

Thuringia
Magazine

Working.
Living.
Researching.

EXPERIENCE THE MODERN

Thuringia is getting ready
for the Bauhaus year

WINDS OF CHANGE

Companies: becoming
world leaders through innovation

PURSUING NEW RECORDS

Thomas Röhler: An
Olympic champion wants more



Welcome to Thuringia!

A musician who fills concert halls around the world, an athlete pursuing a record, a researcher working on the battery of the future – these are only three of many people you'll meet in this issue. People who live and work in Thuringia, who grew up here, or who made Thuringia their new home.



35

Universities
Like Ushree Barua from Bangladesh, more and more foreign students are coming to Thuringia to study.



26

Record at a glance
From Jena to the top of the world – the secret behind the success of the Olympic champion in the javelin throw, Thomas Röhler.

25

Baking as a lifestyle
Doreen Bergmann about the success of her patisserie.



38

Garden of happiness
Thuringia's cities are becoming greener – thanks to dedicated gardening enthusiasts.

22

Treats from around the world
Unique selection: Weinbar Weimar offers a selection of around 100 wine varieties.



- 04 **Glimpses**
One state – many stories
- 10 **Innovation hub Jena**
Companies such as Jenoptik are recognised worldwide and are successful
- 14 **Work 4.0**
Thuringia is the land of entrepreneurs
- 16 **Music scene in Thuringia**
Composer Martin Kohlstedt meets conductor Joana Mallwitz
- 19 **“Tatort” Weimar**
Its wit and charm have made this series a hit with top TV ratings
- 20 **The new Bauhaus Museum**
A place of remembrance and meeting point will be inaugurated in Weimar on the occasion of the Bauhaus year in 2019
- 22 **Fine wines**
Thuringia – a state that values wine. Where people drink good wines – and where wine is produced
- 25 **Gastronomy**
Reinventing the old art of baking: Bergmann's patisserie in Zeulenroda
- 26 **Top-class sport**
Profile of the Olympic champion in the javelin throw – Thomas Röhler from Jena. Plus: How sports talent receives targeted support in Thuringia
- 32 **Research**
Ulrich S. Schubert is developing the battery of the future in Jena
- 36 **Universities**
Students from all over the world find ideal conditions at the eight university locations in Thuringia
- 38 **Urban gardening**
The global trend of green cities is catching on quickly in Thuringia too
- 42 **Figures please!**
Facts; Imprint

CULTURE

Theatre festival in Erfurt

Since 1994, the massive steps between the church ensemble of Mariendom and St. Severi have provided the setting for an event that attracts visitors from far and wide, and for which one of the world's most beautiful festival stages is set up each year. The popular **DomStufen Festival** uses the fantastic backdrop of the cathedral entrance for spectacular opera and operetta performances that change every year. After "Tosca" and "Der Troubadour" in the foregoing years, Georges Bizet's "Carmen" is scheduled for performance between 3rd and 26th August. As always, everyone is already looking forward to the new stage design. Today, the drama of jealousy that was first staged in 1875 and that narrates the tragic story of the seductress Carmen, is one of the most popular operas ever.

www.domstufen-festspiele.de



Musical event
The stage-set of "Tosca" at the theatre festival on the steps of the Erfurt Cathedral.

CONNOISSEURSHIP

Pure tradition

When it comes to wines, we take it for granted that sommeliers are knowledgeable about wine quality and pairing, and about which wine to recommend. That was not the case with beer for a long time. That is, until the success of craft beers, which are prepared by finely weighing malt and hops. Today, **beer sommeliers such as Jens Zimmermann** explain to us the new flavours and brewing methods. 52-year-old Zimmermann sells beer to restaurateurs on behalf of the Köstritzer Schwarzbier (black lager) brewery. He was vexed with the fact that tasting sessions were held for wine while beer was simply delivered. And so, he trained to become a beer sommelier and learned a lot about the history of beers. He learnt about the first **beer purity law** of 1434, which was documented in Weißensee in Thuringia in the "Statuta thaberna", i. e., the regulations governing the taverns of that region. This document was discovered in 1998 in the archives at Runneburg in Weißensee.

www.koestritzer.de



Connoisseur
Zimmermann holding the exquisite drink, the production of which was regulated as early as 1434.



Glimpses

Thuringia is a place with a long history – and with many different stories.

We will narrate some of them to you in the following pages. From beer brewers to start-ups, from fashion bloggers to mustard specialists. Tradition meets modernity – that's Thuringia for you.



Fashion icons
Veronique and a sketch from the "Journal".

FASHION

A fashion blogger connected to history

More than 200 years ago, in 1786, **Germany's first fashion magazine** was published in Thuringia by a Weimar publisher named Friedrich Justin Bertuch. "The Journal of Luxury and Fashion Trends" showcased furniture and clothes that were then in vogue. Today, **fashion bloggers such as Veronique Sophie Schröter** tell us what they wear – and thousands of people follow their lead. Schröter, who was born in Erfurt in 1992, studied communication studies in the city.

She has been writing a blog about **fashion, beauty, travel and lifestyle** since 2014. In her blog, she not only reveals her own personal view of things, but also explains what's new at the Berlin Fashion Week, and showcases her outfits on the streets of Erfurt and other big cities. In doing so, she follows the tradition of the "Journal", which was published monthly and had around 25,000 readers.

www.veroniquesophie.com

CULINARY CULTURE

Spicy condiment

In 1820, **brothers Wilhelm and Louis Born started the production of mustard** in Ilversgehofen, a small suburb of Erfurt. At the turn of the century, the company opened a branch in London and started shipping its product to South America and China. The mustard from Thuringia has been a very popular condiment ever since. Today, the company also produces ketchup, vinegar, mayonnaise, horseradish and barbecue sauces. It also has a flagship store with a museum in Erfurt's town centre near the Krämerbrücke (Merchants' Bridge). The **new production site at the Erfurt Cross**, with the striking giant mustard tub (actually a storage facility for fire-fighting water), not only produces all varieties of mustard but also specialities such as mustard pralines and mustard spirits.

www.born-feinkost.de



Ready for export
As early as the 1950s, Born was again active in trade fairs and supplied its products to the world.

INDUSTRY CULTURE

A landscape is saved

From 1950 onwards, large excavators started digging the ground here for the open cast mining of uranium. The **company Wismut** was the fourth largest uranium producer in the world for some time. Up to 11 % of the world's uranium was mined in Ronneburg. In 1990, work was started to restore the landscape to its original state and to build a recreational area that has become very popular today. The **Drachenschwanz (dragon tail) bridge** was built near the city. With a length of 225 meters, it is one of the longest wooden bridges in Europe. After completion of the work, a series of green spaces were laid which link the town centre of Ronneburg with the town centre of Gera.

www.ronneburg.de



From mining to an idyll
Open cast mining of uranium near Ronneburg (top). Today, the Drachenschwanz bridge (left) spans a restored landscape.



SCIENCE

Focus on the future

The perspective is always in sight! At the state-of-the-art **Leibniz Institute of Photonic Technology (IPHT)** in Jena, 330 people are working on making our lives better. They are developing optical fibres and high-tech sensors, which are used in space exploration, among other things. The researchers use photonics, the science of light, to gain new insights into the medical and environmental sciences. The institute has been conducting cutting-edge research since 1992 and, since 2014, it has been jointly funded by the Free State of Thuringia and the federal government. Of course, it is no coincidence that the IPHT is located in Jena, where **company founder Carl Zeiss and physicist Ernst Abbe** perfected the technology of microscopes in the 19th century and produced optical glasses with the help of the glass specialist Otto Schott.

www.leibniz-ipht.de

Luminosity
Prof. Dr. Markus Schmidt, Head of Research Group Fibre Sensors, is only one of the top-ranking scientists at IPHT.



Top-ranking sportswoman
Don't let her relaxed
pose deceive you:
Pauline Grabosch is a
fan of high speeds.

SPORTS

Pursuing records

Track cyclists such as **Pauline Grabosch** celebrate successes for Germany. The athlete can look back on a long series of victories, many of which she gained during her time at RSC Turbine Erfurt. One of the achievements of this 20-year-old is that she is a four-time junior world champion. The training conditions are ideal: there are **two cycling tracks in Thuringia**, one in Gera and the other in Erfurt. However, Thuringia is known not only for its cycling tradition. One of Germany's oldest bicycle manufacturers – **Möve** – was also founded in this German state. In 1897, Gustav Walter had this name patented; The logo was printed on countless bicycles. After the company was dissolved in 1961, the new founders revived this brand in 2011 and have been producing tyres with the innovative cyfly drive ever since.

www.moeve-bikes.de



A round affair
The Möve brand
(depicted in a historic
advertisement here)
was revived a few
years ago.



EDUCATION

Child's play

Education takes high priority in Thuringia.

Friedrich Fröbel founded the first **kindergarten** in Bad Blankenburg in 1840. In Schnepfenthal, the educationalist Johann Christoph Friedrich GutsMuths introduced the first building blocks of physical education in the 18th century. This sense of responsibility towards education lives on, for example, at KIDS interactive, the leading German developer of **educational software and learning and playing media for interactive whiteboards**. At the children's media centre in Erfurt, experts develop and program the educational material of today and tomorrow.

www.kids-interactive.de

Learning today
Students enjoy
learning more
when working
on interactive
whiteboards.



Mega-project
The ICE hub Erfurt
reduces travelling and
change-over times.

TRANSPORT

All roads lead to ...

... Erfurt. The ICE hub connects Germany. Beginning in December 2017, travellers need an average of only two hours to reach Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt or Dresden. Now you can easily change to a different ICE in Erfurt, which is a junction for the major express train connections in the North-South and East-West directions. Places within the region can also be reached more quickly thanks to the expansion of the regional network.

The **ICE city** is being developed all around the tracks of the hub. This 30-hectare site will soon be the venue for meetings and trade fairs, and new companies will

settle in the "rapidly growing centre" of Germany. Thuringia has a tradition of this kind of progressive thinking. Rail projects have long been advanced here, and new trains built and maintained.

History has been kept alive at the Meiningen Steam Locomotive Works of the Deutsche Bahn, the **last major repair shop for steam locomotives in western Europe**. The factory, where museum railways, snowploughs and railway slewing cranes are built and extensively maintained, is every railway enthusiast's dream, and a testament to the fact that tradition can be kept alive even outside a museum.

www.ice-knoten.de
www.dampflokwerk.de



Under pressure
Test drive of the
locomotive 001
on the roller rig
in Meiningen.



High-tech at a glance
In Jena and across the globe, Jenoptik AG produces high-quality products for use in industry and medicine.

Quality check
The systems are subject to strict test criteria.

