

# DresdenMagazin



## DAWN OF A NEW EPOCH

**DRESDEN IS SHAPING THE TRANSITION TO A NEW ERA: THE CITY HAS HAD PLENTY OF PRACTICE SINCE THE TIME OF AUGUSTUS THE STRONG**

### DIGITAL

Dresden start-ups creating solutions for the world of tomorrow

### ANALOGUE

And quiet flows the Elbe! Through Dresden and the Elbland by canoe



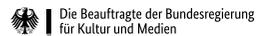
"Sistine Madonna"

# DRESDEN. HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS.

**29.02.2020 Reopening**

of the "Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister" and  
the "Skulpturensammlung bis 1800"

Staatliche  
Kunstsammlungen  
Dresden



## Dear Readers

**W**hat are you doing there anyway?” And the organisers of the Dresden International Dixieland Festival replied: “It’s a sort of crossover between the choral tradition of the FDJ communist youth movement and Bohemian brass band music.” That wasn’t strictly true. But in 1971, the people asking this were the cultural authorities of the GDR regime. Reassured, they said “Carry on!”. And the Dresdeners have been doing precisely that since 1970. The world’s oldest and largest jazz festival is now about to enter its 50th year (p. 34). You could almost argue that this is the ‘sound’ of Saxony’s state capital – if it weren’t for the many other musical genres that thrive in the city, ranging from vibrant subculture to classical music. So we asked ourselves: Amid all this diversity, what is it that actually typifies Dresden?

Which aspects of the city have remained constant despite perpetual change? At the dawn of a new era, Augustus the Strong reshaped the urban landscape when he took the bold decision to transform what had been a fortress settlement into a royal residence that would be the equal of any other in Europe. In 2020, Dresden will be celebrat-

ing the 350th anniversary of his birth, and once again, the city stands on the threshold of a new era. We found striking parallels between the Baroque incarnation of Dresden and its future self (p. 12).

What typifies Dresden is the systematic way it goes about meeting new challenges and seizing new opportunities, for example in the development of business models and technologies based on the new 5G mobile communications standard (p. 24). The threshold of a new epoch is also manifest on our dinner plates: How will the food of tomorrow differ from that which is consumed today? This is the question we seek to answer on page 36.

And finally, the gently flowing river teaches us how supposed opposites can be reconciled. We take a leisurely canoe trip past Dresden and through our beloved Elbe valley, which we feel that even Augustus the Strong would have no difficulty in recognising today (p. 52).

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of our magazine.

Your editorial team

**MILITÄR  
HISTORISCHES  
MUSEUM**

Dresden



Foto: © Nick Hurfton/Daniel Libeskind



BUNDESWEHR



300 YEARS

**Kupferstich-  
1720 Kabinett  
Dresden – 2020**

*Keeping in the Present*  
April 25 – Sept. 14, 2020  
Residenzschloss Dresden

*Color Excitement and Line.*  
*Schmidt-Rottluff at Hegenbarth's*  
May 3, 2020 – April 4, 2021  
Josef-Hegenbarth-Archive

*Andreas Rost. Reunion*  
*Günther Uecker's Birthday*  
Oct. 2 – Nov. 1, 2020  
Residenzschloss Dresden

*Crossing Borders.*  
*Collecting for the Future*  
Nov. 14, 2020 – Feb. 22, 2021  
Residenzschloss Dresden

Staatliche  
Kunstsammlungen  
Dresden

**The Complete Program  
for the Anniversary Year under  
[kupferstich-kabinett.skd.museum](http://kupferstich-kabinett.skd.museum)**

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## SAXONY. STATE OF THE ARTS.



Saxony offers many barrier-free tourist attractions for people with disabilities and restricted mobility. More information is available in the free brochure 'Sachsen barrierefrei' or at [sachsen-barrierefrei.de](http://sachsen-barrierefrei.de)

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*Chief conductor Marek Janowski is planning the music programme for 2020 around two major anniversaries.*

# TWO REASONS TO CELEBRATE

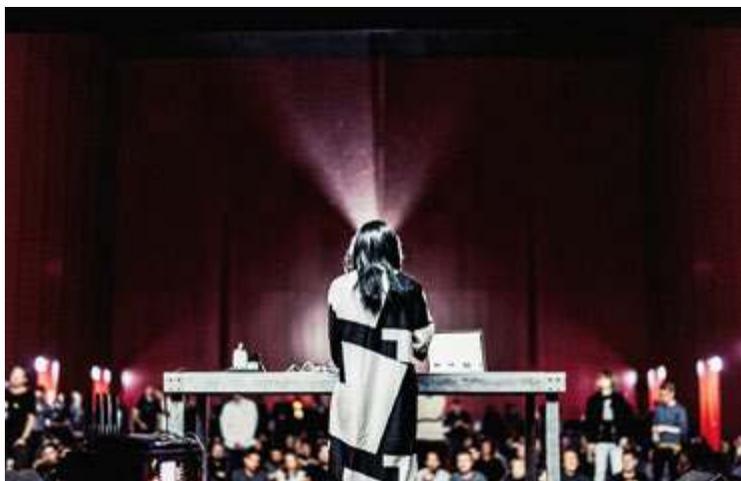
## **The Dresden Philharmonic is 150 years old.**

Truly a reason to celebrate. The history of this renowned musical ensemble began in 1870 with the opening of the Gewerbehausaal, a hall big enough to host large orchestral concerts in the city for the first time. Since then, famous artists have played their part in shaping the sound of the Philharmonic: Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Strauss all conducted their own works here. Beethoven, Weber, Brahms, Bruckner, Mahler and Strauss are particularly well represented in the repertoire of the orchestra, but it also champions modern composers. The festival week will therefore begin with the premiere of a new work and culminate on 29th November 2020 with a performance of Bruckner's Fourth Symphony. The concerts given during the festival week

will be the climax of the year for chief conductor Marek Janowski, who has returned for the 2019/2020 season: "I left Dresden in 2003 because the concert hall that was promised as part of my contract was not delivered at that time. But I said back then that, if it ever gets built, I'll be back." The new concert hall in the Kulturpalast has since opened to great acclaim from experts, and the now 80-year-old Janowski has redeemed his pledge. The importance of the renovation project to the Dresden Philharmonic orchestra is also reflected in its new logo: the two crotchets forming the initials 'dp' have now been replaced by the irregular hexagon layout of the concert hall in the 'Palace of Culture'. But there is another anniversary to celebrate in 2020: it is 250 years since

the birth of Ludwig van Beethoven. On the programme for the Beethoven sestercentennial will be performances of all five piano concertos, of his only opera *Fidelio* and of his *Missa Solemnis*. The composer himself considered this choral work to be his greatest masterpiece. In addition, Janowski is planning an experiment: "I am looking forward to combining Beethoven's chamber music and his symphonies in a single concert. For this, we have been fortunate enough to secure the services of Quatuor Ébène, one of the world's top string quartets."

**Festival week 21st – 29th November 2020,  
Kulturpalast, Schloßstr. 2, 01067 Dresden,  
[dresdnerphilharmonie.de](http://dresdnerphilharmonie.de)**



## DEBATING AT THE CLUB

**Dresden is known** for its lively nightlife. A major factor in this is the electronic music scene, which takes centre stage during the **DAVE Festival**. The music obviously comes first, but the organisers are also keen to emphasise the social relevance of club culture, which not only provides a refuge from the rat race but also a space for debating how we want to live together in the future. So, in addition to concerts and discos, the DAVE programme extends to workshops and panel discussions. A DJ contest in the run-up to the week gives talented newcomers the chance to get their name in lights and perform live at the DAVE Festival.

23rd Oct – 1st Nov 2020, various venues,  
[dave-festival.de](http://dave-festival.de)

*The DAVE Festival is not just about music but also about the social influence of club culture.*

## Think digital

**Ultra-modern technology** with the opportunity to get hands-on – that's what **connect-ec** offered for the first time in 2019. It was so successful last year that Germany's first dedicated telecommunications trade fair will return in 2020. The main focus of the event will be the two-day conference at which experts from industry and business can network and inform themselves about the latest trends and developments. The show, which is organised by the telecoms magazine *connect*, will be open to visitors at the weekend. Although the editorial office of the magazine is based in Munich, it holds its proprietary trade fair in Dresden. For a good reason: the largest microelectronics cluster in Europe is located in the Upper Elbe valley.

29th April –  
2nd May 2020,  
[connect-ec.info](http://connect-ec.info)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN 2020

### 7TH FEBRUARY

For the 15th year running, the debutants will dance at the Semper Opera Ball.  
[semperoperball.de](http://semperoperball.de)

### 14TH – 15TH FEBRUARY

Local bands perform at Bandstand, Dresden's largest indoor festival.  
[hellerau.org/festival/bandstand](http://hellerau.org/festival/bandstand)

### 11TH – 15TH MARCH

Dresden laughs along with Olaf Schubert, founder of the Humorzone comedy festival.  
[humorzone.de](http://humorzone.de)

### 28TH APRIL – 3RD MAY

Since 2006, choirs from all over the world have been coming to Dresden for the Children's Choir Festival.  
[kinderchorfestival-dresden.de](http://kinderchorfestival-dresden.de)

### 16TH MAY – 31ST AUGUST

A comprehensive retrospective at the Albertinum provides the opportunity to rediscover Expressionist artist and author Ernst Barlach.  
[skd.museum](http://skd.museum)

### FROM 12TH JUNE

The new permanent exhibition Schienenverkehr (Rail Transport) showcases Saxony's 200-year railway history.  
[verkehrsmuseum-dresden.de](http://verkehrsmuseum-dresden.de)

### 4TH JULY

More than 40 institutes will open their doors for the 22nd Dresden Museum Night.  
[museumsnacht.dresden.de](http://museumsnacht.dresden.de)

### 26TH SEPTEMBER 2020 – 31ST MAY 2021

Exhibition at the Hygiene Museum: Im Gefängnis (In Jail) looks at the penal system, past and present.  
[dhmd.de](http://dhmd.de)

### 9TH – 17TH OCTOBER

The Umundu Sustainable Development Festival presents new initiatives, many of them local.  
[umundu.de](http://umundu.de)



More information at  
[veranstaltungen.dresden.de](http://veranstaltungen.dresden.de)



## Immerse yourself in the history of the Zwinger

**Visitors** to the immersive exhibition **Zwinger Xperience** learn about the fascinating history of this famous landmark commissioned by Augustus the Strong in 1709. During the summer of 2019, it was housed in a temporary dome structure in the main courtyard. For the summer season of 2020, it will move indoors to Bogengalerie L.

Dresdner Zwinger, 01067 Dresden, [zwinger-experience.de](http://zwinger-experience.de)

## Silence is silver, action is gold



*Visitors to the Umundu-Festival attend the Market of Utopias at the Cultural Forum riesa efau.*

**Climate change, species extinction** and polluted seas – the challenges we face on our planet are immense. But they are challenges that we have to surmount. Some interesting solutions will be on show at the **2020 Umundu Festival for Sustainable Development**, which Dresden has been hosting now for the past decade. Co-organiser Stephan Philipp: “We often hear people say ‘Something ought to be done’, and then there are other people who actually get that something done.” The 12th Umundu Festival once again provides an inspiring platform for forward-looking solutions. The theme changes every year, and this time round the focus will be on the sustainable handling of waste. The Umundu Festival has been organised since 2009 by Sukuma arts e. V. and an extensive network of residents, public initiatives and associations. With its programme of lectures, workshops, films, excursions, guided tours, panel discussions and festival market, it has become a forum for a local people to debate environmental issues and sustainability. With every passing year, its relevance grows.

9th – 17th October 2020, various venues in the Dresden area, von Dresden, [umundu.de](http://umundu.de)



*Drawing heavily on the imagery of Disney, Eisa Jocson's performances deal with exploitation and the promise of happiness.*

## Exploring dance legacy

**HELLERAU – European Centre for the Arts** has attained a major presence on the contemporary dance scene of Europe. In May, it will once again play host to choreographers and dancers who will explore the cultural legacy of past and present. **Heirlooms – Festival of heritage and tradition in contemporary art** is returning to Festspielhaus Hellerau for its second year and will feature guest performances from African, East Asian and European countries.

15th – 25th May 2020, Festspielhaus Hellerau, Karl-Liebnecht-Straße 56, 01109 Dresden, [hellerau.org/festival/erbstuecke](http://hellerau.org/festival/erbstuecke)



# Diversity<sup>10</sup>

The ten museums of the City of Dresden have a lot to offer and one thing in common: diversity. We are happy to welcome you to a broad selection of exhibitions, guided tours, discussions and events, which you can discover at [museen-dresden.de](https://museen-dresden.de).



## “EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM DESERVES A PRIZE”

*Herr Kramer, you have been organising the Saloppe Seifenkistenrennen for 20 years. What is more important for a soapbox car, appearance or speed?* — **Michael Kramer:** To win, a

soapbox car has to be fast. But every year, we have a lot of entries that are really eye-catching. Some of them are quite grotesque constructions, because the teams that built them are in it for the spectators' prize.

