office of the SS. After being heavily damaged during WWII, the building fell into the hands of the Free German Trade Union Federation and was left to deteriorate. It was scheduled for demolition to make way for new construction, but was saved by an artists' group. Now it's an indie artist's haven. The bar on the top floor is small, with flashing blue lights and broken-in couches. The wall overlooking the street is missing (probably a result of the bombings), giving you

a clear view of the courtyard and a blank white wall, where both indie and mainstream movies are projected. It is, perhaps, the coolest bar I have ever visited.

And as much as I love Paris, Berlin is perhaps the coolest city I have ever visited. Paris is more beautiful and stately, of course, but it feels like its fate has already been decided. It was once home to the artists and to innovation, but now all we can do is admire what's already there. In Berlin, on the other hand, even for the short weekend I was there, I felt like I was taking part in the city's history.

Leaving nearly broke my heart. But fortunately, at the end of the StudiVZ office party, Felix, one of the guests, invited us to come back to Germany this summer. We start in Berlin, he said, then I take you to Munich, Hamburg, and the greatest city in Germany: my hometown, Frankfurt. From there, we go to Gambia. ■

Victoria Degtyareva (French Literature, cotermin in Philosophy) studied at the Paris Center in spring 2007. Source: The Stanford Daily, May 21, 2007. Courtesy of the author, abridged.

### Re-photographing Berlin: 1983/2007

In 2001, I spent a week in Berlin re-photographing images my uncle had captured nearly 20 years earlier in the same city. My objective was simple: to retrace his steps and recapture his images as closely as possible. This past summer, I revisited Berlin for the first time since 2001. Though I didn't have any intention of continuing my re-photographing project, I found it difficult not to think about the places I photographed in 2001 and ended up re-photographing a few of them. One of these images is shown below (in 2007, the only trace of the wall is the bricks in the street outlining its path). I've always imagined what an exciting place Berlin must have been right after the wall came down (and in many ways wished I had been there to experience it). Though it was nearly ten years later before I first set foot in Berlin, I was pleasantly surprised to find a city still humming with an energy like none other that I'd experienced. During

my most recent visit, this energy showed no sign of waning, as I witnessed a city continuing to evolve in fast, visible, and unexpected ways. Perhaps most surprising is the „environmentally- and community-friendly dismantling“ of the monolithic Palast der Republik. But I admit the change I most enjoyed was the multitude of cafés now lining the streets in Friedrichshain – an area that seemed out „far east“ when I was a student (less than ten years ago), but now seems to be the only place to be on a weekend morning. I have difficulty imagining what Berlin has in store for my next visit, but it's reassuring to know that its spirit of creativity, experimentation, and never quite being satisfied with the way things are is alive and well. Re-photographing Berlin 1983/2001: <http://photometro.net/berlin>

Adrian Graham (Computer Science), Stanford in Berlin student in spring 1999 and intern with the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie (ZKM), Karlsruhe, in summer 1999.



## H.G.Will Trip to Estonia

by Uli Brückner



**To the east and south of Berlin**, one finds European countries still in a process of social, economic and political transformation. In the last decade, most of them have either become members of NATO and the European Union (EU) or have expressed their commitment to Western-type democracy and a market economy in seeking to join the EU. However, these European countries have traditions and cultures that differ to some degree from those of a founding member state like Germany; these differences enable them to contribute in their own unique ways to the North Atlantic security alliance and to the project of a unified Europe.

To get a sense of this cultural diversity, one must leave Berlin and visit firsthand this fascinating part of Europe. The people in candidate countries as well as in new EU member states all have different stories to tell about their new lives, the purpose and the future of the EU, the idea of sovereignty, the costs and benefits of their post-communism regime change, and so on. As close as they are geographically to Berlin, the eastern frontiers of Europe are in some respects still unknown territory – a terra incognita – to most people from the West. For an educational program based in Berlin their proximity offers great opportunities. The exploration of the expanding Europe resonates deeply with cultural, economic, political and social issues that have long characterized the curriculum of the Stanford in Berlin Overseas Study Center.

Since winter 2005, Stanford alumnus H. George Will has been sponsoring study trips for all students at

Stanford in Berlin to countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Thus far, we have been to Poland in 2005, to Latvia, Turkey and Bulgaria in 2006 and to Romania, Cyprus and Estonia in 2007. These study trips afforded us the opportunity to meet with academics, politicians, journalists, professionals from NGOs and businesspeople, in addition to spending time with students from local universities.

In the spring of 2007, we visited Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, the northernmost of the three Baltic states. Only some 1.3 million people live in the whole country, of whom 400,000 live in Tallinn, originally known as Reval back when it belonged to the German Hansa network of autonomous cities around the Baltic sea.

In many cases, „small is beautiful.“ States with less than 2 million inhabitants, such as Estonia or Slovenia, were quicker and more successful at developing and implementing infrastructural modernization strategies as they proceed to develop a new political and economic environment. Since the fall of the Iron Curtain, the Estonian transformation process has been a success story among post-communist states. In Estonia, the new political elite – young, dynamic, and captivated by modern technology – was often educated in the United States. Estonia was the first in e-government developments.