Bright Future

Jenoptik is one of the most important technology companies in Germany. CEO Dr. Stefan Traeger is committed to innovation.

Anyone getting off the regional railway in Göschwitz will immediately notice the Jenoptik logo. The white, curved line against a blue background is emblazoned on a huge sign-board over this Jena suburb, towered over only by the limestone slopes that are typical of the Saale valley. Production facilities and warehouses belonging to the company and its suppliers stretch for kilometres along Göschwitzer Straße. Everything revolves around Jenoptik here. The company is one of the most important technology companies in Germany and employs more than 3,600 people worldwide, 1,450 of whom work at its Thuringian locations in Jena, Eisenach and Triptis.



Photonics

Jenoptik AG is a photonics group (photonics = branch of technology concerned with light particles). Products in which light is used to control machines or to transmit data have the most growth potential here.

Jenoptik is visible in many everyday objects

Consumers are most likely to encounter Jenoptik in a car – often without even suspecting it! For example, the company produces innovative optics that project information for the driver onto the windscreen. It also provides measuring technology for engines and radar traps.

The chances that a recording that finds its way into the mailbox of a traffic offender was made using Jenoptik technology are very high. “Our technologies cannot be handled and touched directly,” says Wolfgang Keller, Head of Healthcare & Industry at Jenoptik. “But they are found in many products encountered in daily life, in medical devices and vehicles, and in machines and systems that are used to produce innovative everyday items.” By this he means, for example, microscope cameras, scanners at supermarket checkouts, lenses for augmented reality applications, and industrial lasers for the production of car parts.

“We benefit significantly from the successful location at Jena.”

CEO Dr. Stefan Traeger

Especially in the development of new technologies, Jenoptik works closely with the Leibniz Institute of Photonic Technology, the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering, as well as with other scientific institutions in Thuringia. This is typical of the work carried out in the Optical Valley around Jena. “We have an intensive network and we exchange ideas intensively,” says Dr. Stefan Traeger, President and CEO of Jenoptik AG.

“In the process, we benefit significantly from our successful location in Jena, both from the strong research landscape and a very good overall atmosphere of innovation that shapes the entire corporate landscape, the entire town, and the surrounding area. And, of course, if Jena benefits from this as well, then that makes me especially happy.”

There is a special reason why this is so. Traeger, who has been the CEO of Jenoptik AG since May 2017, sits in his office in the town centre just six kilometres from Göschwitz. “I am a true-blue Jena citizen. When I was a student, I worked at Zeiss and I also completed my vocational training there as an electronics technician.” He worked in USA and in Switzerland before working at Jenoptik, but he grew up in Jena. “For me, working at Jenoptik means returning to my roots, and that’s a great feeling.”

Jenoptik shares have been publicly listed since 1998. Naturally, Traeger is aware of the fact that he is directing a company with an eventful history dating back to the 19th century. To be more precise, it dates back to 1846,



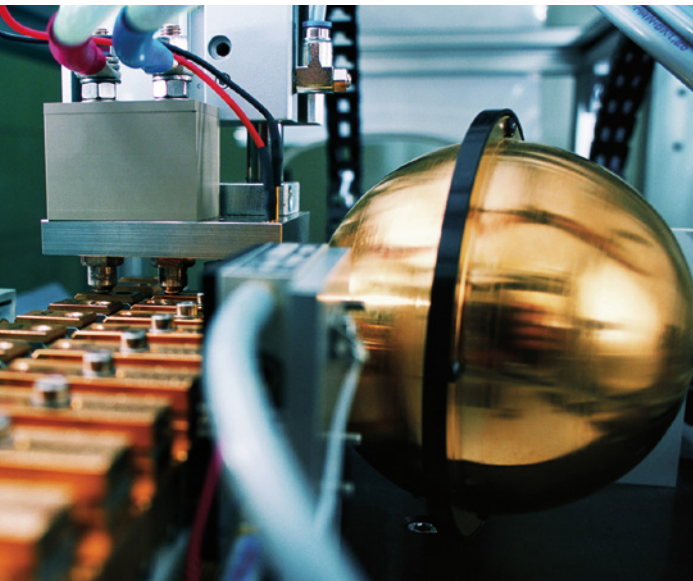
History

It all began with the high-quality microscopes built by Carl Zeiss in the 19th century. In the broadest sense, optical technologies are the main business sector of Jenoptik AG today.

when Carl Zeiss established his optical workshop. After his death, the Carl Zeiss Foundation was established in Jena, which later came to own the company Carl Zeiss and the glassworks Schott. Both became public property in 1948. In the mid-1950s, the Jenoptik brand was put on record for the first time. After the Fall of the Berlin Wall, the Trust Agency took over the state holding company VEB Carl Zeiss Jena. At the time, the company had 13 premises and employed over 30,000 people. The company became a limited liability company (GmbH) in 1990 and a public limited company in 1996. Today, the shares are also listed in the technology stocks index TecDAX. In the subsequent years, the company was regularly realigned and restructured. So again two years ago, when the divisions of Optical Systems, Healthcare & Industry, Automotive, Traffic Solutions and Defence & Civil Systems were formed.

These divisions show that the application of photonic technologies is becoming more and more diverse, particularly with regard to Industry 4.0 and robots. Experts anticipate significant growth rates for the photonics sector. This collective term includes all technologies in which light is used to control machines or process data. The industry association Spectaris estimates the annual sales of photonic devices at EUR 8 billion in Germany alone. Of these, 20 percent (the largest section of the pie chart) comes from the application of photonics in medical technology. Jenoptik also benefits from this in the production of lasers for ophthalmology, optoelectronic modules and software for diagnostics, system modules for DNA analyses, or in the production of microscope cameras.

Medical technology
Measuring system for diode lasers, which are important today, for instance, in healthcare.



Opportunities at a glance
CEO Dr. Stefan Traeger is committed to growth areas.

Technology that could save lives

Work on the future of medical technology is currently under way at the technology centre on Göschwitzer Straße. Laboratories and test tracks start in the reception building of blue steel and glass and extend along long corridors over several floors. This is where innovations such as the JENOPTIK SYIONS platform, a type of building block that combines various Jenoptik technologies such as optics, LED lighting, camera, electronics and software for diagnostic equipment and microscopic applications, are developed.

JENOPTIK SYIONS – a word coined by combining the English words synergy and ions – can be used for tumour diagnosis, for instance. But that is far from being the only field where this platform can be used. “Stated somewhat simply, our new platform can be used for the research of human cells. This research may be related to tissue formation or molecular correlations, the observation of cell growth or the change in the administration of medication”, says Wolfgang Keller, Head of Healthcare & Industry. The advantages of this research are obvious to Keller. “In the future, labs will be able to benefit from extremely high resolution and image quality. The images will be more detailed than before, and diagnoses can become even more reliable.”

And quicker. Up to now, it used to take a lab assistant several hours to analyse a cell culture. However, with JENOPTIK SYIONS, the analysis can be carried out automatically and in under one hour. System Development Manager Dr. Andrei Tchernook therefore foresees more applications of JENOPTIK SYIONS in the near future. “Likewise, ten years ago, no one could foresee the variety of things for which we use smartphones today.” Similarly, it is possible that a variant of the JENOPTIK SYIONS platform could serve as a mobile laboratory of



Global player

The company has its headquarters in Jena, Germany, and also has other locations in Germany, with operations in USA, France, UK, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Singapore, India, China, Korea, Japan and Australia.

sorts in an operating room. Rather than sending the tissue sample to a lab and waiting for hours or sometimes even weeks for results, they could be made available in a very short time. “That’s how this technology could save lives”, says Tchernook.

The current motto “More light” fits perfectly

Such high innovative capabilities also pay off. CEO Stefan Traeger recently announced excellent figures: Jenoptik AG’s sales increased by 9.2 percent to EUR 748 million. The company thereby exceeded its own forecasts. But Traeger does not intend to rest on these laurels. Since he knows the industry from a regional and international perspective, he realises that stagnation is not an option. “In the future, we want to focus clearly on photonic technologies, and therefore on what is close to our heart, on what we do best”, says Traeger. By 2019, the current business divisions will be combined with a large number of companies in the photonics sector. The motto is “More Light”. This phrase was coined by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Coincidentally, this prince of poets, who achieved world fame, was also located in Thuringia.



Opportunities on the basis of the competence fields of the future

The photonics group went public in 1998. Under the leadership of CEO Dr. Traeger, Jenoptik primarily focuses on the medical technology, automotive and semiconductor equipment growth areas. www.jenoptik.de



Spectacular
Laser projection
from JenTower.

Knowledge Network

Unique in the world: in Jena’s Optical Valley, many companies, institutes and universities are working on the medical technology of the future.

At one point, bacteriologist Robert Koch praised the “excellent microscopes” made by Carl Zeiss in Jena. They made his pioneering research on pathogens possible. More than 100 years later, the importance of medical technology has increased – and Jena continues to play a leading role.

The town is one of the world’s most innovative knowledge locations for health technology. Borrowing from California’s Silicon Valley, the town in the Saale valley has come to be known as the Optical Valley. High-tech companies and start-ups work closely with universities and research institutes to develop new approaches to diagnostics and therapy. The trainees come from the Jena University Hospital, the institutes of the Friedrich Schiller University, and the University

52
percent

of the photonics companies in Jena work in the fields of medicine and health.

of Applied Sciences Jena (UAS Jena). In recent years, many companies have established themselves in the town, and are operating successfully worldwide. And the success story continues. Carl Zeiss AG wants to strengthen its market position and make an investment of about EUR 300 million by 2023 for a new high-tech complex at its founding location in Jena.



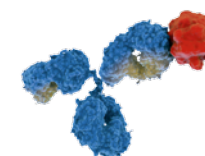
Other important medical companies in Jena
can be found under “Health Technology” at:
www.jenawirtschaft.de/standort/kompetenzfelder



Intercus
develops splints and systems for bone stabilisation.
www.intercus.de



Occlutech
makes implants that are placed in the heart with minimal invasion.
www.occlutech.com



Inflarx
produces antibodies that fight inflammation.
www.inflarx.de



Ezono
is known for its advanced ultrasound equipment.
www.ezono.com/de

New Paths, new Opportunities

Co-working, crowd-funding & Co. – how start-ups and companies in Thuringia work today.



The location
Freelancers and start-ups work side by side in the three-storey co-working space at the ICE hub Erfurt.

The founder
Bianca Schön-Ott started this project.