*Presumably that's awarded for looks?* — The spectators choose the soapbox team who have provided the best entertainment value. Obviously, appearance plays a role here. I personally think that, based on looks, every single one of them deserves a prize. It's amazing what the participants come up with each year. Over these past 20 years, we've had about 400 soap boxes at the start, and almost all of them had a different theme. The exception being the year we had two Popemobiles and the other year when we had two tanks.

*Are the rules complicated?* — The most important rule is: no engine! The cars start from a ramp, so muscle power is required at this point. One steers while the others push.

*What highlights are planned for the 20th anniversary?* — We will certainly see one or two historic soapbox cars fetched out of cellars or storage.

12th September 2020, in front of Sommerwirtschaft Saloppe, Brockhausstraße 1, 01099 Dresden, [saloppe.de/seifenkistenrennen](http://saloppe.de/seifenkistenrennen)



With its reopening in February 2020, the **Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister** (Old Masters Picture Gallery) has been given a new lease of life. Important Old Masters such as Raphael's *Sistine Madonna* and Rembrandt's *The Abduction of Ganymede* are presented in a new setting. Beyond that with the reopening the **pre-1800 sculpture collection** now enters into a dialogue with the paintings.

*Probably the most famous view of the city: Dresden as seen from the right bank of the Elbe below the Augustus Bridge by Canaletto, whose 300th anniversary will be celebrated in 2021.*

Sempergalerie des Zwingers, Theaterplatz 1  
skd.museum



*A brewery in Bischheim destroyed by German troops during the siege of Strasbourg (1870).*

## GERMANY'S YEAR OF DESTINY

**It was the year 1871** when Germany as a unified political entity came together from a territorial patchwork. But it took three terrible wars before the nation-building project was complete. The bitter-sweet circumstances are reflected in a special exhibition **War, victory, nationhood: How the German Empire originated** in the Military History Museum. It depicts an age in which technology and the economy, society and everyday life changed dramatically, and which ended not only with the birth of a new Germany but also the dawn of a new epoch.

8th April 2020 – 31st January 2021, Military History Museum of the Bundeswehr, Olbrichtplatz 2, 01099 Dresden, [mhmbw.de](http://mhmbw.de)

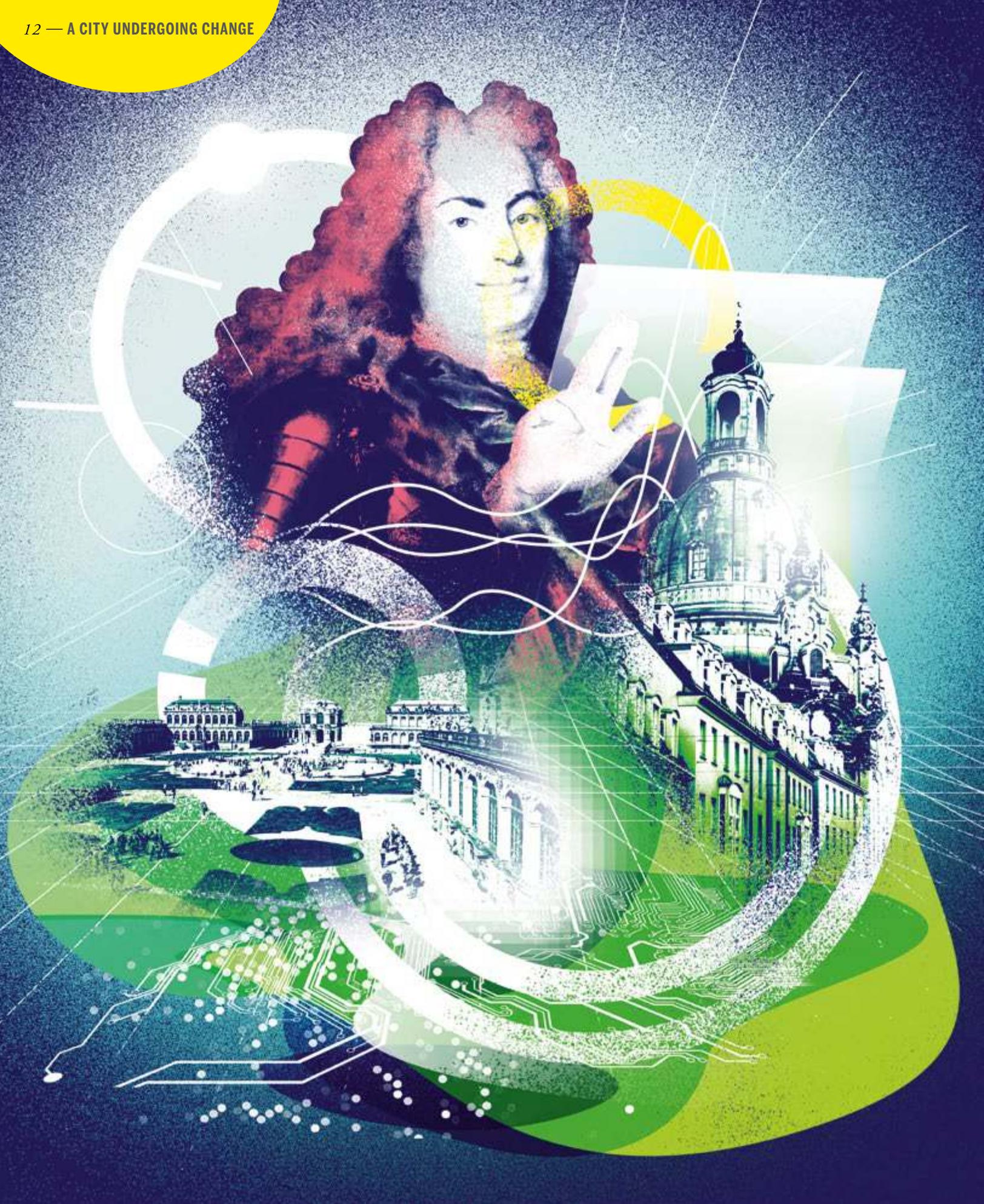
# BROADWAY IN DRESDEN

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## A CITY UNDERGOING CHANGE

## THRESHOLD VALUE

There is a widely held view that we are on the threshold of a new era. What is not clear, however, is the coping strategies that need to be adopted. Dresden does have a certain advantage here: since the time of **Augustus the Strong**, the city has had a reputation for facing up to and embracing change

Text *Till Schröder* — Illustrations *Mario Wagner*

**D**resden can manage epochal change. You could say that it is part of the city's DNA. The historic facades on the Neumarkt and the magnificent edifices along the Elbe dating back to the time of Augustus the Strong are a familiar sight. They are testimony to the Dresden specific Baroque style of architecture that undoubtedly marked the beginning of a new era. In fact, it can even be pinned down to an individual year, namely 1694 when Augustus was crowned Prince-Elector of Saxony.

The determination with which Augustus set about transforming medieval Dresden into a cosmopolitan capital was unprecedented. When modern Dresdeners think of home, this Baroque cityscape is foremost in their mind. However, the broad Wilsdruffer Strasse and the Kulturpalast, which opened in 1969, tell of a further defining epoch for Dresden, namely the post-war years of communist rule. Designed by architects Wiel and Hänisch, the Palace of Culture was placed under a preservation order in 2008, the only building from the GDR era to be given listed status. It was not demolished but underwent an award-winning conversion by the renowned architectural team of Gerkan, Mark & Partner.

When we reach a threshold, our gaze is inevitably drawn forward. Since

the progressive Baroque era, Dresden has not forgotten that ability. And right now, in many parts of Europe, people are starting to feel that they are witnessing the birth pangs of a new epoch. Dresden is no exception: new technologies are changing everyday life and attracting newcomers to live and work in Europe's most extensive hub of microelectronics production. Furthermore, the recent hot summers and intermittent heavy downpours are the harbingers of climate change to which Dresden is also determined to adapt. And finally, perhaps the most important question: how are Dresdeners to live together peacefully in a society that seems to be drifting in so many directions because of passionately held but conflicting interests?

In 2019, one of the world's most forward-thinking and influential architects, Rem Koolhaas, posed these questions in a series of events headlined 'Creating Neue Heimat'. Rather appropriately, the venue was Dresden's rebuilt Baroque Frauenkirche. "What we have learnt so far," he said, "is that we are living our lives in the real world and in the virtual world at the same time, combining these two spaces." The impact of this is felt by local shopkeepers, for example, even in central locations, whose businesses are contracting due the advance of online retail.

"WE OCCUPY THE REAL  
AND VIRTUAL WORLD AT  
THE SAME TIME AND  
COMBINE BOTH SPACES."

*Rem Koolhaas*

THE MASTER BUILDERS  
 WHO WORKED FOR AUGUSTUS  
 WERE OBLIGED TO ACQUAINT  
 THEMSELVES WITH ITALY. THE  
 CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY  
 TODAY LIKEWISE NEED TO  
 KNOW SILICON VALLEY.

Historischer Neumarkt is an association set up to remedy this situation. “People need other people to talk to,” says founder Torsten Kulke. “They don’t like anonymity. A business is also a place for cultural exchange.” And on the subject of exchange, social media are an extension of the spaces where people used to meet. They are the channel by means of which public initiatives and events are organised in Dresden. New media also offer the city administrators new opportunities to involve local people in decision making, for example using apps such as PinCity (see infobox on page 14).

### **A MAGNET FOR PROFESSIONALS SINCE THE TIME OF AUGUSTUS**

Along with Valencia in Spain and Antalya in Turkey, Dresden is one of the three European ‘LightHouse Cities’ pioneering smart technologies that provide citizens with efficient, sustainable, clean and futureproof living spaces. The new concepts are being applied by Dresdeners at the project headquarters in Johannstadt. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) has also designated

Dresden as a ‘City of the Future’ (see infobox on page 14).

To some extent, the city has already arrived in the future, with the development of business models for the 5G mobile standard. At the Hannover Trade Fair, Dresden paraded its credentials as a pioneer of this high-speed form of data transmission. 5G Lab Germany has consolidated its research facilities here. And TU Dresden set up Germany’s first experimental construction site, where automated, digitally connected construction machinery automatically knows what it has to do. The original Silicon Valley in California serves as a role model for ‘Silicon Saxony’.

The Upper Elbe region attracts highly qualified technicians, scientists and developers from all over the world. Not unlike Augustus the Strong, who summoned the best builders, craftsmen and inventors to fulfil his dream of absolutist splendour. Augustus knew the standard he had to match from his grand tour of the major cultural centres in Europe: in Versailles, he was astonished at the ostentatious way in which the French

## **PARTICIPATION BY APP**

Dresden city is also being driven by digitisation. For urban management, it opens up new paths that are currently being explored at Dresden University of Technology. The Faculty of Knowledge Architecture is compiling data for this purpose and calling on local residents to help. A team including graduate engineer David Hick is working on the so-called Data4City project. The PinCity app allows information about the reality of life in Dresden to be input to the project database. The aim is to improve cleanliness and safety in the city, factors which are known to be vital to the quality of life. Users can submit comments on litter in parks or on the perceived threat of crime on local transport. This gives the city scope for optimising its systems. Another planned

element of the app: locals are invited to mark places of interest on the digital maps and to post comments. “In this way, micro communities can emerge – digital spaces where people can talk about the quality of life in a neighbourhood,” explains David Hick.

With Data4City, a new kind of information is collected and processed: the subjective kind. “A sensor cannot evaluate a sense of security or the attractiveness of a place, but the users can do that individually.” The final version of the app is being trialled for the first time with around 100 volunteers in the Johannstadt district. After that, it will be made commercially available. Hick and his colleagues hope that companies based in the city will want to use the subjective data gathered via the app to fine-tune their offers.





king flaunted his authority; from Venice, he brought back the idea of turning the Elbe into a Saxon version of the Canal Grande; in Rome and Naples, he was inspired by the architecture, art, science and festive culture. The moment he was crowned Prince-Elector, he despatched his master builder, Matthias Daniel Pöppelmann, to Italy to check out the latest techniques in architecture and garden landscaping. Just as today, young executives and developers of innovative companies are sent to the land of Google, Amazon, Facebook and Apple.

### **FASTER, HIGHER, MORE COMFORTABLE**

The Baroque was the era in which Galileo and Copernicus were revolutionising man's perception of the universe, in which opera was invented and in which courtly festivals were staged on such a scale as if there were no tomorrow. And with his festivals, Augustus the Strong outclassed everything that Europe had ever witnessed before.

He decreed that many cramped half-timbered houses were to be demolished to make way for his building projects and for his festivals. The great fire of Altendresden in 1685 gave him the

opportunity to rebuild according to his own designs: the district that arose is today called Neustadt. Citizens who had come to wealth through their work for the prince built four and five-storey townhouses in line with official building regulations, using stone construction and finishing with light-coloured render.