The economy strategically benefited from cooperation with high-tech partners in the northern region, especially with telecommunication and IT businesses. Finland, the country in which Nokia is headquartered, is just on the other side of the bay. With support like this, Estonia rapidly transitioned from old industries to modern technologies and services. The economy grew quickly, and social and economic indicators appeared impressive. Politically, the country was stable and thus, it came as no surprise that Estonia was welcomed as one of the →



Tallinn has the only expressionistic parliament building (1922) in the world!



A student test of traditional swings at the Open Air Museum Rocca al Mare.

COMMENTARY





View from the old town wall.

Below: Photo greetings to H.G. Will (55) from a 19th century Estonian firehouse in Rocca al Mare - Mr. Will was a fireman at the Stanford firehouse during his undergraduate years.

first transformation countries to join the EU. Having visited the divided island of Cyprus, Romania with its corruption problems and Bulgaria struggling with organized crime, we expected to hear a true success story during our H.G. Will Trip to Estonia. We arrived on a Sunday afternoon in April 2007 in the well-renovated old town of Tallinn, which attracts millions of tourists every year. Only now the streets were empty. Police officers in neon yellow warning vests were present at strategic spots to protect the shops from being looted for the third day in a row.

A few days before we arrived, the re-elected government had decided to remove the statue of the Bronze Soviet Soldier, who commemorates the liberalization of the country from Nazi occupation. This was seen as offensive not only by the Russian minority in Estonia, but also by the Russian government in Moscow. Russian President Vladimir Putin harshly protested, and the Estonian embassy was blocked by hundreds of young demonstrators.

During the following days in Tallinn we learned a great

deal from experts in our various meetings and from students who walked us through their city and spent their evenings with us.

The case of the Bronze Soldier showed that the success story of economic transformation, far from healing the wounds of the past, could, instead, open new ones. We learned that the Estonian transition to capitalism had created one of the largest divides between rich and poor in Europe. And as the specialists from an Estonian think tank explained to us, the demographics of wealth are overlaid by ethnic divisions, which reflect the resentment many Estonians feel after half a century of Soviet occupation.

These dark chapters of recent national history are impressively illustrated in the new Museum of Occupation. When the country declared its independence from the Soviet Union, the formerly oppressed Estonians became winners in the new system, while the Russian minority suddenly found itself on the losing side of the regime change. What we heard about the empirical evidence of this black and white picture was stunning:

- Alcohol is expensive and prostitution is a crime in the Nordic countries of Scandinavia, but not in Estonia. Hence the Baltic states have become an attractive destination for cheap sex, drugs and alcohol for tourists, especially from Finland and Sweden. Almost all the prostitutes come from Russia or belong to the Russian minority.
- The notion of safer sex has apparently not reached →





the northeastern corner of the Western world. Estonia ranks high among the states with the highest HIV infections per capita. But since prostitution is a Russian business, AIDS tends to be concentrated in the Russian community.

- Tallinn as the economic powerhouse of the country experiences the same phenomena as any other European capital, e.g. a growing service sector, high real estate prices, modern infrastructure, conspicuous consumption by the rich, etc. In the northeastern part of the country, the picture is quite the opposite: there, old industries such as oil and coal mining, heavy environmental problems, empty villages and poverty prevail. There is „no future“ for the Russian population who do not speak Estonian, rarely have access to advanced education and have not entered the age of modern technology.

So it seemed as if, similar to the H.G. Will Trip to Cyprus during winter quarter, we found ourselves once again in a divided country where people live in parallel worlds. As Estonian Professor Rainer Kattel pointed out on the occasion of an after-dinner speech at a medieval restaurant in the heart of the old town, many Estonians are not aware of the problems in their country. Although Estonia is a small country, many Estonians do not have personal relations with the Russian minority, do not know anyone with AIDS, nor do they visit the poor rural areas. In Cyprus, we saw a physical border between the Turkish and the Greek communities. In Estonia, the border was invisible but no less impermeable because it was built on income distribution and social criteria.

We also learned what you might call a „European“ lesson. According to the analysis of the Estonian transformation process, most of the modernization was channeled and guided by the European Commission administration in Brussels. During the 1990s, the EU civil servants observed the development in the candidate country on an ongoing basis. Every year they sent policy recommendations to the government and told them what to do in order to meet the accession criteria for EU membership.

This helped to minimize mistakes and aided Estonia in learning from functioning market economies in old EU member states. Estonia was not forced to invent everything from scratch, but rather learned from the experience in the West. This „guided transformation“ was a key factor to the success story we expected to see during our visit. But we also had a chance to see beneath the surface. ■

Dr. Uli Brückner, a political scientist, teaches „The European Module: An Introduction to the European Integration“ at Stanford in Berlin.



Art Historian Franz Neckenig, tap-dancing to his swan song during a Bing field trip to Munich. Franz, who was hired by Gordon Craig in 1974, was a mainstay of the program since its beginnings. He entered well-deserved retirement at the end of spring quarter, and will shift his focus to making final revisions on his opus magnum *Postmoderne Wege zur Kunst. Das Studium der Kunstgeschichte als Stilgeschichte der Kunst. Ein Lern- und Lehrwerk*. (Contact: fjneckenig@arcor.de)

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