How do we want to work today? Many companies in Thuringia are providing conclusive answers to this question. Thanks to government funding and plenty of innovative spirit, a wide variety of models for the modern working world have gained a foothold in the state. From the medical company which is funded by crowd-funding, to collaborative work carried out in co-working spaces. For example, at KrämerLoft in Erfurt. Co-founder Bianca Schön-Ott explains the concept: “We wanted to create a workplace that has character, where people like to come to, and that stimulates combined creative work, not a nine-to-five office with blank white walls.” The number of start-ups in Thuringia with strong economic weight is above the national average. The percentage of start-ups in this federal state with cutting-edge technology is more than twice as high. 55 percent of the companies are still in the market five years after being founded.

More info at: www.thueringen.de



The network
People working at KrämerLoft often grab a bite together. There is a playroom for kids.

CO-WORKING

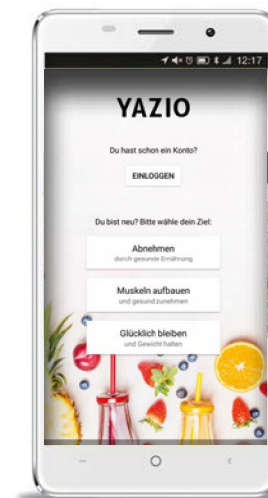
The top address for digital nomads in Erfurt – the co-working space KrämerLoft. Everyone can work on their laptop here. Children are a part of the new world of work, and start-ups can grow organically together. There is also a separate sports program for co-workers.

kraemerloft-coworking.de

FOUNDERS

More and more people are venturing into setting up their own company. That is what the two graduates from TU Ilmenau did. They created the app Yazio for iOS and Android, which helps with weight loss and muscle building. For developing this successful digital food log, these two young entrepreneurs received the Thüringer Gründerpreis (Thuringian Founder's Prize) in 2017.

www.yazio.com



This app helps control calories.



Founders Florian Weißenstein (left) and Sebastian Weber.



Teamwork
oncnostics celebrates success worldwide with its diagnostic test GynTect.



CROWD-FUNDING

The pharmaceutical company oncnostics GmbH has developed a test procedure for the reliable diagnosis of cervical cancer. This procedure is in demand worldwide. In order to fund its extensive research measures, the company broke new ground and collected EUR 750,000 through crowd-funding in the second round alone. In 2017, this young company from Jena received the Thuringian Innovation Prize in the category “Light and Life” for its pioneering work.

www.oncnostics.com

INNOVATION PRIZE

For the combined laser-LED high-beam, which enables high-beam ranges of up to 600 metres, Automotive Lighting Brotterode GmbH received the Thuringian Innovation Prize in the category “Industry and Material”. In order to attract new employees for further innovations, the company itself provides training for four professions, regularly opens its factory gates to interested participants as part of the “Industrie Intouch” campaign, and offers a well-received mentoring program for students.

www.al-lighting-brotterode.de

Perspective
The new headlamp combines LED and laser light.



Their sources of strength
Erfurt and Weimar provide ideal
working conditions for the
two highly talented musicians.

Martial Artists of Music

These two are young and gifted, and play top-class music. Conductor Joana Mallwitz and composer Martin Kohlstedt reveal the secret of their success.

At the age of 31, Joana Mallwitz, who works with Theater Erfurt, became the youngest music director in Europe. She performed concerts with the Royal Danish Orchestra and gave guest performances in the performances of Wagner's "Rheingold" (Rhinegold) and "Götterdämmerung" (Twilight of the Gods) in Riga and Macau. Martin Kohlstedt has created a sensation with his piano compositions and with electronic elements. In addition to their love of music, the feeling that they have found an artistic home in Thuringia, connects them both.

Mr. Kohlstedt, you perform with your back to the audience at your concerts. This seems unconventional. What does this arrangement have to do with your music?

Kohlstedt: By doing this, I want to show the audience that I'm not there to entertain them but to be one with them and take in the music just as they do. I'm practically sitting in the cockpit, the audience sits behind me, and we're all heading in the same direction.

As a conductor, you also look in the same direction as the audience, Ms. Mallwitz. Nevertheless, many people find it difficult to identify with the job of a conductor. Moreover, you are a woman in a male-dominated profession ...

Mallwitz: The image of a conductor actually varies drastically – somewhere between a figure that is completely superfluous and a kind of God hovering above everything. Of course, a conductor is neither the one nor the other. A conductor is someone who needs to be a master of his craft and who must be able to rehearse

"I prefer to work at night, looking over the old town of Erfurt."

Joana Mallwitz

with an orchestra. So, in the moment when the music is actually being played, it makes no difference whether you are a man or a woman. Simone Young, who has always been a great role model for me, once said that a man has five minutes to impress an orchestra, a woman only two. She has paved the way for my generation of conductors. Yet her statement remains somewhat true even today. Of course, I could try to be more male, but that just wouldn't work for me.



Joana Mallwitz

The conductor was born in Hildesheim in 1986. She started learning the piano at the age of three, and the violin at the age of five. At 14, she started studying music in Hanover. At 20, she conducted her first opera "Madame Butterfly". She has been working as a music director in Erfurt since 2014.

I have always only been able to be myself. That makes music authentic for me.

You both are very young and are used to being on stage for a long time. Do you still experience stage fright?

Mallwitz: Stage fright describes the feeling you have the moment you go on stage. I am usually nervous before that. The time right before a concert is terrible. But everything just fades away the moment I step into the stand. In that moment, I am free. I am almost hooked on this feeling, because that is the time when I stop thinking about everything else. The many hundreds of hours of solitude and time spent studying the scores then culminate into this one moment.

Kohlstedt: For me, I am excited about creating the right setting and a good atmosphere for the music. Once I am convinced everything is right, I am strangely calm and am no longer a part of what is going on around me. I have the feeling that the moment the concert starts is simultaneously the most public and the most intimate one. That's when I'm the most aware of my own self.

Beethoven's symphonies, arrangements with pianos and synthesizers: How do you approach your pieces?

Kohlstedt: The kind of music I play is a constant negotiation; there is never an ideal concert – the pieces are always a work in progress. I often decide the key just before the concert. And I have developed a modular composition concept of sorts, where I have given each of my motifs three letters. I then pursue them on stage and link them to phrases. It is in this moment of dialogue with the audience that I really listen to my piece clearly for the first time and see what has become of it.

Mallwitz: I ask every single note why it is there, why no other note, why only that one. Getting to know a piece of music is like forming a close connection with another person. I feel I get to know it to some extent only once I have experienced it on stage, when I know how it responds to stress, to tenderness, or when I play it in my head before a flight because I have a fear of flying. It's like getting closer and closer to a person and becoming familiar with their depths only to love them even more. It is only when I have experienced a musical piece in all these contexts that it becomes my own truth. I then have to turn it into the truth of the orchestra.

Have your approaches and interpretations ever failed?

Kohlstedt: I find it difficult when editors or event organisers put me on a podium before a concert.

And then I have to come back to my piano, slouch over it and try to start a conversation on an equal footing with the audience. In classical theatres, this would immediately make people grab hold of their seats because it is not the norm there. But the possibility that the whole thing can fail makes it really interesting for me.

Mallwitz: I fail whenever I try to reproduce something that worked well elsewhere. A friend of mine is a martial artist. She once told me that in martial arts you have to train persistently and improve your technique. But during the actual fight, you have to forget your technique. It's the same with music. You must have a plan and then let go of it in the end.

What is success for you?

Kohlstedt: When I am one with myself. When I am the catalyst for the audience and the music. As soon as any form of control and judgement has disappeared and the people in the audience are one with themselves, I perceive this as their trust in me – and that's my idea of success.

Mallwitz: When I conducted "Rheingold" in Macau, I was as ill as never before in my life. What's more, we had new singers and only two hours to rehearse. But everything went surprisingly well during the performance. We had never played the piece so well before. It happened because everyone had put their faith in the music and nothing else. When all of us soar through the concert together, that's what I call success. Small glitches can be useful because then the audience realises, "Oh, it's a live performance", and suddenly people start listening to the piece more intently. And that's exactly what it's all about. That everyone should be able to listen to a piece of music the way everyone can look at the "Mona Lisa" painting in the Louvre.

"As a Thuringian, a sense of place is as important for me as silence."

Martin Kohlstedt

The real one, not its printed versions. You simply have to experience Beethoven's Fifth live, whether here in Thuringia or elsewhere in the world, but not on a CD. The moment you start recording music, you actually contradict everything that constitutes the core of music making.

What are the conditions you need to be creative and to make music work?

Mallwitz: I need silence. This is where I find my greatest inspiration because my life does not have a fixed rhythm.



Martin Kohlstedt

Pianist and composer, born in Leinefelde in 1988. He learnt jazz piano and studied at the Bauhaus University in Weimar. He mixes piano and electronic music in his performances. He composes sound tracks for films, games and radio plays.

There are concert days on which I conduct till twelve o'clock at night and come home fully pumped with adrenaline. And then there are days on which we rehearse from morning to night. So I like to go to a quiet place when I have to study. I prefer to work at night, looking over the old town of Erfurt, and study scores until sunrise.

Kohlstedt: For me, a sense of place is as important as silence. I come from a rural Thuringian region, which is also my inspiration. When I am in dialogue with myself on the piano, silence is indeed an important part of the process.

What makes Thuringia a home for artists and a starting point for your careers?

Kohlstedt: All sorts of worlds come together here. This place is full of life because of the Bauhaus University and the conservatoires. At the same time, you can get to a secluded, peaceful spot within minutes. There is also a crazy community spirit here that has accompanied me ever since childhood. As we all know, this is a rare quality to find in the music business. That's why I have many close friends on my team who come from my region. Not agencies, but people whom I can meet every day to build something together.

Mallwitz: I feel there is still no oversaturation of art here in Thuringia. And the state offers many small stages. Without these, no one would be able to sing Tristan in ten years from now. That's because you don't simply take singing lessons and then perform Tristan at the Met. You need to have performed at several small theatres, developed yourself, and experienced day-to-day life in theatres. It is only then – and that too with some luck – that you may get the opportunity to perform at a renowned concert hall. **Kohlstedt:** You could say that here art is given the time to mature. Art can simply stand in its own right here and need not necessarily satisfy marketing demands. I play some seven-minute pieces based on many repetitions. They are not compelled to impress or compete like in Berlin, where there is one performance after the other and works of art are practically racing each other. This time allowed to let things mature results in art of a different kind.



Musical highlights in Thuringia:
Martin Kohlstedt's events: martinkohlstedt.com
Schedule of Theater Erfurt: www.theater-erfurt.de

Criminally Good Gags

The "Tatort" (Crime Scene) episodes playing in Weimar are loved for their humour. Screenwriter Andreas Pflüger reveals how he combines suspense with wit.



The author
Andreas Pflüger's latest thriller is entitled "Niemals (Never)" (Suhrkamp).