"A Baroque city had to be both comfortable and attractive," says Dirk Syndram, Director of the Green Vault Museum. Augustus made sure that the streets of Dresden were kept clean and well lit. He also founded hospitals and a municipal fire brigade. That cost money, so in order to boost the economy, he had roads built and unified the pre-metric weights and measures for the Electorate of Saxony. Under Augustus's influence, Saxony's postal service became the fastest and most efficient in the Holy Roman Empire – as revolutionary for communication in that time as 5G is for us today.

"The education of the bourgeoisie and the promotion of the arts was also a matter dear to Augustus's heart," says Dirk Syndram. In 1705, the Prince-Elector founded a school for painting from which the Dresden Academy of Arts would later emerge. And the Green Vault

**"A BAROQUE CITY HAD  
TO BE COMFORTABLE  
AND ATTRACTIVE."**

*Dirk Syndram*

## **A LIVING UTOPIA**

'Doing things ourselves as a community' is the slogan chosen for the 'City of the Future'. Dresden was chosen along with seven other applicants from a shortlist of 51 in a competition organised by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. "The objective is to make life here as good and healthy as possible in the next few years," says Zukunftsstadt project coordinator Rico Schwibs. "Because our world is facing big upheavals. Climate change, digitisation, urban sprawl – all challenges that cities must get on top of. The solutions are not obvious, and so the city becomes a test ground."

The Zukunftsstadt concept has been in place since 2015 and is based on democratic principles. Hundreds of Dresdeners came up with ideas from which the best were selected. Eight of them are now being implemented. But Schwibs cautions that this is not always straightforward in reality. Projects are dependent on funding, and it can take a long time to get from filling in thick wads of application forms to the implementation stage. But all the same, it is not difficult to enthuse people, at least in certain age groups. Schwibs: "We find it's the younger and the older people who contact us, because they are the ones who have the time." He is always on the lookout for new ideas to benefit Dresden. And for more new recruits to the 'City of the Future'.

in the Royal Palace was established as one of the first public museums.

## NATURAL COOLING TO COUNTER CLIMATE CHANGE

Culture is still a necessity of life for the people of Dresden. It gives residents of long standing as well as newcomers a sense of permanence. That's because culture survives destruction and reconstruction. Consistent with this spirit, world-class architecture is still being built today in Dresden, for example Daniel Libeskind's Military History Museum, the Synagogue designed by Wandel, Höfer, Lorch and Hirsch, and the concert hall built by Markus Hammes and Nils Krause for the Carl Maria von Weber Academy of Music. Innovation and future technology find architectural expression in modern buildings such as the Gläserne Manufaktur.

However, there is more to Dresden than just stone and glass. Its inhabitants love greenery: they enjoy digging the soil and producing their own food. "In the community gardens that we are laying out, we see more and more people inspired by the fact that they have a space that they

can shape themselves," said Julia Mertens of Ufer Projects Dresden at a press conference given by the Zukunftsschutzgebiet Stadtraum initiative. "They are able to realise themselves and cultivate their democratic potential. They become city developers." (see infobox on page 18).

Green is good – it cools down the city on hot days. In strategic papers written about climate change, parks and gardens are described as 'air lanes' which also transform Dresden into a 'sponge city' in heavy rain. Since Dresden first opened up its embankments in the reign of Augustus, the river also provides for a pleasant climate. And in order to prepare for the future, the German Federal Institute for Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR) also recommends that cities adopt a more Mediterranean approach to urban planning: light-coloured surface materials that do not heat up so quickly, arcades that provide shade, refreshing fountains. It all sounds familiar, because it was Augustus the Strong who did the preliminary research. The city has a good reason to celebrate his 350th anniversary this year.

TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY,  
THE BBSR RECOMMENDS  
THAT GERMAN CITIES  
MODEL THEMSELVES ON  
THOSE IN SOUTHERN  
EUROPE. AS DID AUGUSTUS  
THE STRONG.

## EDIBLE PUBLIC URBAN GREEN

One focus of the 'City of the Future' is obviously ecology. Schwibs: "Climate change is also noticeable in cities, and we want to find ways of combating it. All scientific forecasts point to temperatures continuing to rise in the foreseeable future. This is especially noticeable in urban areas. Dresden may be a green city, but there are also many concrete surfaces that heat up and adversely affect the microclimate." Solutions would include more green spaces, alternative traffic concepts and improved accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists. One project involves turning school playgrounds into green spaces. Another team proposes the institution of 'Good Life Week'. This would involve the

residents of Äussere Neustadt completely abandoning their cars for a seven-day period, taking over the vacated streets and repurposing the space, for example erecting goal posts for children to play football and setting out picnic tables and chairs. The 'Edible Public Urban Green' project on the other hand is about transforming the city into its own garden. The search is on for Dresdeners who are interested in growing fruit, vegetables and herbs. The principle would be 'Grown by locals for consumption by locals'. These special gardens would be planted, tended and harvested by Dresdeners. The project combines civic participation, urban greening and local food production into a sustainable grand design.

Where sound and space become one:

# Music at the Frauenkirche Dresden 2020



The Frauenkirche is a church filled with sound. It is a place where spiritual life and musical experience are indivisible. In 2020, the Frauenkirche Dresden Foundation introduces remarkable tones in the selection of works and performers. It presents both internationally acclaimed musicians and promising young artists. 125 concerts and musical events are staging great compositions, creating space for re-discoveries

and new encounters, and celebrating musical anniversaries. Artists from five continents are offering exciting programs, new interpretations, and an impressive music-making art, transforming the marvelous Baroque main church and the contemporary lower church of the Frauenkirche into fascinating sound spaces. We warmly invite you to become part of a wide variety of musical encounters!



**14  
Feb** 8 p.m.  
**Vivica Genaux |  
Concerto Köln**

Fri Arias and orchestral works by  
**Antonio Vivaldi** and  
**Francesco Geminiani**

**18  
Jul** 8 p.m.  
**Mozart PLUS  
Schubert**

Sat Piano **Gabriela Montero**  
**Kammerorchester Basel**  
Conductor **Heinz Holliger**



**07  
Nov** 8 p.m.  
**Israel in Egypt –  
from Slavery to Freedom**

Sat Georg Friedrich Händel /  
The Al Ol Ensemble

Chor Vox Bona  
The Al Ol Ensemble  
l'arte del mondo

Conductor **Yair Dalal** and **Werner Erhardt**



**25  
Apr** 8 p.m.  
**Orchestra of the Komische  
Oper Berlin | Daniel Hope |  
Camille Thomas | Nadja  
Mchantaf | Ainārs Rubiķis**

Sat Works by **Sergej Prokofjew**,  
**Miklós Rózsa** and **Gustav Mahler**



**Frauenkirche Dresden Foundation**  
Georg-Treu-Platz 3 · 01067 Dresden  
[www.frauenkirche-dresden.de](http://www.frauenkirche-dresden.de)

**Ticket service**  
Phone 0351 65606-701  
[ticket@frauenkirche-dresden.de](mailto:ticket@frauenkirche-dresden.de)

**DH**  
DANIEL HOPE  
KONZERTE

## AUGUSTUS THE STRONG

# THE FIRST, THE SECOND, THE BIGGEST, THE MOST

**350 years:** the age Augustus would have attained in 2020. What is the truth about this legendary figure? This question will be answered by a special exhibition at **Schloss Moritzburg** opening in April 2020

**1670–1733/height: 176 cm/weight: 120 kg/number of toes: 9\***

\* one was removed because of diabetes. A life of indulgence has consequences.

## At the age of 17,

Augustus began collecting art. With 52, he ordered an inventory to be made of all his paintings. The indexing took six years and produced **3,592 paintings**, 500 of them in the royal palace of Dresden.

**30** territories were within the bounds of his realm. His full title: **By God's Grace King in Poland, Grand Duke in Lithuania, Masovia, Samogitia, Kyovia and Arch-Marshal of the Holy Roman Empire. But just call him Augustus the Strong.**

## 39 MILLION REICHSTALER

were paid by Augustus to ecclesiastical and secular dignitaries in Eastern Europe. In 1697, he won out against other applicants for the crown in the electoral monarchy of Poland-Lithuania. Historians see a connection here...

## In 2 pieces

His Royal Majesty the King of Poland and Excellency the Prince-Elector of Saxony is said to have snapped a horseshoe in two "with his own noble hands". He liked to be thought of as a Herculean figure and insisted on this feat being documented. The witnesses, however, were his servants.

## In 1697,

Augustus converted to Catholicism because it was a condition of him being crowned King of Poland. A concession with consequences: his wife, Christiane **Eberhardine of Brandenburg-Bayreuth**, remained a Protestant. She never set foot on Polish soil and lived apart from him.

**12** mistresses: The best known of Augustus's extra-marital companions was **Anna Constantia von Cosel**. After becoming a pivotal figure in his court, she often demonstrated the political nous that the Prince-Elector lacked.

**354 CHILDREN:** the number of offspring that Augustus is alleged to have fathered. An exaggerated figure that was first mooted by the sharp-tongued Wilhelmine of Prussia. Nonetheless, the number of illegitimate offspring was at least nine.

**40% vol:** the strength of spirits produced by the **Augustus Rex** distillery. A reminder of Augustus's gourmet reputation. Fine schnapps made from surplus fruit.

**1710** Augustus ventured into the European luxury tableware market. His porcelain manufactory began producing what had previously been imported from Asia at vast expense. The inventors of European porcelain were his subjects Ehrenfried Walther von Tschirnhaus and Johann Friedrich Böttger. The latter had been hired as an alchemist tasked with synthesising gold. In 1713, Johann Hektor von Klettenberg arrived at the court claiming to be an alchemist. Instead of precious metal, however, he fabricated untruths and amassed debts. He was eventually executed in 1720.

**1.8 tonnes:** the weight of the Christmas Stollen Augustus served to his guests at Zeithain. But that was just one minor detail. The 'pleasure camp' in June 1730 was the largest spectacular of its time, serving as a military show and Baroque festival.

**2,500:** the number of staff employed at Augustus's court, more than at the court of the Holy Roman Emperor of that period. The figure included no fewer than 93 goldsmiths.

**9,062.08 metres:** the length of one Kursächsische Postmeile (a mile as defined by the postal service of Saxony). Augustus decreed an up-to-date survey of his territory. Around 200 of the historic postal milestones are still preserved. They show the distances to Leipzig and Dresden.

**5,223 diamonds**

adorn Johann Melchior Dinglinger's cabinet piece The Birthday of the Grand Mogul Aurangzeb. This finely worked ornamental piece, which continues to fascinate visitors to the Green Vault Museum, cost Augustus 58,485 Reichstaler, a sum equivalent to that paid for the construction of Pillnitz Castle. It took Augustus five years to pay off the debt incurred.

**1st aid:** In case of breakages, apply that well-known brand of adhesive, August der Starke. The name says it all!

**21 years:** the duration of the Great Northern War. In 1700, Augustus sent his armies into the field against Sweden. As a result, he temporarily lost his Polish crown. As a commander-in-chief, he was less than successful. He is remembered more as a patron of the arts.

**3** final resting places: First came the ceremonial funeral in Krakow, then an urn burial in Warsaw. At Augustus's request, his heart was returned to Dresden. It is kept in a silver reliquary in the Catholic Cathedral.

**RESIDENZSCHLOSS****A PLACE OF WONDER  
AND CITY LANDMARK**

In the reign of Augustus the Strong, **the Residenzschloss** (Royal Palace) was the seat of power in Saxony. And it was him who first granted access to the public. To some extent, it was a flamboyant show of wealth, but on the other hand, it was a pioneering development in museum curation

**GEWEHRGALERIE** (Firearms Gallery)

On the way to the former royal stables, visitors traverse the Long Gallery. From the outside it is even more spectacular: the Procession of the Princes is the world's largest image in porcelain made up of 25,000 tiles depicting 45 mounted and 48 unmounted figures. The reconstruction work is due to be completed in spring 2020. At this point, 500 magnificent rifles and guns from the Royal Armoury will go on display in the Firearms Gallery.

**PARADEAPPARTEMENTS** (State Apartment)

The model of Versailles is quite apparent. Augustus had a new suite of splendid rooms fitted out in the palace. The intention was primarily to impress. The State Apartment served not only for night-time repose but also for politicking. Since autumn 2019, the reconstructed apartments have been reopened to the public.



Photo: Oliver Killig

## PROGRAM 2020

### THE HUMAN ADVENTURE

Permanent Exhibition

### THE WORLD OF THE SENSES

Children's Museum

### OF PLANTS AND PEOPLE

A Stroll around our green Planet  
until 19 April 2020

### FUTURE FOOD

Food for Tomorrow's World  
21 March 2020 to 21 February 2021

### IN PRISON

Deprived of One's Liberty  
26 September 2020 to 31 May 2021

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4th Saxon  
State Exhibition

25th Apr –  
1th Nov 2020

# Boom.

500 years of  
industrial heritage  
in Saxony

Audi-Bau Zwickau

Curated by Deutsches Hygiene-Museum



### KLEINER UND GROSSER SCHLOSSHOF (Minor and major castle yard)

Seen from a height, the Kleiner Schlosshof stands out by virtue of its plastic canopy designed by Peter Kulka. It is made from ETFE, an ultra-modern material that is more commonly used in the roofing of sports stadiums. The Grosser Schlosshof meanwhile awaits reconstruction. This will inevitably show greater deference to the history of the courtyard, as the bulk of the work will go into restoring the sgraffito façades. This involves carefully scraping off the top layer of plaster to expose the elaborate murals beneath.

