

Lohmühle e.V.

Gesamtkunstwerk Wagendorf Lohmühle e.V.
Görlitzer Park, Berlin, 1990-
Wagendorf
Lohmühlenstraße 17
12435 Berlin Treptower
Phone 0177 – 2 888 230

Community based on cultural activity and organic living in an open and inviting interaction with others.

They do not express being in opposition to society. It is more just a conscious choice about how to live, as they prefer!

History

About 20-22 people live together in a trialepark in the former no-mans-land just between the two walls making up the border between East and West Berlin. Started by Martin and another person in 1990 just after the wall fell.

About 150 people have lived there over its 13 years existence. It was at times vacated by outcasts and "weirdoes" but now the criteria for being accepted to live there is stricter. You have to have some craftsman skills, have motivation to participate in the cultural activities as well as be "stress resistance". The motivations for being a member of the community are e.g. "sit down and watch the whole world come by", no rent and obviously the cultural and organic activities.

Far most of the members have work outside the Gesamtkunstwerk, e.g. runs café at the University, design shoes and is a member of a theatre troop, animal healer, nurses elderly, studies acrobatics or run roller skate workshops (Martin).

There has been many discussions about the name and thereby the identity of the community. But they have now decided, strongly by Martins wish, to be "Gesamtkunstwerk".

Martin's personal motivation for starting the community was the East-West dichotomy in his own family; his father was Polish and his mother West German and they divorced. So that "polarisation" made him decides to stay just between the two!

Organization

They live there illegally and have numerous negotiations with authorities. They had many discussions with neighbours that felt they were strange but seems to have been accepted now. Different public organs have owned the ground.

In order to be "addressed" in negotiations with local authorities Gesamtkunstwerk had to become a "juridical person" in the form of an e.V.

Each Monday they have a meeting where they discuss projects, activities and problems. If necessary they vote where 3/4 needs to be for a given change or decision. Sometimes Martin decides matters himself due to experience or it being a minor decision.

They do not have a common economy but often helps each other. They have a "Platzkasse" for common earnings that goes to common expenses or loans.

Activities

In the summer half year they run a cinema. Their earnings from the entrance goes to a shelter for homeless and from beverage sales to the "platzkasse", their common economy.

They work on a book and an internet project, have DJ arrangements and techno parties, run workshops about organic living (Effektive Mikroorganismen), run a café (café zur Gemütlichkeit), organize flea market and curate art exhibitions.

Each year they hold a summer party for up to 1.000 people.

They have 2 guest trailers.

Martin has both done sculptures, paintings, installations and architecture. He has also worked in the field of making architecture and installatory interior designs in order to create social interaction and event. He is very extrovert and inviting and often collaborates. His vision is to build wider and higher and then fill these spaces with new initiatives. He is the only one that has built a permanent "house" instead of the trailer! When he wants to experience something alternative he goes to the opera or movies; "To pay for the ticket and be left alone and just enjoy".

Practicalities

They do not have their own water supply. They need to go to neighbours and gasoline stations to get it. A pipeline would cost € 10.000! They get electricity by generators and heat from wood run ovens.

Hamburger Bahnhof Exhibition

Martin very early expressed interest in exhibiting in the exhibition. He recommended us to visit Fusion.

Resume from visit Sunday in November 2003



Before the Berlin Wall came down



After the Berlin Wall was down - Lohmühle in the early days



Kanzler Amt, public café



Theater play at Kanzler Amt

Gesamtkunstwerk Wagendorf Lohmühle

Programm Januar 04:

So.	4.1.	ab 15:00	Lagerfeuer + Glühwein
Di.	6.1.	ab 17:00	X-mas tree burn out
Do.	8.1.	ab 18:30	Spielaabend
Sa.	10.1.	um 16:30	KakaoKino „Die Vorstadtkrokodile“
So.	11.1.	ab 15:00	Café: LA FABRICA
Do.	15.1.	ab 18:30	Spielaabend
So.	18.1.	ab 15:00	Café: Passione Italiana
Do.	22.1.	ab 18:30	Spielaabend
Fr.	23.1.	ab 18:00	Vokú
		um 20:00	Theater der KvU: „Meine Wohnung sucht einen Mieter“ KiezKrimKornödie
Sa.	30.1.	ab 14:00	Emporium – EM-Erfahrungsaustausch
		um 17:00	„Life in the soil“ Film über das Bodenleben
		um 18:00	„EM-Technologie in Thailand“
So.	25.1.	ab 15:00	Dubcafé
Do.	29.1.	ab 18:30	Spielaabend

Ort: Wagendorf, Lohmühlenstr.17 -> Am Görlitzer Park
 12435 Berlin Treptow U-Bahn: Görlitzer Bahnhof
 Tel.: 0177 - 2 888 230 S-Bahn: Treptower Park

www.lohmuehle-berlin.de



Program for Kanzler Amt



La Fabrica, Martins home and the gallery of Lohmühle