The "Tatort" (Crime Scene) episodes shot in Weimar are a classic across Thuringia, and especially in Weimar itself. Their previews at the Deutsches Nationaltheater are coveted events. The 860 tickets are sold out within half an hour. For me, these premieres are an experience, also because my colleague Murrel Clausen, who writes the screenplays with me, and I can see what works and what doesn't right there on the spot. And that's why it's so much fun to write the Weimar "Tatort". The episodes come alive not only in the crime plots, but also in the gags. Making different types of people laugh is one of the biggest challenges for a writer.

All our stories and our gags have many associations with Weimar and Thuringia. For every "Tatort" episode, we travel to the state to carry out some research and then try to include as many of its peculiar characteristics as possible. From Bauhaus to bratwurst, from dumplings to Goethe. In our stories, high culture marries obscenity,



"Tatort" Weimar

The first "Tatort" episode from Weimar is called "Die Fette Hoppe" (The Fat Hoppe). It was broadcast at Christmas 2013 and was planned as a one-time event. But because of its huge success, the cases were made into a series.



Wonderfully weird
Nora Tschirner and Christian Ulmen as police officers Kira Dorn and Lessing.

the sublime stands alongside the mundane. Our protagonists are also responsible for this. When we were commissioned to write the Thuringian "Tatort" five years ago, the fact that Christian Ulmen and Nora Tschirner were to play the lead roles had already set the tone for the show. On the one hand, it is also exciting that Weimar has such a huge history. This is the city that defined what it means to be "German". On the other hand, it is a small town where almost everyone knows everyone, whether they are a murder victim or a suspect.

What particularly pleases me is that every now and then we get letters from Thuringian communities, who write to us to praise their own merits – a special form of appreciation. However, "Tatort" is naturally also an economic factor, which benefits the companies where we shoot as well as the tourism industry. Visitors come all the way to see where a murder has been committed in Weimar and its surroundings.

A special incentive is the appreciation I receive from my family. That's because I was born in Thuringia, and spent my summer holidays here as a child. Most of my father's side of the family still lives in Höselsberg-Hainich. I certainly don't want to disappoint them.

Cradle of Modernity

The new Bauhaus Museum will be inaugurated in Weimar in 2019 – just in time for the university's 100th anniversary.

The new Bauhaus Museum in Weimar will not only be a place of remembrance, but also a meeting point. At the same time, it will demonstrate how the ideas of that time are still relevant today. Dr. Ulrike Bestgen from the Klassik Stiftung Weimar explains what the museum has in store for its future visitors.

Dr. Bestgen, what can visitors expect to see in the new Bauhaus Museum?

Ulrike Bestgen: Our reference point were the questions that the Bauhaus Founder and Director Walter Gropius already asked: "How are we going to live? How will we settle? What forms of community do we want to strive for?" Questions that we intend to explore together with our visitors. We want to demonstrate how important the Bauhaus movement was, but also how significant the ideas of that time still are today.



Ulrike Bestgen from Klassik Stiftung Weimar is the Director of the Bauhaus Museum.

What exactly does that mean?

The exhibition is displayed over three floors. The third floor has a large shelf structure, which showcases the world's oldest Bauhaus collection. Walter Gropius selected these objects in 1925, and they remained in Weimar even after the school moved to Dessau. In Weimar, they were stowed in boxes and have fortunately survived the decades without any damage. It was not until 1955 that they were unpacked and inventoried. The works, which include the famous slatted chair by Marcel Breuer or the early works from the ceramics workshop, reveal the incredible development that the Weimar Bauhaus went through in a short time. We also have the project forum "Gegenwart (The Present)" on the same floor. Here, we are planning exhibitions where architects, artists and designers can present their work, showcasing the relevance of the Bauhaus for our society today.

What are your personal favourites?

I'm a fan of Peter Keler's Bauhaus Cradle, which was inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's colour theory. The cradle



Meeting point
Visualisation of the new Bauhaus Museum that will be inaugurated in April 2019.

is a beautiful object, which depicts the design intentions of the Bauhaus movement. It has become a Bauhaus icon. I am also fond of the stage section, where we show how architects thought about space, light, colour and sound when creating Bauhaus 100 years ago. And, of course, the museum itself is a highlight because of its architecture.

What are the special features of the building style of the Berlin architect Heike Hanada?

The museum is a minimalist cube on the outside, but something very special on the inside. Instead of the large viewing angles that are typical of art museums, it offers many views that open up numerous design possibilities and connect the various subjects thematically. This fits in with the idea of us providing a narrative about Bauhaus that is thematic and not chronological.

The old Bauhaus Museum was located opposite the Nationaltheater. Why did you choose a new location?

Because it is the point of intersection of complex historical developments. Firstly, because it is connected to the Weimarhallen park, whose premises, with a swimming pool and a stadium, were a cultural project in the twenties. Secondly, due to its proximity to the former Nazi Gauforum, which will house the travelling exhibition "Zwangsarbeit (Forced Labour)" from 2020 onwards. The Buchenwald Memorial is responsible for the contents of this exhibition. Thirdly, proximity to the new museum, which is a historical building from the 1860s that will be rededicated and will recount the time before the Bauhaus movement, is also important. The outcome will be a cultural quarter that provides varied experiences of ambivalent modernity.



Bauhaus anniversary online

For important dates, news and background information about the topic, visit: www.bauhaus100.de



Bauhaus under construction
The minimalist cube at the roofing ceremony in November 2017.



Homage
The topping-out wreath has the shape of Peter Keler's cradle.



Classic

Wilhelm Wagenfeld designed the table lamp at the Bauhaus in Weimar in 1924. It is still a coveted design object today.

The Bauhaus originates in Thuringia

In April 1919, **Walter Gropius** founded the Staatliches Bauhaus in Weimar. The Director of the School of Architecture and Art succeeded in bringing renowned creative teachers to Thuringia, including Wassily Kandinsky, Lyonel Feininger and Paul Klee. Weimar became a **hub of the international avant-garde**. Even though the Bauhaus was closed down in 1933 under pressure from the National Socialists, the ideas and teaching methods that were developed here are still today of enormous relevance, whether in art, design or architecture, and have left their mark all over the world.



New Home for 100 Wines

Special treat in Goethe's town. Restaurateur Philipp Heine offers a large selection of top-quality international wines in his bar.

The massive floor-to-ceiling blackboard dominates the room. The words "Your favourite wine" are written on it in chalk in a cursive hand. The guests in the Weinbar Weimar can order one of the approximately 100 varieties of wine on offer. A selection like this requires space. Philipp Heine has removed the photos of the founding father of the 150-year-old bar (previously known as Sommer's Weinstuben), which hung on the wall for a long time, along with the beer tap and other vestiges of rustic homeliness.

"Tradition is important to me, but I also wanted to modernise the bar in my own way", says the restaurateur

about the concept on which he has been running the bar in the town centre of Weimar since the beginning of 2017, just a two-minute walk away from Goethe's former residence. The wooden floorboards and panelling have been preserved. Other than that, Heine has created an unassuming, warm ambience that can compete with any wine bar in the trendy metropolises of Berlin or Hamburg. And this includes the unique selection of wines!

The menu boasts first-class wines from all over the world
The bartender, with his designer stubble, round glasses and hearty laugh, soon shows himself to be a very

Casual connoisseur
Philipp Heine in front of the wine bar that he opened at the beginning of 2017.

knowledgeable expert who can narrate a witty story about every wine. The 38-year-old, who has plenty of experience of the Berlin gastronomy scene, knows many winemakers personally. He has now perfected the concept of serving 100 quality wines after having worked on it for a year: "I have hardly any wastage. The bottles are usually finished off. That's because although Thuringians are traditional, they are also quite open to new taste experiences. I love to recommend wines to them". On the menu you will find top-quality wines from Germany, Austria, all of Europe, and from overseas, as well as from the regional wine-producing

"This is a place where both connoisseurs and novices from the neighbourhood can find their favourite wine."

Philipp Heine

area of Saale-Unstrut. Along with the wine, the bar serves homemade, contemporary, tapas-style bar food. "The more you get involved with wine, the more interesting it becomes", says Philipp Heine about his passion, something that has grown over the course of an unconventional career. Heine originally wanted to be an actor, like his father Manfred, who was a favourite with audiences at the Deutsches Nationaltheater in Weimar. "I somehow thought I had to work there too. In fact, I thought I could!", he says today with a hint of self-irony. After a few attempts however, his acting career petered out in Vienna, where he was hired as an extra at the famous Burgtheater but paid his rent by working in a catering company. That's what first set him on this course.

Weimar gives Heine a lot of energy

When Philipp Heine returned to his native town as a young family man in 2001, he first worked as a waiter at the Hotel Elephant. At the same time, he became involved in the organisational team of the Weimar Art Festival. His good communication skills and his ability to connect closely with people are qualities that have helped him immensely. For many years, the self-made restaurateur commuted between Weimar and Berlin, where he established himself by managing well-known restaurants such as Oxymoron and Cookies Cream. Then came the decisive moment. „I had to work with the sophisticated wine menu. And I quickly realised that I was enjoying myself immensely".

While working as a sommelier, Heine came into contact with a winery in Sicily. In 2016, he stayed there for a few weeks, gave guests tours of the vineyards by day and worked in the restaurant of the family-run hotel

in the evenings. The stay spurred Heine's passion for wine and his yearning to move from the metropolis of Berlin to a quieter place he could call home.

And Philipp Heine found that place. "I am constantly impressed by how beautiful this place is and how much energy it gives me". Heine thinks of Weimar as a town that attracts people from the most varied backgrounds due to its wide-ranging cultural life. Some people even come from Berlin. At the same time, he is proud to welcome many regular guests. "I don't want to appeal to any specific or elite clientele. Both connoisseurs and novices from the neighbourhood should feel comfortable here". Probably the most important criterion for the quality of a wine bar is a homely atmosphere where guests feel that they are in good hands and where they are open to trying out new culinary delights.

The bar is also a stage

Heine has many memories of the former traditional pub Sommer's Weinstuben, where he now runs his wine bar. "I used to stand at the counter as a child", he says with a smile. His father often brought him here for high-spirited premiere celebrations. This Weimar institution was founded as a colonial commodity business in 1868, which, as the "Provider to the Court of the Grand Duchy of Saxony", also supplied sparkling wine and delicacies to various famous Weimar personalities such as the composer Franz Liszt. Afterwards, the seating areas developed their own character over five generations of owners. In the post-reunification period, wine taverns were some of the most popular meeting points in Weimar, though with a rather beer-soaked atmosphere. During a Sunday stroll in the summer of 2016, Philipp Heine found himself standing in front of the locked doors at Humboldtstraße 2. The meeting point for artists which he had known in his youth stood empty. "We have to do something" exclaimed this son of Weimar to his partner Anna Koller. Shortly thereafter, the couple started working together on gutting and redesigning the place.