### GRÜNES GEWÖLBE (Green Vault)

“One might almost think that one had been transported to a fairy palace,” wrote an enchanted Schopenhauer. The Grünes Gewölbe was where Augustus kept and displayed his treasures. The Historic Green Vault is a synthesis of the arts that is rooted in the Baroque period. It presents no less than 550 square metres of mirror surface and contains treasures of inestimable value. The New Green Vault in the same wing has on display the largest green diamond in the world. Individual items were stolen from the exhibition in a heist during the early hours of 25th November 2019.



For further information about the exhibitions in the Residenzschloss (Royal Palace), visit [skd.museum](http://skd.museum)

# SMART SAXONY



*How liveable will the cities of the future be? Five Dresden-based companies are working on technology solutions for a better tomorrow*

*Text Axel Novak*

## **SUPERPOWER FOR EVERYBODY**

**Superman is a comic book hero who has been an inspiration to children and the young at heart since the 1930s. The man from the planet Krypton can fly, flatten bad guys and, with his X-ray vision, see the inside of objects. Nobody else has such powers. Or do they?**

Researchers at the Dresden-based start-up company Senorics have developed a technology that makes the Superman's powers of vision available to everyone. It works with newly developed organic mini-sensors. They are held in close proximity to an object and use infrared rays to relentlessly identify the optical fingerprint of each component, especially the organic ones. The information obtained is analysed in real time in a database, and the precise composition is then displayed on the screen of a mobile device.

The spectroscopy devices traditionally deployed for such analysis are gigantic and expensive. "What distinguishes our sensors is their very small size, their low-cost production and their analysing capability," says Ronny Timmreck. "This is a first on the market." A native Dresdener, Timmreck is co-founder and managing director of Senorics, which was established in 2017 at TU Dresden. Senorics with its 20-strong workforce has benefited from regional economic development and is now claiming a large slice of the new market for compact everyday-use analysers. Potential customers include food companies, industrial manufacturers and retailers, i.e. anyone who wants to know quickly and reliably the hidden elements in liquids, solids or dust. X-ray vision for everyone!

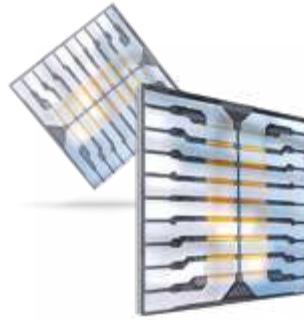
## THE COPERNICAN REVOLUTION

**When the famous astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus published his findings almost half a millennium ago, they triggered a revolution: since 1543, the earth officially revolves around the sun. Today, we are faced with an equally momentous shift in our understanding of the world.**

That certainly applies as far as mobility is concerned. Stefan Jenzowsky and Tim von Törne are intent on bringing about a profound change on a Copernican scale, namely the transition from the active steering of a vehicle to autonomous driving. Just a few years ago, the two of them founded a start-up with a portentous name – Kopernikus Automotive.

“These new technologies will not only completely change our mobility,” says Jenzowsky, “but also the vehicles, their interiors and our concepts of urban transport. Today, we are still slaves to the automobile. In the future, we will regain our freedom and have time for things other than driving cars around.”

Kopernikus Automotive is developing special software for autonomous vehicles on behalf of the Volkswagen Group. Artificial intelligence helps in the safe steering and driving of vehicles. The company, which now has ten employees, is located in Berlin but is part of the Dresden Volkswagen incubator programme for assisting start-ups in the development of mobility concepts for the future. “Dresden is home to one of the most interesting VW factories of our time, namely the Gläserne Manufaktur (Transparent Factory),” says Jenzowsky. “That’s a great stroke of luck, because it allows us to show publicly what would otherwise go on behind closed doors.”



*Dresden is where chips are being developed for the telecoms of the future.*

## AIRY CONCERNS

**Autonomy and freedom of movement are as important to us today as the air we breathe. It has long been possible to go online at (almost) any location, which constitutes an amazing technical achievement. Experts now speak of the Fifth Generation (5G) of the mobile**

**network, which has been designed to make telecommunications even more efficient and faster.**

For this to work, it essentially requires three elements: data, a sender and a receiver, the latter two being equipped with 5G-compatible antennas. The ones developed by Xilinx Dresden go by the brand name ‘massive MIMO antennas’. These are small yet powerful

high-speed computers by means of which mobile data can be transmitted at ten times the current speed. “There is only a small group of companies worldwide that are able to develop such technology, and we in Dresden are one of them,” says Dr Wolfram Drescher, Senior Director at Xilinx Dresden. The company is a subsidiary of the multinational chip manufacturer Xilinx.

One of the reasons for their high performance in terms of technology is the location in the Upper Elbe valley. “Dresden has developed into a hi-tech hub in Europe since the demise of the GDR and even more so in recent years,” says Drescher whose career path started in microelectronics. “In the field of mobile communications, the city leads the way in academic research and business acumen. I could not imagine living and working anywhere else.”

**IN THE FIELD OF MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS, THE CITY LEADS THE WAY IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND BUSINESS ACUMEN.**



*Copernikus Automotive programs software for autonomous vehicles.*

## MAKING RECYCLING PAY

**Manufactured on an industrial scale for just over a century now, plastic has conferred great advantages on human society. Because it is so light and flexible, this artificial material is found all over the world in immense quantities. Scientists have even found plastic particles lodged in the Arctic ice, and away from the well-organised cities of the industrialised West, a worrying phenomenon is encountered in many countries where cities, villages and entire rivers are awash with plastic waste. Biofabrik wants to change all of that.**

The start-up is located in the Dresden suburb of Rossendorf. Oliver Riedel, CEO and founder, describes the site as “surrounded by greenery and ten minutes from one of the most beautiful cities in Europe”. He and his team of engineers have developed a system that turns plastic into fuel. Pyrolysis is the process by which oxygen is removed from a range of different plastics to leave behind a diesel-like liquid.

In order to direct operations at many scattered locations, the system is controlled by app. “In Asia, Africa and Latin America, everything happens today via mobile phones,” says Riedel.

The equipment is transported in a container from place to place, enabling waste to be collected and recovered in even the most remote locations. The business concept is an ingenious one, because local people are paid for every kilo of single-use plastic they bring for recycling. In this way, waste is turned into energy while at the same time boosting the local economy.



*The containers equipped by Biofabrik are designed to help mitigate the global waste problem.*

*The sensors developed by the Dresden start-up Zigpos are bringing order to chaos.*



## ENLIGHTENMENT IN CHAOS

**Creative disorder, chaos or entropy – there are many terms describing the circumstances that cause objects not to be where they are supposed to be. In a world that relies on a steady increase in order and efficiency, these are circumstances that cannot be tolerated – at least in an industrial setting. Precise and constantly updatable localisability is the prerequisite nowadays for mass-produced goods to be manufactured and sold quickly and cheaply. The people at Zigpos think they have the answer.**

The young company from Dresden has developed small electronic components with special capabilities. Zigpos sensors make it possible to precisely locate objects on the inside and the outside of enclosed spaces. ‘Precise’ in this case means accurate to a few centimetres. This is enough to guide robots reliably through large warehouses and to convey components through complex production processes. Zigpos sensors could even be used to locate people after natural disasters or in burning buildings.

“You could say we bring light into the darkness,” says Erik Mademann, founder and CEO of Zigpos. For this, the engineers use a special wireless technology that operates over short distances. “What sets our technology apart is the precision of our localisation. This is very important for industrial companies and logisticians.”

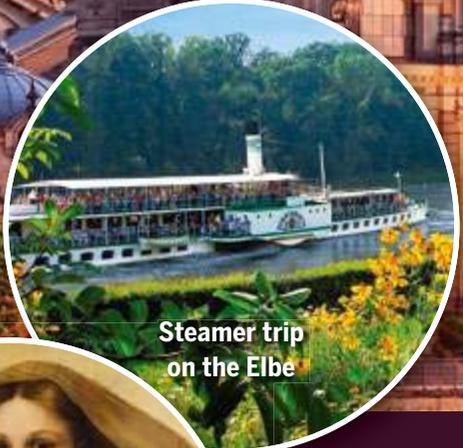
Since 2011, the 20-strong team at Zigpos have been designing and manufacturing at their Dresden base and have made thorough use of the regional business network. “Silicon Saxony is a great opportunity for us to meet customers and to make useful contacts,” adds Mademann.



More information about start-ups in Dresden at [dresden-magazin.com](http://dresden-magazin.com)

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Steamer trip on the Elbe



Night watchman's tour through the old town



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\* A voucher worth €10 per full paying guest valid for all experiences and the entire Dresden Information product range

MY DRESDEN

# Through Dresden with Hans Müller-Steinhagen

Text *Thomas Winkler* — Photo *Amac Garbe*

The Rector of the Technical University began his career as a researcher, travelling all over the world. When he first came to Dresden in 2010, he immediately felt at home. He takes us to some of his favourite places



*Under the stewardship of Hans Müller-Steinhagen (seen here in the Altana Gallery), TU Dresden has made it onto the list of 'Universities of Excellence', of which there are only eleven in Germany.*

Scientists often lead an unsettled life. Hans Müller-Steinhagen has moved no fewer than 19 times in his career. Born 1954 in Karlsruhe and a graduate in Mechanical Engineering, he has had stints as professor in Auckland (New Zealand) and dean in Surrey (England) as well as spending many years in Stuttgart. When he came to Dresden in 2010 to take up the position of Rector of the Technical University, it was “love at first sight... I have never before been made so welcome as I was in Dresden.” He especially appreciates the atmosphere of this city where cultural, social and academic life are interwoven in such a unique way.

### 1 *Altana Gallery at TU Dresden*

This is my favourite place on the TU Dresden campus. The building was originally designed for the needs of the Electrical Engineering faculty. It has since been repurposed with modern facilities for research and student work placements as well as space for art exhibitions. The exhibits have come from our own collections – of which there are more than 40 – as well as from young artists. This interplay of history, technology and contemporary art is incredibly stimulating.

### 2 *Weingut Zimmerling*

There are many attractive and well-run wine estates around Dresden, but Weingut Zimmerling exudes a special charm. Klaus Zimmerling makes a great wine – only recently, I sampled a wonderful Kerner Pinot Gris Cuvée there. You sit outdoors and have this incredible panorama of the Elbe Valley. And as a bonus, you can admire the sculptures by the well-known artist Małgorzata Chodakowska, who also happens to be Klaus Zimmerling’s wife. This threefold combination of art, the view and a good glass of wine is balm for the soul. It makes the Weingut Zimmerling a very special place.

### 3 *Saxon Switzerland*

The Sächsische Schweiz (Saxon Switzerland) has tremendous recreational value for me as an enthusiastic hiker. My

#### 1 **ALTANA GALLERY**

Helmholtzstraße 9,  
01069 Dresden, please give  
advance notice by phone.  
Tel: +49 (0) 351 46340356  
[tu-dresden.de/  
kustodieausstellungen](http://tu-dresden.de/kustodieausstellungen)

#### 2 **WEINGUT ZIMMERLING**

Not only excellent wines, but  
also a magnificent view and  
much-admired art.  
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Bergweg 27, 01326 Dresden  
[weingut-zimmerling.de](http://weingut-zimmerling.de)

#### 3 **SÄCHSISCHE SCHWEIZ**

Uniquely bizarre rock  
formations in the Elbe  
Sandstone Mountains,  
a hikers’ paradise  
[saechsische-schweiz.de](http://saechsische-schweiz.de)

#### 4 **SLUB**

The Saxon State, Land and  
University Library is open to  
all, Mon–Sat 8am–midnight,  
Sun 10am–6pm  
[slub-dresden.de](http://slub-dresden.de)

#### 5 **DIE SÄCHSISCHE DAMPFSCHIFFFAHRT**

The Canaletto and the  
Schlösserfahrt (Elbe  
Palaces) trips offer unique  
views of the city.  
[saechsische-  
dampfschiffahrt.de](http://saechsische-dampfschiffahrt.de)

wife and I go for at least one walking holiday every year. I have also been on several dinghy trips down the Elbe from Bad Schandau to Dresden with my colleague and friend Wieland Huttner who was director of one of the local Max Planck Institutes until 2018. It takes three to four hours to reach Dresden, passing the Bastei rock formations, several extensive vineyards and the famous Elbe palaces. The scenery is incredibly beautiful. Key sections of our application for University of Excellence status were actually conceived in this dinghy.