And what has become of his hopes of being an actor? It has fulfilled itself in a completely different way. After all, a bar is also a stage that requires intuition, humour and improvisation every evening.



Wines

Heine can boast a selection of around 100 wines. This variety is well-received by the people of Weimar, who, in Heine's experience, are curious and open-minded.



Prime location

Philipp Heine's wine bar is centrally located at Humboldtstraße 2 in Weimar, not far from the Bauhaus University. The Internet address of the bar is: weinbar-weimar.de

Wine? Sure!

Thuringia has been producing wine for 1000 years.

Why do vines flourish in this region?

Winemaker Wolfram Proppe gives us the answers.

THE TRADITION

“A document issued by Emperor Otto the Third mentions viticulture in Thuringia as far back as 998. Climate deterioration led to reduced cultivation after 1790. The temperature is rising again due to global warming.”

THE CLIMATE

“The average annual temperature in the region around Jena is 10.5 degrees, which is ideal for viticulture. The region has more hours of sunshine than the Central Moselle. It is located in the rain shadow region of the Harz mountains, which keep the clouds away. As a result, the rainfall here is only half of that in the Württemberg wine region.”

THE SLOPES

“The southern slopes are very steep and sheltered from the wind. Although it can get really cold here in the winters, the frost thaws quickly.”



THE WINEMAKERS

The Saale-Unstrut wine growing region stretches from Thuringia to Saxony Anhalt. Young winemakers such as Wolfram Proppe, who was born in Jena in 1982, provide fresh momentum (large photo: his winery in the Gleise valley).

THE SOIL

“Shell limestone soil heats up easily. The soil on the slopes is not very deep. It is not suitable for agriculture, but very good for growing wine. Quality comes from hard work. Grapevines have to make an effort and put down strong roots.”

THE GRAPE VARIETIES

“There are over 50 grape varieties. Müller-Thurgau, Pinot Blanc and Pinot Gris are popular varieties for white wines. 25 percent of the grape varieties are for red wines. They include Dornfelder and Pinot Noir, among others. Grape varieties are currently undergoing a change because the old varieties have started maturing too early due to global warming. The trend is towards late-maturing vines such as Chardonnay.”



Lucky charm
The patisserie owner creates sweet masterpieces.

Baking is a very Popular Trend Nowadays

Pastry chef Doreen Bergmann reinterprets the old art of baking – and is unbelievably successful at it.

A café that can accommodate more people than live in the neighbourhood! Where can you find something like that? Stelzendorf near Zeulenroda has 96 inhabitants, while Bergmann's patisserie in the village has a seating capacity of 100, all of which are often occupied. Is this because of the inventive interpretation of the old art of baking, something that owner Doreen Bergmann is known for? We talked to the founder, who gave up her job as a lawyer in European law to set up a tasteful and noble pastry shop in her hometown.

Ms. Bergmann, it was quite a courageous move to give up your job as a lawyer and open a patisserie in a tiny village.

Doreen Bergmann: There is no such thing as a bad location. I believe that if you have something good to offer, you can succeed anywhere. On Sundays, Sweet & Tasty caters to three times as many guests as there are residents in Stelzendorf. People actually form really big queues. In our village too, the customers have high standards and their habits are changing. Food is the new religion, and suddenly everyone has become lactose-intolerant, or is allergic to gluten or wants to cut down on sugar.

So, do new food trends and styles dictate what you offer?

You can't jump on every bandwagon. That would be far too demanding! Never mind the fact that trends are usually over almost as soon as you have adjusted to them. We also make vegan pies, but not necessarily with soya cream. I don't use substitute products. If at all, then I prefer baking a pie using apple sauce instead of cream.



A real treat

Doreen Bergmann does not use ready mixes. She uses mostly regional products and ingredients for her creations.

And how do you come up with ideas for your dishes?

I have every baking book that has been published in the last 20 years. As well as that, I had the opportunity to bake in an eco-hotel and to work with a strudel baker from Vienna. I learned to decorate wedding cakes in Chicago. Above all, inspiration comes from the fact that baking comes naturally to me.

How important are products from the Thuringian region?

We always use seasonal produce. I know a crazy strawberry farmer who planted in August and brought us the best strawberries in October. They were the best strawberries I had that whole year. This meant that we were able to make strawberry pie in autumn. We get our flour from a mill in the neighbourhood, and keep chickens and sheep ourselves.

What would you say to someone who thinks of German cuisine as being only sausages and beer?

Thuringia has a very old baking tradition. For example, the many-layered yeast cake on round sheets. A lot of passion goes into baking that cake. We adopt such traditions and try to refine and preserve them creatively.



Bergmann's patisserie

If you want to enjoy Doreen Bergmann's creations, you can visit her café from Wednesday to Sunday. Address: Stelzendorf 15, 07937 Zeulenroda-Triebes, but it's always better to book your table in advance! www.sweet-and-tasty.de

A long throw
In 2016, Thomas Röhler won the gold medal in the javelin throw in Rio. He is now training in Jena to break the current world record.



Record at a Glance

Javelin thrower Thomas Röhler has already bagged the Olympic Gold. The competitive athlete from Jena is now focusing all his energy on a new goal – a throw of more than the magical 100 metres.



The training
Röhler works out nine times a week in the Oberaue sports complex, for example, with weight exercises, circuit training or on the slackline.



The javelin throw

... was one of the disciplines of the ancient Olympic games. The modern form of the javelin throw has been an Olympics sport since 1908. The current record holder is the Czech track and field athlete **Jan Železný** with a throwing distance of **98.48 metres**.

The man moves weights. Tirelessly. And then follows it up with sweaty push-ups. After this, he quickly continues on with another round of circuit training. Thomas Röhler always completes the same strength and endurance training sessions in a gymnasium in Jena. Lap by lap. The solitary training routine of a champion. Röhler is accompanied only by his trainer Harro Schwuchow, who stands to one side and monitors how his protégé performs this task – a handstand on a moving e-board. The entire exercise looks quite acrobatic. And this is part and parcel of a javelin thrower's special training to compensate for the enormous physical demands after a long season.

A historic win, “made in Thuringia”

While the 26-year-old model athlete is catching his breath again, he adds: “When throwing the javelin, the body activity is rather one-sided. You throw with your right arm, while your left leg is firmly on the ground”. A force weighing up to one ton can be released at the moment the javelin is thrown. This was also the case on 20th August 2016, when Thomas Röhler

hurled the spear 90.30 metres through the evening sky of Rio de Janeiro. That throw won Germany its first gold medal in the Olympics javelin throw since Klaus Wolfermann in Munich in 1972. And it was a historic win. Made in Thuringia.

Soft yet sure-footed, quiet yet forceful

“The moment I released the spear, I knew the throw would be very good”, says Thomas Röhler, remembering that day in Rio. “It was really emotional”. Especially since the victory came as a surprise. Just six weeks before the Olympics final, the athlete from Jena suffered the worst injury of his career – a serious rupture in his back. He could not train for four weeks. “I had to make my body fit to compete again”. This was possible only because of a “certain fighting spirit”, says Röhler objectively.

The characteristics of this sports star from the river Saale: He appears to be rather quiet, prefers understatement, and has a subtle sense of humour. His athletic body also conveys this impression. He weighs 90 kilograms and has a height of 1.91 metres.



The goal

In Oberaue, Röhler makes use of the latest methods. At the moment, the aerial photos captured by a drone are helping him improve his technique.

So he is tall and muscular, but does not have the brawny look that many javelin throwers have.

Thomas Röhler, who wants to defend his title in Tokyo in 2020, trains nine times a week at the Oberaue sports complex in his hometown, not far from the stadium of the local football club FC Carl Zeiss Jena. Down-to-earth analyses, the laws of physics, strict training schedules. The javelin throw is a high-performance discipline. Currently, a drone is being used to improve the course of movement. When Röhler talks about this, it fits in perfectly with the image of Jena as a science location with all the research institutions and the high-tech industry that characterise the town. The 26-year-old completed his sports and business studies at the Friedrich Schiller University with a Bachelor's degree.

How it all started: throwing stones with dad

Röhler has been fascinated by athletics since childhood. Since his strengths are speed and coordination skills, he was a good candidate for the jumping and running disciplines of multi-sport races. Röhler remembers his first holidays by the Baltic Sea, when he discovered

“You need certain conditions to pursue high-level athletics. The sports community is very active in Jena.”

Thomas Röhler

pebbles as throwing objects. “Competing against my dad was always the best part”. At the age of 13, his main discipline was the triple jump, a demanding balancing act of strength and jumping technique. And already back then, he liked to balance the javelin. But when he hit puberty, Röhler was not selected by talent scouts initially because he was too lanky for throwing competitions. It was only at the relatively late age of 18 that he really started getting involved in the javelin throw.

Jena – a town of knowledge and sports

The Olympic champion has a lighter stature than most of his competitors. But his success is based more on dynamics and efficiency and less on weight. How does he define a perfect javelin throw? “It should feel really light, as if I need to use very little energy”. For further optimisation of movement, the athlete and his trainer have recently started collaborating with kinesiologists from the University of Jena on a project-to-project basis. Röhler thinks he will be able to throw the javelin over a distance of more than 100 metres in the near future. The world record held by the Czech track and field athlete Jan Železný is 98.48 metres.

During his rise to join the sporting elite of the world, Röhler benefited both from the targeted support of the sports grammar school as well as from the infrastructure in Jena, which, as an Olympics training centre, can look back on a growing sports tradition. “You need certain conditions to pursue high-level athletics. The sports community is very active in Jena”.

The training session at the sports centre comes to an end. He takes a deep breath: “After a heavy training session like this I need to clear my head. And I love nature”. Sometimes he goes fishing. Or the enthusiastic amateur photographer sets off into the Kernberge in search of subjects. What he likes about Jena is “the combination of the green surroundings and its dynamic, innovative core”.



His greatest successes

National team 2010:

Thomas Röhler's first appearance as member of the German team.

The Olympic Games in 2016: gold medal in Rio with a throwing distance of 90.30 metres.

Best throw so far: 93.90 metres at the IAAF Diamond League, Doha.



About Thomas Röhler

The top athlete was born in Jena on 30th September 1991. He graduated from the sports grammar school “Johann Chr. F. GutsMuths” (www.sportgymnasium-jena.info) in Jena and later went on to study sports and business (www.uni-jena.de).

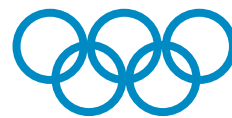
The Right Start

Talented athletes need to receive support at an early stage. In Thuringia, this is achieved by promoting sports grammar schools and sports facilities.

Athletes from Thuringia are always in season, whether at the winter or summer games. Thuringian athletes won two gold medals, two silver medals and three bronze medals at the Olympic Games in Pyeongchang. Kristina Vogel and Pauline Grabosch are the current world leaders in track cycling. Both were students at the sports grammar school in Erfurt. And young talents like Madeleine Schröter from Berlstedt near Weimar chalk up successes throughout the whole year in disciplines such as karate. How is it that these athletes can so successfully maintain their top position in the world?

Combination of school and sports

Traditionally, sport has played a very important role in Thuringia. As early as the 18th century, before the time of the “Father of gymnastics”, Jahn, educationalist Johann Christoph Friedrich GutsMuths introduced physical education as a subject when teaching in Schnepfenthal. Even today, some of the sports equipment from that time is used during traditional celebrations. And a school is still named after him today – the “Johann Chr. Fr. GutsMuths” sports grammar school in Jena. It is one of the three “elite schools for sports”. The other two are the sports grammar school in Oberhof, which is perfect for winter sports talents, and the Pierre de Coubertin Gymnasium in Erfurt, where, among other subjects, cycling is taught as a



Training for the Olympics

Thuringia is one of the 18 Olympic training centres in Germany. It has five locations – Erfurt, Jena, Oberhof, Suhl and Gera.

competitive sport. These schools help set students’ timetables in such a way that they can strike an ideal balance between school lessons and training. Other leading educational institutions such as the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena also help student athletes to reconcile their training schedule with their lectures and seminars.

Sports facilities as additional support

Thuringia is investing in new sports facilities and in the renovation of existing facilities. In particular, winter sports in the Thuringian forest have been developing well for a long time. Today, Oberhof, which is situated at an altitude of 815 metres, has many high-grade winter sports facilities, such as the ski jumping resorts, the Ski Arena for Biathlon World Cups, and the bobsleigh, luge, and skeleton track. The enormous sports centre for skiing, which was completed in 2009, is unique. Thanks to snow machines, training for cross-country skiing and biathlons can be carried out all year round on a 1754-metre long circuit route.

Thuringia also offers excellent training opportunities for professional track cyclists. A concrete track was built in Andreasried as early as 1899. After an eventful history, the track was redeveloped and modernised by 2008. It now offers ideal conditions for cycling athletes.

Investments in the future

The competition for excellence continues. In 2018 and 2019, an investment of EUR seven million is planned for the construction of municipal sports facilities. Perhaps we will soon have a Biathlon World Cup in Oberhof – like the last one in 2004. Thuringia has submitted an application to host this World Cup event in 2023. A sum of EUR 15 million is available for the modernisation of the infrastructure and the stadium.



Sustainable sports facilities

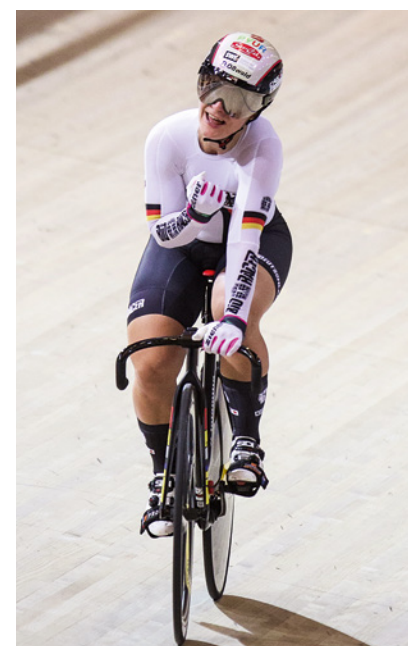
How has the modernisation in Oberhof progressed? And what about Thuringia’s application for the Biathlon World Cup in 2023? All the necessary information can be found here: www.weltcup-oberhof.de



Sports grammar schools
like the one in Erfurt develop young sporting talent.



Erik Lesser
The biathlete from Oberhof won the bronze medal in the relay in Korea.



Kristina Vogel
The successful track cyclist was a student at the sports school in Erfurt.



Johannes Ludwig
The tobogganist from Oberhof won the Olympic bronze medal in the singles and gold in the team relay in 2018.



He's making a difference
Professor Schubert moved to Jena in 2007. The renowned chemist can realise his visions in Thuringia.

Master of Molecules

Jena is making great progress in the development of new storage technologies. Chemistry professor Ulrich S. Schubert and his bustling molecules have a huge hand in this.

The success of the energy revolution, whether in automobility or fossil fuel phase-out, could have a lot to do with the storage of electrochemical energy. There are still many unanswered questions. What about the necessary stationary storage? Which new developments will replace conventional batteries? How can these batteries be made more environmentally friendly? Chemists from the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena have the answers to these questions. As part of a unique research project, prototypes of the battery of the future have been developed at the science hub of Thuringia. These promise not only more environmentally friendly stationary storage, but also have the potential to revolutionise our everyday lives.

"In an age where resources are becoming increasingly scarce, organic batteries are an excellent alternative for storing electrical energy", explains Professor Ulrich S. Schubert, Head of the Centre for Energy and Environmental Chemistry Jena (CEEC Jena). Currently, corrosive and toxic materials such as sulphuric acid, vanadium or lead are used in batteries. However, the Thuringian researchers are trying out plastics as a storage material. These plastics can be dissolved in a harmless saline solution.

"We have managed to set up the 'battery and energy storage' field from scratch here."

Ulrich S. Schubert

The advantage of this so-called redox flow technology is that the material is not only clean, but it also stores energy efficiently for a long time. In the case of a stationary battery, this could mean that the battery can be used for a period of up to 20 years without any significant drop in capacity.

The designs can be viewed in a separate research building that was built about two years ago on the Philosophenweg, overlooking the roofs of the old town of Jena. In this cubical building made of concrete and glass,



Battery

Currently, sulphuric acid and lead are used for the production of batteries. In Jena, Professor Schubert is conducting research on finding a cleaner alternative.

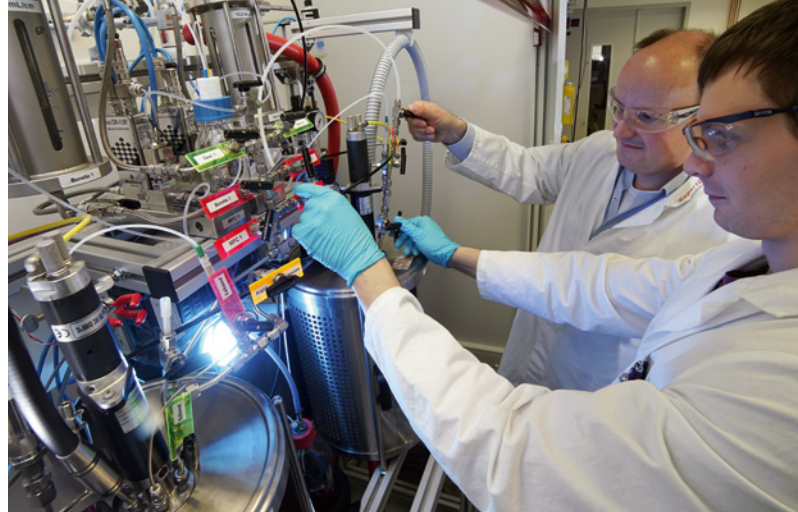
chemists, physicists and materials engineers are working together to make the pioneering idea market-ready for applications ranging from the tiny LED lights in "smart clothing" (as printed plastic batteries) to the container-sized storage units for solar or wind power plants. For this visionary project, the university is collaborating with various companies and start-ups as well as with extramural research institutions and is funded by the state and federal governments.

Schubert senses a great pioneering spirit in Jena

"We have managed to set up the 'battery and energy storage' sector from scratch here". Schubert is proud of his eleven years of research work in Jena. When the Tübingen chemist took over the Chair of Organic and Macromolecular Chemistry, he had already successfully taught subjects related to his field of expertise, the "creative production of molecules", in Munich and Eindhoven.

He immediately sensed a great pioneering spirit in Jena, explains the internationally renowned chemist and material scientist, who totally looks the part of a decisive man of action, with his athletic build and striking, almost bald head with attentive, sparkling eyes. Anyone who encounters this 48-year-old will immediately notice the abundance of energy that he radiates. "There was a lot of innovation in Jena, but it was still in the development stage", says Schubert, "and it is these development possibilities and opportunities that excited me". In Germany, experiments with redox flow batteries, in which performance and capacity can be varied intrinsically independent of each other, were carried out as far back as the 1940s. The current research is a continuation of this.

However, for the "battery researcher from Thuringia", as a newspaper once called him, the university environment was also a crucial reason as to why he preferred Jena over other locations: from the modern university hospital to the many innovative companies to the family-friendly infrastructure. "It takes me less than ten minutes to reach the office from my house, and I can drop off the children in the day-care centre which is just opposite it", says the father of five children.



Visionary
Schubert managed to establish three fields of research in Jena.

In 2017, when he and two other employees received the Thuringian Research Prize of EUR 25,000 for applied research, Schubert said in his acceptance speech: "This prize gives us fresh motivation to continue our research in energy storage with unabated vigour". On the occasion, he emphasised the need to expand university structures so as to be able to rapidly transform the prototypes into commercially viable products. Plans for an extension building have been finalised and the construction will be completed by 2022.

The planning for a pilot plant in the Thuringian solar park is under way

Given the fact that the federal government would like to sustainably promote e-car technology over the next few years, it seems appropriate that the Joint Science Conference of the federal and state governments has awarded a hefty grant of EUR 27 million for the research work in Jena. Energy conservation and climate protection are major social responsibilities, and are the focus of research in the Saale town. The new company, Jena-Batteries GmbH, was founded by the university with the aim of optimising the functionality of clean batteries in practical use.

The process involves the storage of electricity in two tanks using dissolved plastic molecules. The planning for a pilot plant in the Thuringian solar park is under way. The storage spaces are still quite large. The challenge now lies in fitting the same storage capacity into smaller designs. "When it comes to mobile use, our research is still in the nascent stage", explains Schubert, who sees such goals as an incentive. This also means that his mission at the science hub Jena is far from accomplished.



Molecules

Schubert sees himself as a molecular artist who designs things from scratch. In Jena, he established a high-tech laboratory for new plastics.

Caring for a big family, managing more than 80 employees and holding a number of honorary positions – the man juggles an astonishing number of roles. And on top of that, he still finds time for his hobby, music.

Ulrich S. Schubert is a clarinettist and originally wanted to become a concert musician. But his father, a professor of physics in Frankfurt a. M., talked him out of it and eventually convinced him to study chemistry. Schubert still plays the clarinet regularly and has been directing the International Youth Orchestra Academy at his former place of study Bayreuth for nearly 25 years. Both as orchestra leader and head of the research team in Jena, the scientist needs to be able to bring together different nationalities, mentalities and individual abilities.