### 4 *SLUB*

The Sächsische Staats-, Landes- und Universitätsbibliothek (Saxon State and University Library, or SLUB for short) is a repository of books and documents, photo collections and treasures of art such as a Gutenberg Bible and an ancient edition of the Koran which are on public display in a special vault. SLUB is also a place where students can obtain digital access and use various other modern media such as 3D printers. Much of university life goes on in this place which so effectively connects the past with the present and the future. Unfortunately, my duties no longer permit me to actively engage in research or teaching. As the rector of an institution with 40,000 staff and students and an annual budget of more than 600 million euros, my primary role has to be managerial. But when I receive visitors who are not from Dresden, I always take them on a tour of the library.

### 5 *Saxon Steamship Company*

Dresden has the largest fleet of paddle steamers in Germany. A cruise along the Elbe Valley on board one of these ships is an amazing experience. Once a year, TU Dresden and DRESDEN-concept (our scientific network) invite more than 400 academics from Germany and abroad to spend an evening together on the largest steamer in the fleet, the ‘August der Starke’. This international gathering is always an uplifting occasion for me.

# THE SOUND OF DRESDEN

Interviews *Thomas Winkler* — Illustrations *Bente Schipp*

*The Semperoper and Dresden's classical music heritage have shaped the image of the city. But the Dresden sound is more diverse: from the cosmopolitan clash of genres delivered by Banda Internationale to the extravagant electronica of Oxo Oho, from the elegant art pop of Olicia to the gentle songs of singer-songwriter Shelter Boy*

## SHELTER BOY

*What is important to you in your music?*

— That I have enough instruments. And that the message of the song is honest. I find it very important that you liberate yourself from frames and borders when performing or composing music. This goes hand in hand with honesty, because you can only create something that expresses your own identity if you let yourself go a bit.

*Why is Dresden a good place for musicians? What elements are perhaps still missing?*

— Dresden is a great place for classical music and jazz, but for my musical genre, the infrastructure could still benefit from further development. There ought to be more events such as Live Local and more rehearsal studios.

*Which area in Dresden has influenced you the most?*

— The Hechtviertel. It is pleasantly compact and neighbourly. What is gradually being lost in Neustadt is only just beginning to blossom there. However, it remains to be seen how long it will take before it too is gentrified.

*Can Dresden be heard in your music?*

— I mainly listen to English-language music – that's my main source of influence. I also don't think that a city has its own distinctive sound. But that's OK, because you don't always have to identify with the place you come from.

*What are you hoping for in 2020?* — That my first headliner tour in February pulls in a big crowd. That I'm booked to perform at great festivals and that my upcoming releases are just as well received as the previous ones – maybe even better!

IT'S ONLY POSSIBLE TO CREATE  
SOMETHING WORTHWHILE WHEN YOU  
PUT YOUR OWN IDENTITY INTO IT, WHEN  
YOU LET YOURSELF GO — *Shelter Boy*



## BANDA INTERNATIONALE

*What is important to you in your music?* — When we're on stage, it is important that we are all in a good mood and that we are on the same wavelength. Then the music is good too, and everyone has fun. At the same time, though, there is a political element to every performance. The music opens doors for our message, namely tolerance and human kindness, but also for specific causes such as raising funds for the lifeboat service.

*Why is Dresden a good place for musicians? What elements are perhaps still missing?* — Because Dresden is a city that thrives on culture, there is a young and culturally minded audience. Culture enriches society, and Dresden has not yet reached saturation point. But in regard to international, modern, experimental and crossover art, the spectrum could be even wider.

*Which area in Dresden has influenced you the most?* — Neustadt, because it is such a diverse, family-friendly and multicultural district.

*Can Dresden be heard in your music?* — Yes, especially the new Dresden. Not least because, for the past six years, new arrivals in the city who came here as refugees have become an integral part of our band and have made their contribution to our sound.

*What are you hoping for in 2020?* — Greater coexistence in society and a clear rejection of right-wing populism, and that also goes for cultural policy. In 2020, we will once again be focusing our attention on Saxony, especially in a music education context. At the moment, we are preparing yet another application for funding to run workshops in schools and music projects with children and adolescents, whether or not they come from a migrant background.

WE LIKE IT WHEN WE'RE NOT SURE WHAT IS  
GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT AND THE MUSIC  
EMERGES FROM THE MOMENT — *Olicía*



### OLICÍA

*What is important to you in your music?* — We need to be attuned to each other and to have fun together on the stage or in the rehearsal room. We also need a bit of a creative boost so that our music stays fresh and always sounds a bit different from the time before. We like it when we're not sure what is going to happen next and the music emerges from the moment. Then we enjoy the magic of creating a completely new song that even we have never heard before.

*Why is Dresden a good place for musicians? What elements are perhaps still missing?* — Dresden has many great musicians and opportunities to perform in beautiful venues. There is also the opportunity to rehearse in jam sessions and to make valuable contacts. We would like to see more crossover, alternative clubs that don't restrict themselves to playing only jazz, rock or pop.

*Which area in Dresden has influenced you the most?* — The College of Music at Wettiner Platz – that's where we got to know each other. It's where Olicía came

THERE IS A POLITICAL ELEMENT TO EVERY PERFORMANCE.  
THE MUSIC OPENS DOORS FOR OUR MESSAGE, NAMELY  
TOLERANCE AND HUMAN KINDNESS — *Banda Internationale*



into being, and the musical inspiration we derived from our studies flows directly into our compositions. Annas Wohnzimmer in Neustadt is a place to hang out, recharge your batteries and come up with new ideas.

*Can Dresden be heard in your music?*

— Maybe the influence of our college background. We speak the same language to some extent, because we all have the same vocal training. And if you listen really carefully, you might hear the occasional squeal of a tram at Bahnhof Mitte, which is the location of the studio where we recorded our songs. Also, the diversity of Dresden Neustadt and the musical scene here provided inspiration for our defining sound and our lyrics.

*What are you hoping for in 2020?* —

We are releasing our first album in autumn 2020, which is a really major project for us. In addition, we will be performing in some great cities and at major festivals. We'll also continue working on our vision for Olicía – no boundaries, lots of coffee and good food!

Information about upcoming events in Dresden can be found at

[veranstaltungen.dresden.de](http://veranstaltungen.dresden.de)



## OXO OHO

*What is important to you in your music?* — We want to connect with the heart and mind of the audience. And also get them dancing! Obviously, you can't have the same degree of success all the time, but we do our best. Groovy rhythms are just as important to us as catchy lyrics that tell relevant stories – though sometimes they are only relevant for their entertainment value. The way we perform is very important to us. We dress up in outlandish, garish outfits and strut the stage as if it were our private jungle and we were two wild orangutans.

*Why is Dresden a good place for musicians? What elements are perhaps still missing?* — Dresden is a wonderful place, full of culture-loving people. There are great street parties, and it has an exciting live scene in the various clubs. It would be nice to see one or two more opening instead of the umpteenth shisha bar, but there is a lot going on in the scene, and that's the most important thing.

*Which area in Dresden has influenced you the most?*

— The majority of our Dresden concerts have been in and around Neustadt. We find ourselves being drawn back there over and over again. We especially like Kukulida and Schwarzes Schaf.

*Can Dresden be heard in your music?* — Definitely. Many of our friends live here, and they give us massive support. What's more, places that you feel connected to and that give you a sense of home always generate inspiration and creativity, because they release energy from within that you won't discover anywhere else.

*What are you hoping for in 2020?* — We will release our debut album in January 2020, which we're calling 'Im Neanderthal'. We've been working on it for the past eighteen months. We're now looking forward to the concerts which are booked for this year. Club concerts, festivals, street parties – there is a lot coming up and we're full of anticipation.

WE STRUT THE STAGE AS IF IT WERE  
OUR PRIVATE JUNGLE AND WE WERE  
TWO WILD ORANGUTANS — *Oxo Oho*





# Welcome to Saxony!

DRESDEN

LEIPZIG

Lots of flights from these cities to Dresden and Leipzig/Halle every day:  
Basel, Cologne/Bonn, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, London, Munich, Stuttgart, Vienna, Zurich



# 50 YEARS INTERNATIONAL DIXIELAND FESTIVAL DRESDEN

Text *Selly Häußler*



The **International Dixieland Festival Dresden** will be 50 years old in 2020. It is again expected to pull in crowds of more than 400,000 during the one-week period of the festival in May. However, that was not always the case. Indeed, the festival got off to a shaky start in 1971. Three people who have been associated with it for many years tell the story of how this major event grew up over the years

**U**nlike free jazz and modern jazz, Dixieland keeps going round and round in your head,” says Joachim Schlese, Director of the International Dixieland Festival Dresden. “It’s folksy music that seems to suit the character of the city.” The truth of that assertion becomes apparent every year in May, when 400,000 people come along to enjoy jazz performed on open-air stages and in small clubs.

The origin of the festival is a story in itself. When Schlese got together with Erich Knebel and presenter Karlheinz Drechsel to found the festival in 1971, jazz events were rare – and also frowned upon by the cultural functionaries of the GDR. The original plan was to broadcast just one jazz concert from the newly opened Kulturpalast. But Schlese and Knebel got their concept of a festival accepted. Schlese: “One of the questions asked by the cultural authorities in Berlin was: ‘What are you doing there anyway?’ Erich Knebel explained to them that it was a sort of crossover between the choral tradition of the FDJ communist youth movement and Bohemian brass band music. The people in charge then said we could carry on.”

They did indeed carry on and, after a hesitant start, fans began coming in droves from the 1973 season onwards. Some even camped out overnight in front of the ticket office to make sure they were at the head of the queue. Sabine Schlotter attended the festival regularly, especially in the 1980s: “There weren’t that many other opportunities to see international artists. And there weren’t many jazz concerts either. The founders got it up and running against the mainstream. They were enthusiasts who created this through sheer energy and dedication.”

### **THE FESTIVAL GROWS AND GROWS – AND BECOMES CHILD FRIENDLY**

Over the years, more and more events have been added that are now part of the traditional Dixieland Festival programme, for example the grand parade through the city centre which first took place in 1978. In the beginning, only a few hundred people turned up, but it is now regarded



*Sabine Schlotter was born in Dresden and regularly attended the festival, especially in GDR times.*



*Joachim Schlese was one of the founders of the Dixieland Festival in 1971 and is now its director. In the year that his festival turns 50 he himself will be 80.*



*Lutz Binneboese from Berlin has been performing with his band at the Dresden Dixieland Festival since the very beginning. *Mit Triangel und Klapperholz*, a musical event for children, was his idea.*

as the highlight of the festival, with around 100,000 lining the streets.

On the occasion of the tenth festival in 1980, another regular feature was introduced, namely the Riverboat Shuffle when the sound of Dixie rings out over the Elbe. In the same year, the festival broadened its appeal to the youngest fans: Lutz Binneboese, whose Papa Binnes Jazz Band are regular performers at the International Dixieland Festival, staged the very first *Mit Triangel und Klapperholz* where children are encouraged to join in the music.

### **A HIGHLY KNOWLEDGEABLE AUDIENCE APPRECIATES THE FAMILY ATMOSPHERE**

After the Kulturpalast was no longer available, the festival performances were increasingly spread around the city. But one thing never changed. “The continuous thread running through the years is the quality of the music and the jazz expertise of the public,” says Schlotter. Binneboese concurs: “The audience is really knowledgeable and contributes to a pleasant, family atmosphere. Friendships are not only made by those listening and dancing. We first played at the festival in 1973 and have been back 25 or 26 times since. Many friendships have been forged during this time.” Contacts were made during jam sessions, which brought together musicians from different countries. Binneboese remembers: “In the early years, the musicians were all accommodated in the Königstein Hotel. After the concerts, they would sit around at the reception. Then, one after another, they would get their instruments out. The nightly sessions in the hotel went until six o’clock in the morning.”

Today, the International Dixieland Festival is one of the biggest and best jazz festivals in Europe, and its name and reputation are inextricably linked to the city. “For us, it was all about giving the people of Dresden a better understanding of jazz,” says Schlese. 50 years later, the success of that endeavour is plain to see.

[dixielandfestival-dresden.com](http://dixielandfestival-dresden.com)

**Festival dates: 17th - 24th May 2020**

# 3 RECIPES/3 X DRESDEN

Foodstyling *Caroline Franke* — Photos *Meike Bergmann*

It doesn't always have to be the local speciality, Eierschecke. Dresden offers a highly diverse range of gastronomy: from Sprout with its healthy organic fast food and pub-restaurant Lila Sosse with its young-at-heart German menu to Atelier Sanssouci presided over by Michelin star chef Marcel Kube. We have asked each of these **three leading culinary establishments** to share one of their recipes with us.