"It takes me less than ten minutes to reach the office from my house, and I can drop off the children in the day-care centre which is just opposite it."

Ulrich S. Schubert

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Schubert, who served as Dean and previously as Vice Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Earth Sciences for seven years, the University of Jena has developed into an innovation centre for new energy storage systems, among other things. The man has also played a leading role in the field of the so-called self-healing polymers. These are plastics which can be used as paints, for instance. "If there is a scratch on a piece of furniture, you simply need to blow dry it to have a nice surface again" says Schubert. Several monomers are strung together to produce new macromolecules. "I feel that this process is similar to that of creating a musical composition", says the passionate musician.

Becoming market-ready as soon as possible

When he started his research and teaching activities in Jena, Schubert gave a decisive impetus in developing a focus on nanomedicine. Schubert speaks of his former cooperation with the Director of Anaesthesiology in the university hospital and the Centre for Sepsis Control and Care. "I wanted to understand what these physicians actually need, or rather, what these chemists are actually capable of". Once again, molecules from the laboratory were used to transport medical agents through the body with the help of tiny particles. All research fields that Professor Schubert established have made a lasting contribution towards increasing the future viability of Jena. All eyes are on the future.



Chemist from the Champions League

Professor Ulrich S. Schubert (48) is one of the leading chemists and material scientists worldwide. He moved to Jena in 2007, where he was Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Earth Sciences, among other things. Info: chemgeo.uni-jena.de; www.schubert-group.de

Stories of Home from all over the World

Thuringia attracts many international students, such as Ushree Barua from Bangladesh, who is studying at the Willy Brandt School.



Willy Brandt School

Since 2002, the Willy Brandt School of Public Policy at the Erfurt University has been offering the first German Master study programme in Public Policy for students from all over the world.

It was like a dream come true for Ushree Barua when she first set foot in the red brick building of the Willy Brandt School. The 27-year-old hails from Chittagong in Bangladesh. A scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) provided her with the opportunity to study in Erfurt.

She is pursuing a Master in Public Policy here. The study programme prepares students for a career in politics, administration, international companies or NGOs. This is ideal for Barua, who intends to take up a career in politics. "But not as a politician, rather as a consultant working behind the scenes".

Students from 54 countries

In addition to its high academic quality, the international orientation of the university is particularly important for this young woman from Bangladesh. Her fellow students come from 54 different countries, and lectures and seminars are held in English – the university cannot be any more international than this.

This also applies to the recreational activities that the state capital offers. Ushree Barua frequents the Café International on most Tuesday evenings. It is not a café in the traditional sense, but an initiative founded by Studierendenwerk Thüringen 15 years ago, which also exists in Jena and in Weimar, where it is called Culture Talk. This initiative aims at promoting cultural exchange between young people from all over the world.

In Erfurt, international students present the specific peculiarities and customs of their countries every Tuesday. People are free to choose their medium of presentation. One evening, a Colombian woman will give a PowerPoint presentation, while Vietnamese students will perform a traditional folk dance on another day.

Starting a cultural dialogue with food

Meeting points such as the Café International have become even more important in recent years as the number of foreign students has increased. About 6900 students are enrolled at Thuringian universities at the moment – ten years ago, the number was half this. "As more and more international students come here, it becomes ever more important to break down cultural barriers", says Marco Finn, who is responsible for the Café International at the Studierendenwerk Thüringen.

In Erfurt, the best time to do so is after the lectures. "Each event ends with a small buffet of local food", explains Finn. "The real cultural exchange often takes place over a snack".



For more information, visit:
www.brandtschool.de
www.facebook.com/cierfurt



Barua, with her thirst for knowledge, in the library of Erfurt University.

The Smart Way: Studying in Thuringia

The art of good learning is perfected at the eight study locations in Thuringia.

Learning from the greatest masters – this is possible for the students of the University of Music Franz Liszt in Weimar, where the man after whom it is named once trained piano students. Some of the best music teachers in Europe teach here today. At the Bauhaus University in Weimar, which dates back to the Staatliches Bauhaus founded by Walter Gropius in 1919, students receive instruction in a building that is listed as a world heritage site. Business founder Carl Zeiss worked closely with the University of Jena all his life.

But Thuringia's university representatives are not resting on the laurels of their exceptional predecessors. On the contrary, they are coming up with new ways of achieving excellence in research and practical relevance. For example, at the university in the timber-framed town of Nordhausen, one of the research priorities is GreenTech, which focuses on answering important questions concerning resource and energy efficiency. Students at the Bauhaus University in Weimar participate in the concrete canoe regattas that are held regularly in Germany with the aim of getting to know the building material even better. And students of the Faculty of Law at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena attend Moot Courts, where typical cases under international, commercial and employment law are simulated in front of real judges.



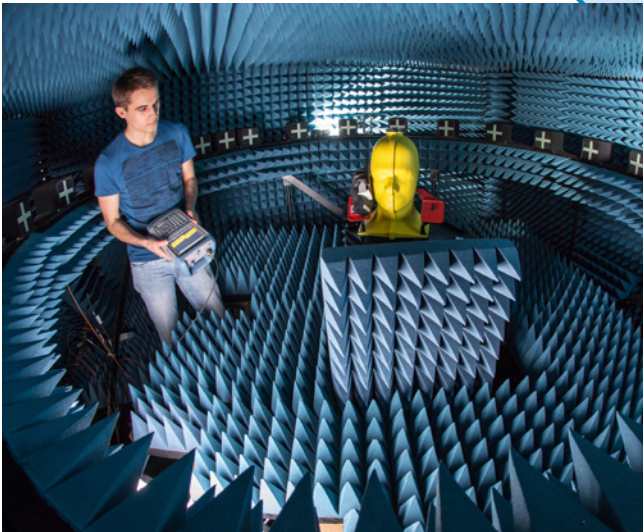
All universities at a glance
Schedule of university open houses:
www.campus-thuringen.de
Influencers such as Benjamin Jaworskyj
and AlexiBexi introduce the universities at
studium.campus-thuringen.de

ILMENAU UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
High-tech university with a very good faculty for Communication and Media Technology, among other things.
www.tu-ilmenau.de

NORDHAUSEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
GreenTech and Governance are two of its research priorities.
www.hs-nordhausen.de

GERA-EISENACH UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
Focuses strongly on practical relevance.
www.dhge.de

SCHMALKALDEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
Offers five faculties – from Computer Science to Business Law.
www.hs-schmalkalden.de



ERFURT UNIVERSITY
Was founded in 1994, and offers a wide range of courses.
www.uni-erfurt.de

ERFURT UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
Focuses on Educational Science, Civil Engineering and Horticulture.
www.fh-erfurt.de



BAUHAUS UNIVERSITY, WEIMAR
Perfect: studying architecture and art where Bauhaus was actually founded.
www.uni-weimar.de



UNIVERSITY OF MUSIC FRANZ LISZT, WEIMAR
Highest standard of training for performing musicians.
www.hfm-weimar.de

ERNST ABBE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, JENA
Students are given research and development tasks.
www.eah-jena.de



FRIEDRICH SCHILLER UNIVERSITY, JENA
Among the universities in Thuringia, this is the largest one, with more than 200 study opportunities.
www.uni-jena.de

SRH HOCHSCHULE FÜR GESUNDHEIT, GERA
Private, state-recognised institution. Flexible study periods for professionals from the medical industry.
www.srh-gesundheitshochschule.de

GERA-EISENACH UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
This university in Gera offers courses in the fields of Economics, Technology and Social Studies.
www.dhge.de



Garden of Happiness

Why are more and more city dwellers spending their time sowing seeds and weeding? If you pay a visit to Hinrich Schmoch in Erfurt, you will gain a better understanding of the trend in urban gardening.

You reap what you sow
People like Hinrich Schmoch are revitalized by their own private garden.

He is sowing broad beans today. Hinrich Schmoch plants the seeds in his plot in the middle of the city. He has to hurry! There is still much to be done today. After all, he has finally decided to tear down the gazebo. The walls are crooked, the plaster is crumbling, and the roof is arched inwards. "I want to demolish the gazebo this year and replace it with a construction shed". The 31-year-old knows exactly what he is doing. He has entered all the planting and sowing schedules for his garden in an Excel spreadsheet and prepared a detailed work plan. Just like Schmoch in Erfurt, many city dwellers today spend time in urban gardening, either in their own garden or in shared gardens. They have set out to beautify their environment and make it ecologically usable so that they do not lose contact with nature in the city.

Nature in the garden round the corner

What does urban gardening actually mean? Urban gardening refers to growing food in the land spaces available in cities or in residential settlements. However, it does not refer to mere green patches. Urban gardening is sustainable and environmentally friendly, and the produce grown there is not for ornamental purposes, but for the refinement of the gardener's own diet.

Its popularity can also be explained by the fact that there is a new awareness about sustainability. Do I really need to eat apples that are transported from New Zealand to Erfurt? Or can I grow them myself? The trend was also fuelled by the fact that many people started thinking of composting their organic waste through state initiatives. After all, a compost pile is the best way to recycle organic matter.

The Germans still do not eat optimally. According to the German Nutrition Society, they eat too much meat and the consumption of fruits such as apples and pears has reduced. Although urban gardening cannot reverse this trend, it can at least signal a small opposition to it.

A trend has engulfed the country

It started in the mid-nineties with the intercultural gardens in Göttingen. Today, rooftop gardens, flower beds and city and community gardens are being developed throughout Germany. The Prinzessinnengärten (Princess Gardens) in Berlin were developed on the site of the old Tempelhof airport. The Humboldt University in Berlin even set up a professorship for Urban Ecophysiology. The university explores how plants and living creatures grow in the city.

In Thuringia, people such as Hinrich Schmoch are breaking new ground (also see overview on page 41). He moved to Erfurt three years ago. When we met him in a café near the cathedral after he had completed his gardening work, he placed his phone on the table, a model from 2003. "I'll use that till it breaks. But it won't break".

"Working in my garden has made me a more balanced person."

Hinrich Schmoch

Our earth
Urban gardening is a worldwide trend, from Berlin to Paris to San Francisco.



A beautiful (leased) garden in the middle of the city Schmoch applies this sustainable approach to his gardening too. On his online page, he documents his ambitious project as "Mein P(r)achtgarten". His girlfriend, whom he met twelve years ago at a School Big Band, found her dream job in Thuringia. After maintaining a long-distance relationship for one and a half years, Schmoch moved to Thuringia in 2014 – and was immediately won over by the nature here. "When I came to Thuringia for the first time, I was amazed by the lush green areas stretching to the horizon. Here, you can just let your gaze wander over the wide countryside all the way up to the horizon, where you may be able to make out the silhouette of a castle. That's all! Thuringia has spaces where you can create something", says Schmoch, and by that he refers not only to actual open spaces but also to open minds.

His employer, Pollmeier, Europe's leading sawmill for beech wood, helped him make use of such spaces. He works as an energy optimiser here. "I think the term sustainability manager would describe my job better". He is responsible for helping the company save energy, particularly electricity.

He regards Siegerland as his place of origin. But Thuringia is his home. "This is the first time that I have lived somewhere without having a specific future plan". Meanwhile, Hinrich Schmoch lives very close to the cathedral square. He decided to move to Thuringia



The dream garden

City gardeners often find very little time for their project. Good planning helps, as is documented by Hinrich Schmoch on his website: meinprachtgarten.de



The reward
You can enjoy the fruits of your labour during harvest time.



Community
Intercultural gardens are a special form of urban gardening. For information and overview, visit: anstiftung.de/urbane-gaerten

because this federal state also offers him interesting career opportunities with a relatively low cost of living. As a result, he can afford to maintain his garden even if he works only four days a week.

Smart gardening – and his own website

While speaking about his application for a garden, Schmoch tells us: “I told them that I wanted a somewhat overgrown garden. They took it seriously”. The Kleingartenverein (Small Gardens Association) of “Am Petersberg” is located in the middle of the city, right next to the citadel in the up-and-coming Brühl quarter. When he saw the plot for the first time, he literally got lost in the tall weeds. There is a summer flower meadow in the making, immediately to the left of the garden gate. Schmoch plans to cut it twice a year using a scythe. This will make the meadow leaner and it will lose its nutrients. The fewer the nutrients, the higher the biodiversity. “I’ll more or less leave this place alone and wait and watch which plants take root here”.

You should not impose your own will on a garden. “Every element in the garden here should fulfil as many functions as possible”. He has built the trellis for the raspberries from leftover wood that he got from trimming. “My aim is to buy and throw away as little as possible”. What grows in the garden gets served on the table. “You will see that the input and the output here is almost at par”. His love for numbers and statistics is

obvious. Those interested can find many details on his website. For example, what has Schmoch been able to harvest? When did he sow? How much money did he spend? And maps which show what he has planted where, as well as tables and pie charts.

The best ideas come to you when you are dreaming

The apple, plum, peach and cherry trees have been in the garden for a long time. But only the apple tree has borne fruit so far – but unfortunately mostly rotten fruit. “I try to find the right beneficial organism for each pest, but in this case it seems, I have not given the tree and its beneficial organism the right habitat yet.” One more reason to create space for diversity. This way, the beneficial organisms would grow on their own. Everything is interconnected. “There’s a lot of talk about work-life balance. I think there are three aspects to it: work, social life and the time you have for yourself”, says Schmoch. In his garden, he can be completely on his own and yet be productive: “That has made me a more balanced person”. For those who do not want to take up gardening as intensively as Schmoch there are also community gardens, where you can contribute towards cultivating a city garden.



Allotment boom

According to the Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde (Federal Association of German Garden Lovers), the average age of tenant farmers has fallen. Almost half the allotments are cultivated by young families. Long waiting lists are proof of the growing enthusiasm. More info: www.kleingarten-bund.de

Oases in Cities

Urban gardening has established itself in Thuringia. Many projects are being developed thanks to the initiative taken by active citizens.

The trend of community gardens has established itself in Thuringia. From hipsters to housewives, more and more people are cultivating the earth here, setting up raised garden beds, and organising readings and concerts in the open spaces in the middle of the city. One such example is the Lagune Erfurt, which has transformed the site of a former motor vehicle workshop into a green oasis (more info: www.lagune-erfurt.de). Here, children can learn about the cycles of nature and office workers can lend a hand. The 35-year-old concept planner Frank Mittelstädt from Lagune reveals the prerequisites for getting started. “The right people, commitment and patience. If you lay out a garden, you have to



cultivate it for a year. Only then can you reap the benefits”. In addition to garden projects, more and more intercultural gardens are being developed with a focus on social commitment.

Shop and pick

Development is an ongoing process in community gardens, which are mostly located in residential areas. As part of the concept of “Die essbare Stadt (The Edible City)”, fruits and vegetables are grown for everyone on the smallest of areas in the middle of the city. Over 140 municipalities in Germany have started such projects. Erfurt is no exception. Vegetables are grown at six locations, including the raised garden bed on Krämerbrücke (Merchants’ Bridge).



City gardens in Thuringia
Publicly accessible, self-managed gardens are very popular in the state. They can be found in Erfurt, Saalfeld-Beulwitz, Jena, Winzerla, Eisenach, Nordhausen and Weimar.

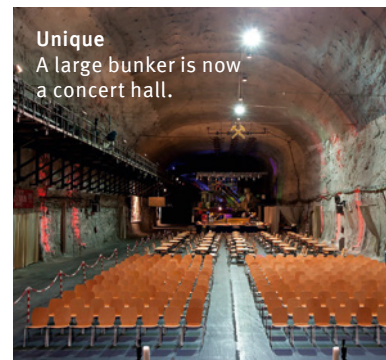
Sustainability
Tomatoes do not have to be imported from far away. Awareness of this is becoming more and more widespread.

Figures Please!



14
percent

of the students in Thuringia come from abroad – this means that almost every eighth student is a foreigner. More than half of them are from Asia. In total, around 6,900 students are currently in Thuringia from all over the world because of the good reputation of the Thuringian universities. This is about twice as many as ten years ago. To find information about studying in Thuringia, visit: www.campus-thueringen.de



Unique
A large bunker is now
a concert hall.

500
metres

beneath the earth's surface, you will find the world's largest underground concert hall in the Merkers Adventure Mine. Whether it is a rock or a classical concert – the hall itself never fails to impress. Programme: www.erlebnisbergwerk.de



Achievement! Participants
in the Rennsteiglauf.

15,000
athletes

participate in the GutsMuths-Rennsteiglauf every year in May. It is the biggest cross-country run in Europe. It has been repeatedly voted as the most popular marathon in the German-speaking area. One of the reasons for this is the unique landscape along the famous long-distance Rennsteig trail. Info and schedules: www.rennsteiglauf.de

250
educationalists

have trained as ambassadors of good taste in Thuringia. Their common goal is to provide healthier and better food for Thuringia's day-care centres and schools. The initiative was launched in early 2017 by star chef Sarah Wiener in collaboration with a health insurance company. More info: www.ichkannkochen.de

172
million EUR

are provided as funds to the Thuringian districts and regions for broadband expansion by the federal government. Another EUR 100 million come from the state of Thuringia. Broadband expansion is an important part of the new Thuringian digital strategy, which is preparing the state for a digital future through a series of targeted measures. For more info, visit: www.thueringen.de

45,000
mini Goethe figures

from Playmobil have found a new owner. The prince of poets impressively underpins his position as an important ambassador for Thuringia. Order here: shop-thueringen.de/souvenirs/



9,900,000
overnight stays



were recorded in Thuringia in the Luther anniversary year of 2017, an increase of 1.9 percent over 2016. The number of visitors coming from abroad increased by almost ten percent. City tours were especially popular (photo: Erfurt Cathedral).

Imprint

Issued by: Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society, Max-Reger-Straße 4–8, 99096 Erfurt

Concept, editing and design: BISSINGER[+] GmbH; **Created by:** KNSK Werbeagentur GmbH; **Printed by:** Mehgro Werbung GmbH; **Copy deadline:** March 2018

Cover photo: Robert Hörnig; **Photos:** 2–3 Sandro Jödicke/Filmproduktion24 (2), Felix Adler, Axel Springer Brand Studio/Madlen Krippendorf, iStockphoto | Pg. 4–9 Theater Erfurt, Veronique Sophie Schröter, ullstein bild (2), Köstritzer, Born Senf & Feinkost GmbH, city archive of Ronneburg – taken from BUGA GmbH, Stephan Morgenstern/laif, Leibniz-IPH/T/Sven Döring, Benjamin Hörle, action press, PR, KIDS interactive, DLW Meiningen/Stw | Pg. 10–12 Jenoptik/Heiner Müller-Elsner(2), Jenoptik/Jelbmann Photographik/Torsten Proß (2) | Pg. 13 Gerd Gropp/stock.adobe.com, PR (4) | Pg. 14–15 Konstanze Wutschig (2), Ralph Quinke/Spiegel Media, PR (2), ekiem.de, oncgnostics GmbH (2) | Pg. 16–18 Ralph Quinke/Spiegel Media | Pg. 19 Stefan Klüter/Suhrkamp Verlag, picture alliance/dpa | Pg. 20–21 private, bloomimages GmbH, picture alliance/Martin Schutt (2) | Pg. 22–23 Axel Springer Brand Studio/Madlen Krippendorf | Pg. 24 Wencke Proppe (3) | Pg. 25 Sandro Jödicke/Filmproduktion24 | Pg. 26–29 Markus Hintzen, Axel Springer Brand Studio/Madlen Krippendorf, Felix Adler (2) | Pg. 30–31 ddp images/Jens-Ulrich Koch, Getty Images (3) | Pg. 32–34 Axel Springer Brand Studio/Madlen Krippendorf, Jan-Peter Kasper | Pg. 35–37 Sandro Jödicke/Filmproduktion24, Nordhausen University of Applied Sciences, Michael Reichel/arifoto.de, Bauhaus University, Weimar/Lukas Loeffler, Guido Werner, University of Jena/FSU-Fotozentrum | Pg. 38–41 Sandro Jödicke/Filmproduktion24 (2), iStockphoto, M. Franz, Getty Images | Pg. 42–43 iStockphoto, K+S AG, werk2-photographie, PR, Shutterstock; **Illustrations:** BISSINGER[+]

Find out more about living, working and researching in Thuringia at: www.das-ist-thueringen.de

I am a Thuringian from Guangzhou.

Because this is where I can conduct research on the next generation of efficient energy storage systems. When are you drawn to Thuringia?



Prof. Dr. Yong Lei from Ilmenau

Technische Universität Ilmenau / Head of the Group of Three-Dimensional Nanostructuring

He is passionate about cars. And Thuringia gives him the opportunity to act out his passion in two ways. In his professional life, he works as a physicist at the renowned Technische Universität Ilmenau, where he is conducting research on innovative energy storage systems to increase the range of electric cars. In his private life, he enjoys exploring Thuringia by car. Sometimes, he drives slowly through unspoilt landscapes, carefree and relaxed, and sometimes he enjoys a fast, sporty drive on the motorways. Read Prof. Lei's full story and other reasons for coming to Thuringia here: www.thats-thuringia.com.