# BRAISED SHOULDER OF BEEF WITH GRILLED LEEK AND FRIED MUSHROOMS

**MARCEL KUBE — ATELIER SANSSOUCI**

**Ingredients for 4 persons:**

800 g shoulder of beef

**Ingredients for the marinade:**

100 ml soya sauce

1 chilli pepper (sliced)

2 cloves garlic

100 ml mirin

100 ml sake

100 g onions

60 g miso paste

**Ingredients for the sauce:**

300 g onion

100 g celery

100 g carrot

90 g tomato paste

2 l red wine

beef broth

**Ingredients for the mushrooms:**

500 g porcini mushrooms

150 g butter

1 bunch leek

salt and pepper to taste

Mix the soya sauce, mirin, sake, miso paste, chopped onions and crushed garlic in a bowl. Prepare the shoulder of beef and leave to marinade overnight. Remove the joint from the marinade the next day, sear in oil on all sides. Sweat the diced onions, carrots and celery in a roasting pan and add the tomato paste. Continue to heat and then deglaze with red wine. Reduce the liquid content to one third. Now add the seared beef joint and its marinade to the red wine reduction. Pour the beef broth on top and braise at 160°C for about 4 hours. Meanwhile, clean the mushrooms, quarter them, fry in butter and garlic and season with pepper and salt. Clean the leek and separate from the green stem. Cook the white remnant of leek on a baking tray in the oven at 200°C for 10 minutes. Discard any scorched leaves, remove the juicy interior and portion. Remove the roast from the broth and keep warm. Pass the sauce mixture through a sieve and reduce further until the right consistency is reached. Slice the roast and warm in the sauce. Serve with porcini mushrooms and leeks.

THE ADDRESSES  
OF THE RESTAURANTS  
CAN BE FOUND ON  
PAGES 42-43





## RED BEETROOT DUMPLING WRAPS ON ROOT VEGETABLES AND GOAT'S CHEESE

**BORIS KÖGEL — LILA SOSSE**

**Ingredients for the dumpling dough:**

800 g flouly cooking potatoes  
300 g flour  
1 egg

**Ingredients for breadcrumb butter:**

60 g butter  
150 g breadcrumbs  
salt

**Ingredients for beetroot hummus:**

250 g beetroot (peeled and diced)  
100 g chickpeas (cooked)  
coriander, parsley, thyme  
salt, black pepper  
lemon juice  
2 egg yolks

Cook the potatoes, peel and press, then leave to cool and allow the liquid content to evaporate. While the potatoes are cooking, use a blender to turn the beetroot, chickpeas, herbs, spices, lemon juice and egg yolks into a smooth mass for the beetroot hummus. Knead the potato mixture with egg, flour, salt and nutmeg and, if necessary, some milk to form a smooth dough. Sweat breadcrumbs with onions in butter. On a well-floured work surface, roll out the dough about 1 centimetre thick. Spread the breadcrumbs on top and thinly coat with beetroot hummus. Cut the dough into approximately 10x10cm squares and roll them up. Press down firmly on the cut edges. Simmer for 20 minutes in salted water. Best served on a ragout of colourful root vegetables with herbs and goat cream cheese.

# VEGAN POTATO SALAD

**LUISE KÖNITZ – SPROUT**

**Ingredients:** 250 g firm potatoes  
100 g beans  
oil  
salt

**Ingredients for the dressing:**  
20 ml soya milk  
25 ml sunflower oil  
¼ tsp mustard  
a dash of lemon juice  
plenty of fresh dill

Thoroughly wash the potatoes and cut (unpeeled) into bite-sized slices, then oil, salt and grill on a baking tray in the oven until golden brown. Wash the beans, then steam and season with savoury, salt and pepper. Meanwhile, mix soya drink, sunflower oil, spices and herbs in a blender to make a dressing with the consistency of mayonnaise. Add the still warm potatoes and beans to the dressing. This basic recipe is easy to vary. For example, with fruits such as raspberries, the dressing becomes sweet. Instead of or in addition to beans, the salad also tastes good with onions, carrots, cauliflower or any other vegetable.



# Utopia on a plate

Beef or soya? Fast food or slimming diet? Insects or in-vitro meat? **“Future Food”**, an exhibition at the German Hygiene Museum, poses the question of how our eating habits might change in the years to come and, at the same time, looks back into the past

Interview *Selly Häußler*



*Anne Vallayer-Coster painted **Stilleben mit Schinken, Flaschen und Radieschen** (Still life with ham, bottles and radishes) in 1767*

*Will we all be eating insects instead of beef in the foreseeable future?* — Not any time soon, I shouldn't think. Insects are still relatively expensive to source and only available in a few restaurants and supermarkets.

*When might that change?* — It might be the case at some point that large meat companies decide to invest in the production and marketing of unfamiliar foods and thus lower the price. However, insects are not an integral part of the Western diet – the inhibition threshold is high. For vegetarians and vegans, food made from insects would not be acceptable for ethical reasons, because they too are part of the animal kingdom.

*You are busy setting up the Future Food exhibition. So, what do you think is about to come onto the menu in Western societies?*

— That's not so easy to answer, because Western culture is so diverse. It depends on the priorities that each country sets for itself in the future. If climate change continues to be at the forefront of policy making, this will reinforce the move towards a plant-based diet. But if the issues of national identity and economic growth predominate, this will promote a

high-meat diet. Social trends and political objectives as well as individual interests have an impact on people's consumption patterns, regardless of whether they eat fast food, become vegetarians or go on a diet. What we eat depends on many different factors, and that is the fascinating aspect.

*At the moment, more and more people are going vegetarian or even vegan.* — It's true that, in Germany at least, a point has been reached where less and less meat is being consumed. The high demand for organic and fair-trade products is driving supply in the discounters. This shows that many people are in favour of it. But we have seen similar developments in the past. For example, the 'life reform movement' of the 19th century and the student movement of the 1960s, both of which came in for some ridicule from wider society at the time. Today, there is increased social awareness of nutrition and climate change, and of the responsibility we all bear as individuals. So it can be argued that a turning point has been reached. Nevertheless, meat consumption is still relatively high. I hope that the current trend continues, but every movement can trigger a counter-movement. And right now, there

*Excerpt from the video **Raspberry Days** (2008) by Wojtek Doroszuk*



are populist parties in Europe that are pushing the agenda in a different direction.

*Is this trend only observable in prosperous societies?* — It is primarily a phenomenon of wealthy societies. In all cultures where meat has traditionally had an elevated status, higher incomes have led to an increase in meat consumption. This could happen in the future as poorer countries become more prosperous. But it doesn't necessarily have to be this way. The wealthy countries could set an example by demonstrating that a plant-based diet is both practicable and desirable. It would be nice if such a breakthrough could be achieved.



**Dr. Viktoria Krason** studied Art History, Modern German Literature and Philosophy in Münster, Venice and Berlin. She is curator at the German Hygiene Museum in Dresden.

*The exhibition **Future Food. Essen für die Welt von morgen** opens on 21st March 2020 and runs until 21st February 2021.*



*Chicken packaging with information about the entire supply chain (The Future Market)*



*How have you incorporated these ideas into the Future Food exhibition?* — We present different ideas for the food of the future which have been developed by business, science and private initiatives. These show how food can become more sustainable, healthier and fairer. We have grouped them under three headings: Food Production, Food Trade and Food Consumption. And because the global food system is so abstract and multi-faceted, we have used appropriate visual settings: a greenhouse, a logistics centre and a supermarket. Visitors will be given information and get impressions on different levels by means of exhibits from agriculture, technology, science, industry and culture,

interviews with experts, information graphics, interactive stations and also contemporary art.

*Why is art in particular a suitable approach to the subject?* — Art offers the opportunity to reflect on individual aspects of the issue by means of sensory perception,

which is to say in a different way from documentaries or factsheets. One exhibit is a film by the Polish video artist Wojtek Doroszuk. He shows agriculture as an actual utopia, a kind of love affair between man and nature. In doing so, he raises an extremely important question: what kind of relationship with nature do we want? But art is just one of many approaches. At the same time, the exhibition is highly

informative, presenting many facts as well as arguments for and against.

*What happens at the interactive stations?* — At a station, visitors can take problematic products such as chicken, sugar and soy from a conveyor belt and scan them. This provides a range of information about the value chain and conditions under which the item was produced. There are also stations dealing with organic and fair-trade seals of approval, and visitors can try out new food apps.

*Is meat consumption the focus of the exhibition?* — No. It plays a major role, but it's just one issue among many. It is part of the big

central questions of how to produce food more sustainably in the future, how trade can be more equitable and how consumption can be made healthier. To encourage a reduction in meat consumption, for example, other foods are discussed, such as algae products or in-vitro meat.

*So, the exhibition also comes up with solutions?* — That's the point. Various projects will be presented: digitisation and robotics, new methods of organic farming, creative regional fair-trade companies, legislation that could prohibit or increase the price of certain products, and political concepts on a global scale. These are all different approaches, some of which may be mutually contradictory.

*Some of the exhibits are historical. Why is it important to look at the past when we are considering the future of food?*

— There have always been ideas for the future, and when you compare those ideas with the ones of today, when you consider the reasons why they were implemented or failed, you begin to see similarities and differences and to understand what was so original about them. The early vegetarians around the year 1900 were concerned about animal welfare but also intent on becoming a better person. Today, climate change is part of the equation. You can better understand the present by studying the past.

THE EARLY VEGETARIANS  
AROUND THE YEAR  
1900 WERE CONCERNED  
ABOUT ANIMAL WELFARE  
BUT ALSO INTENT  
ON BECOMING A  
BETTER PERSON.



For further information about the exhibition, visit [dresden-magazin.com](http://dresden-magazin.com)

RADEBEUL

RADEBEUL-  
WEST

MEISSNER STR.

RADEBEUL-  
WEINTRAUBE

2



## WINE BARS

1 *Weinzentrale*

Falstraff Verlag were spot on when they chose Jens Pietzonka as their 'Sommelier of the Year'. The wine list is pure temptation. A relaxed atmosphere in which the staff will offer informed yet unobtrusive recommendations.

[weinzentrale.com](http://weinzentrale.com)

Hoyerswerdaer Straße 26

01099 Dresden-Neustadt

2 *R9 Die Weinboutique*

In the city centre near the Frauenkirche, champagne expert Hartmut Richter serves up tasty sparkling wines in an entertaining way.

[r9-dieweinboutique.de](http://r9-dieweinboutique.de)

Rampische Straße 9

01067 Dresden-Altstadt

3 *WeinKulturBar*

Silvio Nitzsche is one of the most accomplished sommeliers in Germany. His wine list is a mini work of art and reads like a book. Compact venue, popular for afterwork get-togethers or wine tasting with cheese. Table reservation recommended.

[weinkulturbar.de](http://weinkulturbar.de)

Wittenberger Straße 86

01277 Dresden-Striesen (East)



## STAR ESTABLISHMENTS

1 *Genussatelier*

Modern furniture in an old sandstone vault. Away from the tourist hotspots, this is the ultimate in youthful, regional cuisine.

[genuss-atelier.net](http://genuss-atelier.net)

Bautzner Straße 149

01099 Dresden-Waldschlösschen

2 *Restaurant Atelier Sanssouci*

A fine villa set in a magnificent park. On the outskirts of Dresden, French cuisine is interpreted individually – at star level.

[atelier-sanssouci.de](http://atelier-sanssouci.de)

Augustusweg 48

01445 Radebeul

3 *Elements DELI & Restaurant*

Where modern chic meets industrial magic. Cosmopolitanism paired with regional flavours. Seasonal, classic and individual.

[restaurant-elements.de](http://restaurant-elements.de)

Königsbrücker Straße 96

01099 Dresden-Neustadt/

Albertstadt

4 *Sternrestaurant Caroussel*

Accompanied by excellent wines, the food is artistically arranged on real Meissen porcelain. The establishment is run by a youthful team who also organise cookery classes. Popular with a young clientele.

[buelow-palais.de](http://buelow-palais.de)

Königstraße 14, 01097 Dresden

## FINE DINING

1 *Schloss Eckberg*

Dresden has many castles and palaces, including Eckberg which has a restaurant dishing up fine international cuisine.

The view of the Elbe comes free of charge.

[schloss-eckberg.de](http://schloss-eckberg.de)

Bautzner Straße 134

01099 Dresden

2 *e-VITRUM*

Mario Pattis was Dresden's first star chef. He serves international cuisine in his restaurant at the VW Transparent Factory.

[vitrum-dresden.de](http://vitrum-dresden.de)

Lennéstraße 1

D-01069 Dresden/Großer Garten

## CREATIVE CUISINE

1 *Neue Sachlichkeit*

French cuisine is the inspiration in this establishment located in the former porter's lodge of Kraftwerk Mitte.

The immaculate interior design is quite captivating.

[rauschgastronomie.de](http://rauschgastronomie.de)

Kraftwerk Mitte 7, 01067 Dresden

2 *Sprout*

Fast, healthy, tasty. Located in Neustadt, the 'alternative quarter' of Dresden, this fast-food restaurant offers vegan and vegetarian food from organic suppliers. Diners decide on the make-up of their own meal.

[sproutfood.de](http://sproutfood.de)

Rothenburger Straße 12

01099 Dresden-Neustadt

## STALWART CLASSICS

1 *Watzkes Wurstküche*

Homemade sausages in many variations and home-brewed beer. Just good, hearty food.

[watzkes-wurstkueche.de](http://watzkes-wurstkueche.de)

Dr.-Külz-Ring 11

01067 Dresden-Altstadt

2 *Lila Sofé*

Located in Kunsthofpassage (Neustadt), this fashionable restaurant never ceases to surprise guests with its acclaimed "young German cuisine" delivered to the table in glass jars. The decor puts a modern spin on rusticity.

[lilasosse.de](http://lilasosse.de)

Alaunstraße 70

01099 Dresden-Neustadt

## CAFÉS

1 *Kuchen Atelier*

Sweets make people happy. Perfect craftsmanship, too. So the confectioners here confidently describe their establishment as a 'Glücksmanufaktur – a 'manufactory of happiness'.

[kuchenatelier.com](http://kuchenatelier.com)

Ringstraße 1

01067 Dresden-Altstadt

2 *Émoi*

Almond croissants, chocolates, pain au chocolat and lots of cake. Once you've tried it, you'll be back for more.

[cafe-emoi.com](http://cafe-emoi.com)

Kamenzer Straße 40

01099 Dresden-Neustadt



# Dresden in motion

The dancer and the freerunner, the cyclist and the rower: none of them are comfortable standing still – just like the city in which they live. Exemplifying Dresden in constant motion, they are out and about on the roads and streets, on the Elbe and sometimes, for the briefest of moments, up in the air. Four Dresdeners tell us about their individual passion

Interviews *Thomas Winkler* — Photos *Frauke Thielking*



YOU GO OUT, START RUNNING AND IMMEDIATELY GET THIS INCREDIBLE SENSE OF FREEDOM.



— **I first discovered parkour on YouTube.** To move freely through urban space, to surmount obstacles without assistive equipment – I imitated what I saw without even knowing the name for the sport. The fascination has not diminished. You don't need anything apart from a pair of trainers. You go out, start running and immediately get this incredible sense of freedom. The odd graze or bruise is to be expected, but serious injuries are rare, though I did once break a metatarsal in my foot. Since I started, I've done parkour in London, Rome, Prague – you can find like-minded people everywhere. Dresden is a good city for parkour, especially the newer building sites which tend to have more regular edges and smoother surfaces. / *Leonard Fischer, student, born 2000 in Dresden*

— **We call ourselves the Fledermausachter** – the Bat Eight – because we all work long hours and can only practise late, sometimes after sunset. Our boat with its black livery and golden outriggers is a real eye catcher when we're training between the Blue Wonder bridge and Pillnitz. I come from a rowing family – my parents first met in a boathouse! I was a multiple amateur champion in the GDR, and my son Karl is a two-time Olympic champion. So in the third generation of the family, we finally made it to the big time. I love rowing, because when the going gets tough, the team members have to get stuck in. That's a worthwhile attribute in life. / *Achim Schulze, Technical Director, born 1965 in Dresden*





I LOVE ROWING, BECAUSE WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TEAM MEMBERS HAVE TO GET STUCK IN.



WHEN DANCING, I AM ABLE TO UTTER THE UNUTTERABLE.

WHENEVER THIS WORKS OUT, IT IS THE GREATEST HAPPINESS.

— **When dancing,** I am able to externalise my inner feelings, to express myself without the use of words and thereby utter the unutterable. Whenever I do it well, it is the greatest happiness I know. I have been dancing since I first went to the Palucca School in Dresden at the age of ten. Dresden is a city of dance – the legendary Mary Wigman taught here, and Gret Palucca was her student. Dresden has the ballet ensemble of the Semperoper, of course, but there is also an extensive free dance scene. The Festspielhaus at Hellerau offers a wonderful performance venue for all these creators of dance. Everyone finds their own audience here.

*/ Katja Erfurth, dancer and choreographer,  
born 1971 in Dresden*



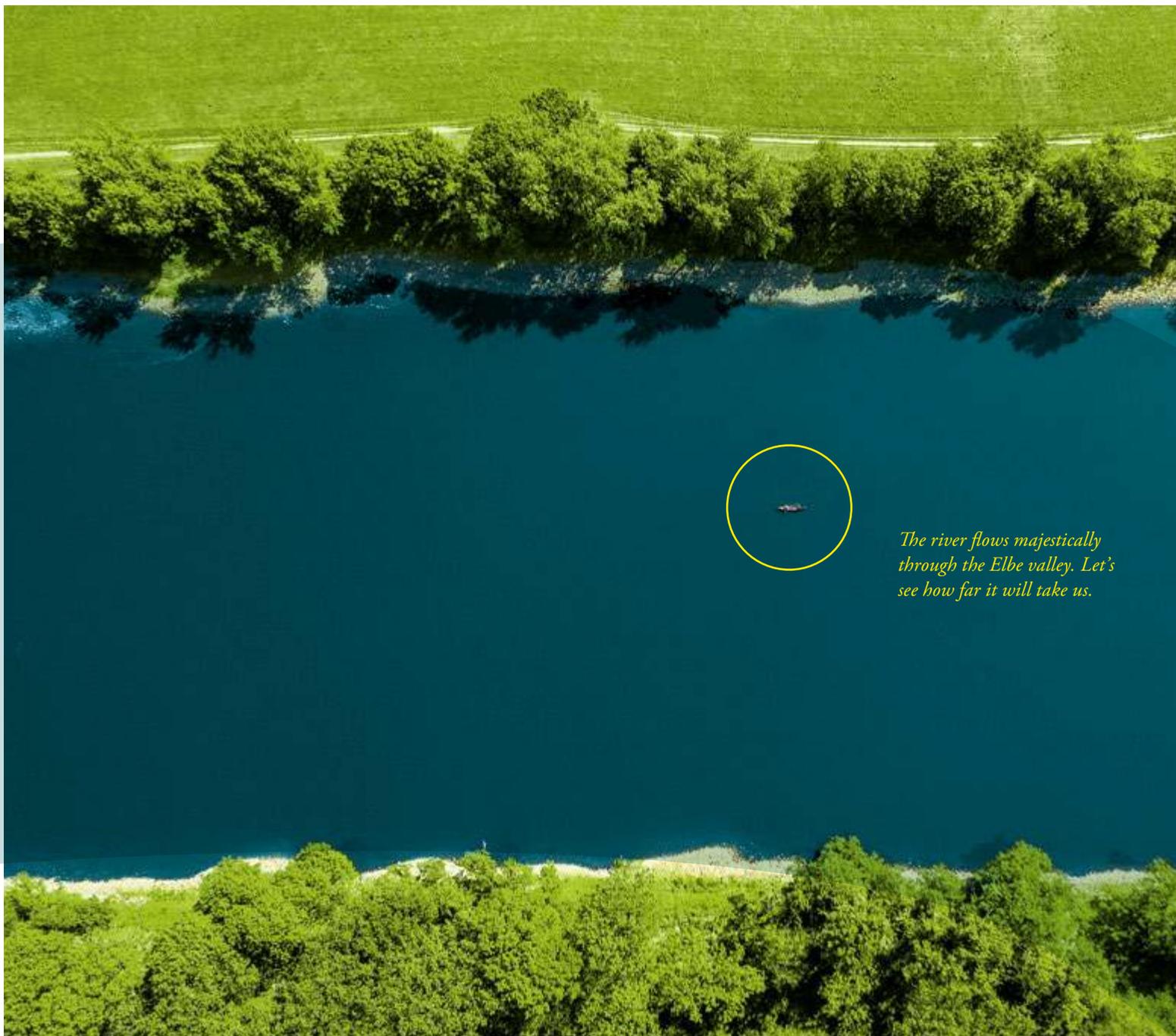


THE ELBLAND REGION WITH ITS MOUNTAINS IS IDEAL FOR CYCLING.

A high-angle, top-down photograph of a group of about ten cyclists riding on a narrow, paved path that runs diagonally across a wide cobblestone street. The cyclists are in various stages of their pedaling cycle, leaning forward. They are wearing different colored jerseys and helmets. The cobblestones are light-colored and arranged in a regular pattern. A circular manhole cover is visible on the cobblestone surface to the right of the path. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

— **The Schleudergang** (spin cycle) started in Nuremberg. The name was essentially a play on words, because the cyclists used to meet up in front of a laundromat. For seven years now, Dresden has had its own 'spin cycle'. The idea is to bring people together: cycling is a social sport because you can occasionally ease off on the pedals and chat to your fellow riders. Here in Dresden, we meet twice a week. Tuesday's three-hour session is relatively relaxed, but on Thursday, we go hell for leather. We go exploring all directions: south to Freital, east into Saxon Switzerland, west into the Meissen hills and north where it is much flatter. The Elbland region with its mountains is ideal for cycling, because there is nothing more boring than proceeding in a straight line. When you ride through the scenery we have around here, it's almost like you're floating. / *Stephan Böhlig, photographer, born 1983 in Dresden*

WHEN YOU RIDE THROUGH THE SCENERY WE HAVE AROUND HERE, IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU'RE FLOATING.



*The river flows majestically through the Elbe valley. Let's see how far it will take us.*

# ONLY HERONS FOR COMPANY

**Text** *Thomas Winkler* — **Photos** *Mike Hillebrand*

Down the Elbe in a canoe: Seen from the river, Dresden and the Elbland are at their most attractive

**T**he heron takes off in flight. A few mighty flaps of his wings and he is in the air. Using his full wingspan, he soars above the river which flows unimpressed below. Horses and sheep graze on the embankment, a family of ducks waddles into the water, a lonely stork glances dolefully at the passing canoe, and the summer sun beats down from the sky. A gentle breeze ruffles the surface of the water, soon to be sliced through by the boat, and the scent of freshly mown hay drifts across from the fields. The perfection of the moment.

A moment in which you even manage to forget the ache in your shoulders that pains the untrained oarsman navigating the Upper Elbe. Because although the motion of a canoe might appear weightless to an observer, every metre has to be wrested from the Elbe – it will not be the current alone that carries us from Dresden to Meissen and beyond.

Our tour starts one summer morning at the Kanu Dresden depot in Wostra to the south of the city, with just a hint of the heat that will intensify over the coming hours. The canoe rental company offers guided tours for school parties and other groups, but we have gone for the simplest option: we are departing from Wostra and paddling northwards through Dresden to the other side of Meissen, where we will then be met and driven back the following day. We haven't specified a precise pick-up point, as we want to see how far we can get.

We skip through the preliminaries with the Kanu Dresden proprietor, as my friend is an experienced canoeist. He will sit astern where he can not only steer but also keep an eye on me, the novice. Hats pulled firmly down and factor 50 sunblock on our arms, we plunge our paddles into the water and set off.

The first of many spectacular sights is not long in coming. On the hillside to our right is Pillnitz Castle. But we decide against breaking our journey at such an early stage, and in any case, our



*The author (seen here on the left) about to embark on a river journey. His companion, an expert canoeist, would have even more cause for mirth later on.*

arms still have full reserves of energy. Otherwise, it would be an ideal port of call with its various museums, magnificent gardens and choice of restaurants. Instead, we cautiously manoeuvre to the bottom of the steps leading up to the castle. This is where, 300 years ago, the Saxon prince-electors built a marina for elaborately decorated gondolas, one of which is still exhibited in the castle grounds. The low level of the water in mid-summer has revealed something that is usually well hidden below the surface – a mossy green 'hunger stone' dating back to 1873. The year was carved in the rock, because the Elbe was running exceptionally low, restricting river traffic and reducing the fish catch. The grain in the fields and the fruit on the trees also withered and people starved.

Since then, the Elbe has frequently fallen to low levels, river traffic regularly encounters problems, and we will find even more hunger stones. They are just as much part of the history of the Elbland region, which lived for centuries from and with the river and its whims, as are the colossal television tower erected in 1969 and the Blaues Wunder (Blue Wonder) bridge, an engineering tour de force that remains as elegant as it was in 1893, the year in which it was built.

*The first highlight of our canoe tour: Pillnitz Castle.*



Constituting an integral part of the Blue Wonder experience are the three beer gardens at the foot of the bridge, overlooked by vineyards. The history of the Schillergarten dates back to the first half of the 18th century. I wouldn't mind emulating German national poet Friedrich Schiller (after whom the restaurant is named) and stopping off here for refreshments. But we've so far covered a distance of only seven kilometres, and there are 33 more to go before we reach Meissen.

So our journey continues on the Elbe which calmly flows through an ancient landscape graced by many fine castles and palaces. Three of the most stately now appear, as if extending a welcome to Baroque Dresden: the world-famous trio of Eckberg, Lingner and Albrechtsberg.

A more recent feature spanning the river is the Waldschlösschenbrücke. The Elbe flows under this bridge and on to the next, the Albrechtsbrücke, signifying our arrival at the Old Town. We glide in suitably respectful style past the world-famous skyline, our stroke being much more coordinated than when we first set out. Or maybe because my friend in the rear is now deftly compensating for my inadequate technique.

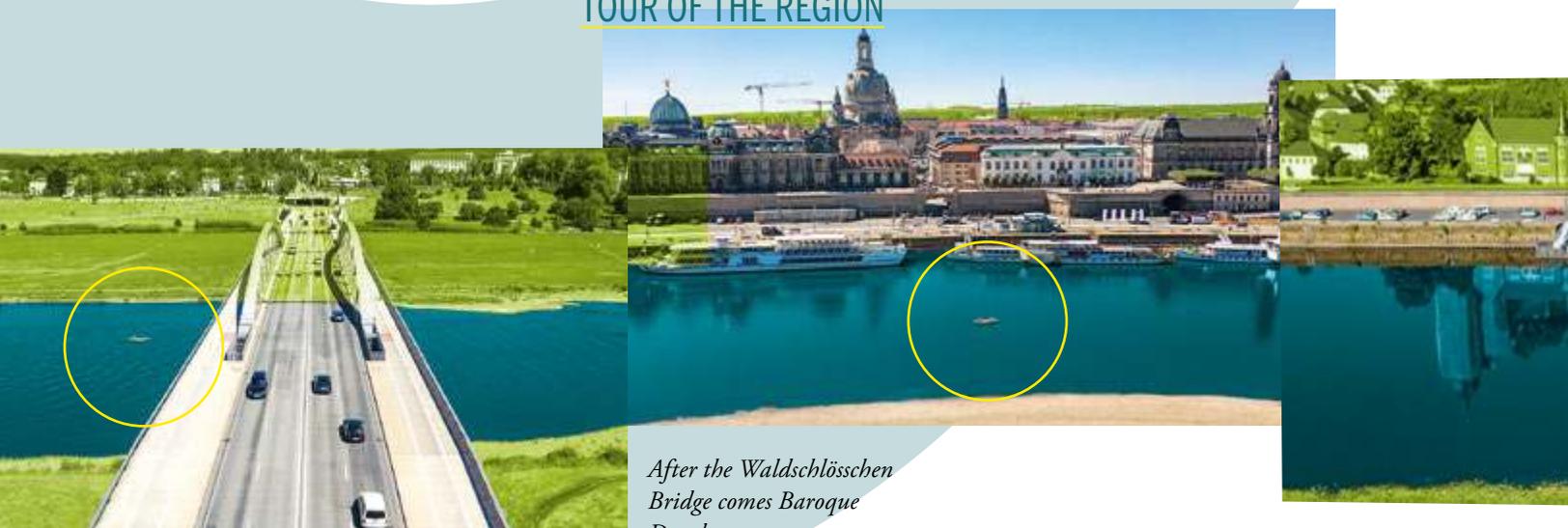
We admire Brühl's Terrace which fronts directly onto the river, with Frauenkirche and Art Academy, Residenzschloss (Royal Palace), Hofkirche and Semperoper some way further back. From the water, the city looks even more impressive. One might think that Augustus the Strong had planned the reconstruction of his city at that time entirely for our benefit. The prince-electoral can still be encountered in the form of a paddle steamer. August der Starke and his famous mistress, Gräfin Cosel, together with the other boats of the Saxon Steamship Company, are especially active on this stretch of water where there is so much for tourists to explore and discover. We were told during the briefing that canoeists must be extra careful when manoeuvring close to commercial vessels, which always have priority because the waves they generate can cause difficulties for small craft. But on

this particularly hot day, there is hardly any traffic on the Elbe. As a mark of deference, we lift our paddles out of the water and let ourselves drift in the current, which saves on arm power and allows us to enjoy the picture postcard view for longer.

We now see the Yenidze, the former cigarette factory built to resemble a mosque, which signifies that we have left the bustling centre of Dresden behind us. The river now flows past industrial buildings which eventually peter out. We pass by the mouth of the Weisseritz which joins the great Elbe at such a gentle pace that our canoe does not even wobble. It seems unimaginable that this tributary overflowed its concrete banks in 2002 and flooded Dresden's main railway station. We are now almost alone on the river, with only birds for company. A captivating tranquillity hangs over the meadow landscape.

If the peace and quiet gets too much, we have the option of stopping off at the historic town of Alt-Kötzschenbroda or at the Lügenmuseum (Museum of Untruths) curated by artist Reinhard

## DA RIVER JOURNEY THROUGH DRESDEN AND INTO THE ELBLAND PROVIDES A HISTORY TOUR OF THE REGION



*After the Waldschlösschen Bridge comes Baroque Dresden.*

Zabka. But we proceed on our way, silently paddling in ever more synchronised rhythm along the Elbe. The river now carries us past some of the most notable wine estates in Saxony. Staatsweingut Schloss Wackerbarth is situated relatively high on a hillside amidst carefully cultivated steep slopes. Shortly before Meissen, the geology changes noticeably, with the grey sandstone, so characteristic of Saxon Switzerland, giving way to the rust-red rocks of the Spaaergebirge, the smallest of Saxony's ranges of hills. From time to time, the water swirls ahead us, indicating a small gust of headwind obliging us to paddle a little harder.

We have now covered a distance of nearly 40 kilometres. The arms of this keyboard worker are beginning to tire, but the skipper in the stern laughs merrily – he is happy to paddle on. As far as I'm concerned, though, it's high time that we sought out accommodation for the night. There are riverside hostels as well as special boarding houses for canoeists, and also guest rooms made available by canoe and rowing clubs. Various wine estates (including Schuh and Vincenz Richter) along the Elbe have their own wine shops and restaur-

*Arrival at Meissen and the Albrechtsburg marks the end of the first day.*



## A NEW BREATHTAKING VIEW COMES INTO SIGHT AROUND EVERY BEND

rants where river users can tie up and spend a few happy hours. Alternatively, you can treat those sore muscles to a very comfortable bed at the Dorint Parkhotel. So we haul the boat up through the high grass on the embankment and, because we are not enthusiastic about carrying it all the way to the underground car park of the hotel, we chain it to a road sign, putting our trust in the locals and the combination lock supplied by the canoe rental company.

The next morning, fortified by an excellent breakfast in the hotel dining room with its fine view of the Albrechtsburg castle, our journey continues. The muscular stiffness I was fearing has failed to materialise and the paddling goes well. The air is still, and the scenery as we approach Meissen seems even lovelier. But maybe that's because every stroke on this final stretch of our journey is feeling like far less of a physical effort. The Elbe meanders, and a new breathtaking view comes into sight around every bend. We repeatedly encounter herons standing in the shallow water, contemplating us and our canoe with interest. We see cormorants and lapwings, and is that bird of prey possibly a marsh harrier?

Diesbar-Seusslitz is just up the road, and we're in Lehmanns Weinstuben next to the river. Having tied up our canoe and called the pick-up service, we are now sipping a glass of gleaming Müller-Thurgau. A perfect end to a journey with many perfect moments.

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# KEEN YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Hands-on physics: The Smart Materials research workshop at Dresden Technical Collections is like a magician's bottomless suitcase

Text *Ariane Breyer* — Photos *Sandra Neubaus*



Further suggestions for parents with young children in Dresden can be found at

[dresden-magazin.com](http://dresden-magazin.com)

If you think that soldering piezoelectric components is a boring activity suitable only for nerdy adults, then you most likely haven't attended the Smart Materials research workshop organised by Technische Sammlungen Dresden (TSD). Because you would then realise that it is a very useful skill if you want to construct a noisy monster or an illuminated fish.

The workshop has been designed to appeal to children. It's all about experimenting and constructing. And above all, it is a hands-on environment: the slippery, invisible balls in the water bowl, which shrink when exposed to the air; the hydrophobic sand which instantly reverts to its dry form when removed from the water; the wire that magically contracts into a spiral and is capable of lifting a weight.

But are these experiments nothing more than tricks a conjuror might pull out of his suitcase? Not at all. The materials that children can discover here are new inventions by university scientists and private laboratories that offer scope for many different applications: they can be used to build super safe bikes, perfectly fitting dental braces and medically approved pillows for babies. They are 'smart materials', i.e. they change their properties depending on the external conditions.

What looks like a set of magic tricks to the layman has been developed in laboratories here in Dresden where there are many companies researching smart materials. They are constantly supplying the Technical Collections with new ideas for their research workshop. The purpose of the educational programme organised by the museum is to raise public awareness of these ingenious building materials and to stimulate interest in the underlying physics.

It is a sound approach. For example, the technical term 'shape-memory alloy' is easily forgotten, but the 'Paper Beast' with its miraculous moustache that straightens up spontaneously can be taken away and shown off to family and friends like a magic trick. Except that it's actually physics.

**Emilia (10)** is working with an amalgam of wood glue, water, detergent and food colouring that has amazing properties. It can be torn like paper or poured like a liquid.



**Lasse (9)** is soldering an LED for use as a component in the illuminated fish.



**Edgar (5)** is constructing a walrus with a wire moustache. When this is warmed with a hair dryer, it changes its form.



**Ruth (12)** demonstrates a small fish that lights up when shaken, an effect created by its piezoelectric components.





## Please stay as pleasing as you are

Text Peter Ufer — Illustration Karo Rigaud

A veil of mist billows dizzyingly upstream – a frequent sight in the morning, when foggy dew descends on the Elbe valley. Unperturbed, the rocky outcrops on the hillsides above dream of times past, while the people below speculate on what is to come: they fence in their properties with an eye to the future. Cherubs and fauns adorn the vine- and ivy-clad villas which go by such fanciful names as ‘Abendstern’ and ‘Alpenrose’, ‘Frohsinn’ and ‘Friedenseckchen’. Elbowing their way in between sites of nostalgia are new glass tower blocks with a view but without a name. The destruction caused by the air raid of February 1945 and the 70 years spent on reconstruction are not forgotten. Time is a great thief of beauty, but not here, thank you very much. Please stay as pleasing as you are.

Paddle steamers scoop the waters of the river aside, cruising past the historic city centre with its skyline of Frauenkirche and baroque leftovers of Augustus the Strong, the prince-electoral who wanted to turn his royal residence into the dream capital of a future empire. The precious collections of the Wettin line are stored and displayed in the Zwinger and in the Residenzschloss, Saxony’s answer to the Louvre. They rank alongside the world’s best repositories of art. After all, the Old Masters Picture Gallery is home to Raphael’s Sistine Madonna with its wistful angels, a work on a grander scale than da Vinci’s Mona Lisa which can only be admired in fleeting glimpses through hordes of camera-toting tourists. ‘Florence on the Elbe’ has the lot, from Canaletto to Dresden-born Gerhard Richter, that most expensive of contemporary German artists. The locals are

proud of their association with the visual arts, and perhaps even more so of their devotion to theatre and music: the Semperoper, music festivals (including Jazztage and the Dixieland), world-famous singers, the Staatskapelle and Philharmonie orchestras, the most authors per bookstore in Germany as well as the highest number of piano tuners per household. The clocks keep chiming, but here with a resonant soundboard. Please stay as pleasing as you are.

Thousands of students from every continent throng the campus of the excellent Technical University in the south of the city overlooking the Elbe valley. Scientific innovation is part of Dresden’s DNA. Pioneering (and profitable) research has always gone on here, from the birth of European porcelain to the invention of the 35mm camera, from the original idea behind the television tube to solar film, and from treatment of Parkinson’s to a cure for leukaemia. Digital networking grows stronger with time. Long may it continue.

The left and right banks of the river are home to the Saxons with their unutterably fine dialect. Big-hearted people tucking in to fresh rolls and Eierschecke, Stollen at Christmas, and cheering on their local football club, Dynamo Dresden. The proclamation on the team bus, in gold letters on black, is “The Legends from Florence on Elbe”. That sounds to me like First Division talk, and I’m sure they’ll make it one day. The Dresdeners meanwhile babble on about the godless and the world. From time to time they swim against the tide. And, of course, that won’t be changing any time soon.

### BOOK

#### “Dresden für Liebhaber: 99 Orte. überraschend. anders.”

Peter Ufer, Saxo-Phon-Verlag,  
208 pages, €12.90

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Peter Ufer is Dresden born and bred. He writes about the history, mentality, culture and the language of the Saxons. In addition to Dresden für Liebhaber (Dresden for Lovers) he has written Rund um Dresden für Liebhaber: 99 Orte. überraschend. anders (Around Dresden for Lovers: 99 Places, Surprisingly Different) and Deutschland, Deine Sachsen – eine respektlose Liebeserklärung (Germany, Your Saxons: A Disrespectful Declaration of Love).

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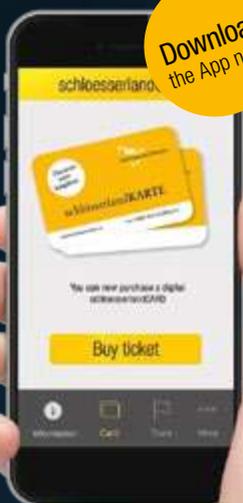
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