

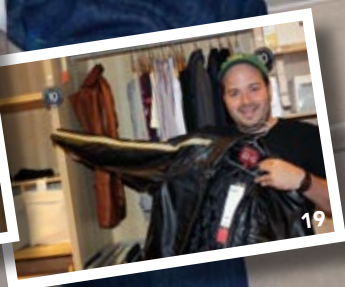
# SCHAUPLATZ INTERNATIONAL THE COSMOPOLITAN HOMESTORY

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# DEAR READER

**many thanks!** Many thanks for making our booklet “Schauplatz International - The Homestory” such a go. It is simply overwhelming. Many thanks also in the name of Schauplatz International. Thank you. Together with the group we were happy and together we decided to add a second chapter to the **success story**: “Schauplatz International - The Cosmopolitan Homestory”. Many thanks.

## Schauplatz International lives in Berlin.

Art lovers know it: Schauplatz International lives in Berlin. The European creativity metropolis, the capital of the **positively mad** has long become a second homeland for Anna-Lisa Ellend, Albert Liebl and Lars Studer. Their roots grew deeply into the ground which is a source of inspiration and sanctuary at the same time. Berlin, this landscape of good ideas, this fresh wind of creativity: They don't want to pass on it anymore. Only Martin Bieri, the youngest member of the quartet

is still living an Easy-jet-commuter-life. He is a child of globalisation, after all.

**“Es isch so schön i fremde Lande / Härz mis Härz, was fehlt dir meh?”** - “It is so beautiful in foreign lands / Heart my heart, what else do you need?” an old Swiss traditional song goes. And Schauplatz International calmly respond: “Nothing, we need nothing else.” They are grateful for this. The members of Schauplatz International know that not everyone can be successful, dear reader. (And that not everybody can inherit things, we don't want to hide this.) Especially in Berlin. This is why humbleness is so important to Schauplatz International. **Humbleness and gratefulness.**

We are very grateful to you, dear reader. We want to reciprocate and offer: a second glimpse into our private life. “Schauplatz International - The Cosmopolitan Homestory”. **Make yourself at home!**



Before Lars Studer receives his personal trainer for his **weekly coaching** he needs to prepare himself on his couch.

# „THAT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD!”



Her granola breakfast with fresh fruit from the market is still her steady **morning ritual**. “Then I plunge into work!” says the somehow a bit sleepy Anna-Lisa Ellend.



Albert insists preparing breakfast for his daughter every morning. “That's not the end of the world!” says the **emancipated** Berlin artist.



Anna-Lisa who chose Berlin to be her favourite city keeps **most perfect** order at her desk as well as in the pantry. She inherited this character from her mother, she says dreamily.



**„MY BODY IS MY CAPITAL“**



Albert describes himself as a **wimp**. So he needs not cold, not hot, but warm showers morning, noon and night.

„I work a lot for my **appeal** because my body is my capital,“ says the versatile performing artist Lars Studer.



Every day life in Berlin. Everything is alive. I don't know any other place with comparable **freedom**, for 21 years now. I came to Berlin in 1987 when I was young.



„I used to be a real coffee drinker. Since our Big-In-Japan tour, however, I am taken with the **contemplative peace** of the tee ceremony,“ says Albert Liebl.



Unfortunately the passionate **black and white** photographer Albert Liebl doesn't find enough time for his hobby, although Berlin is a city full of great images for photographers, he says.

**„EVERYDAY LIFE IN BERLIN. EVERYTHING IS ALIVE“**

**They wouldn't miss this.** The group in the kitchen of the rehearsal room toasting to a new project. Martin Bieri (not in the picture) is already one step ahead of everybody and has left for research in a secret private archive in Berlin.



What connects the members of Schauplatz International the most is their love for good food. Most of their ideas came up like this, whilst preparing new recipes. At the moment, Schauplatz International is working at a concept for a completely new cooking show. With a cross-cultural, discursive, documentary and of course radically post-modern cooking spoon. They won't tell you more now, except this one thing: For them, cooking is **sensual creativity** of which everybody will eventually benefit.



The group has organised itself in a way that everybody does what he knows best. "This **lack of hierarchy** is not to be understood as a political statement, it just happened that way," they say in a relaxed way.



„In the creative business you have to be always and everywhere and above all **modern**“. This is why Lars Studer doesn't think twice when it comes to help design the great path of Schauplatz International using only the best and most beautiful accessories. He generously advises Martin Bieri (not in the picture) who has no understanding of technology.

**„WHAT CONNECTS US IS OUR LOVE FOR GOOD FOOD“**



This appearance is not deceptive. Albert Liebl loves to take **loving care of decorating** the table.



Albert Liebl: „**Being the boss is ok**, but I don't like the executive chair thing...“ In the shelf lie the collected articles Martin Bieri wrote in the name of Schauplatz International for the Slovakian intellectual's journal „Mysliet“ („Think“).



In their Berlin apartment, Albert Liebl and Anna-Lisa Ellend have installed a **fun room** where they can kid around, that's when they get the best ideas.



Despite the **double burden** the young mother hasn't lost her humour. She furnished her Berlin apartment with many valuable heirlooms and stayed splendidly easy: "This is from my great grandmother!" Anna-Lisa says and throws a cushion after the cameraman.

Enabling the **free creativity** of her child means a lot to her. Together with her son Anna-Lisa attends a painting class for children.



"**Joschi**, our lost third child is still part of our family and of our art. We left everything the way it was in his room." Anna-Lisa had the crocodile made in an Eastern German doll manufactory in Rödental.

## „OUR CROCODILE PREFERS TO SING SCHUBERT“



"To be there for my son, help him with his homework, these are **holy moments**," says Albert Liebl, "The way he's adapted to this big city Berlin, despite the fact that he grew up in the Swiss countryside, I have to say: Chapeau (French for hat, kudos), he is a fighter after all, just like his father," he says with a serious look an inch away from bursting out with laughter.

After a hard day in Berlin Albert insists **telling Joschi a bedtime story** or singing a song for him. "Our crocodile prefers to sing Schubert and recounts Proust, no kidding," says the native of Bavaria, with a serious smile on his lips.



Albert Liebl refuses to separate his **professional and his private life**. "When I have an idea, I need to write it down immediately, no matter what I am doing, that's how I am, but I chose this life, after all, haven't I."

„Don't be cheeky!" The new mother sprays water into the cameraman's face after he said something favourable about her figure.



Albert tries to create **free space** for the family despite the strenuous job: "I try to make sure I come home before eight o'clock."



"The **unlimited creativity** of children touches me deeply." The two small formats were made by Martin Bieri (not in the picture).

**„MOVING TO BERLIN WAS GOOD FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP, TOO"**



Water will be a big issue for Schuplatz International in the next years. Martin Bieri (not in the picture) holds most **useful contacts** to the global corporation Nestlé. Lars Studer has developed a ritual, every morning he bows before this pure wet.



„Müggelsee ahoy!" says Anna-Lisa and shows off a trophy she's won at a sailing event. Immediately after moving to Berlin she registered at the Sailing Association Müggelsee e.V.



"Moving to Berlin was **good for our relationship, too,**" both of them affirm. And you want to believe them.

Categories like **square** and **bourgeois** never sounded pejorative for the couple Anna-Lisa Ellend and Albert Liebl. They carry on this lifestyle here in this vibrant creative metropolis Berlin.



For her, nature is a **source of inspiration** and wellness at the same time, says the passionate hobby gardener.

## "THEY BEAT A PATH TO OUR DOOR HERE IN BERLIN"



Lars Studer, looking at application videos. „Even in a very short video you can recognise the **talent of dormant artists**. They beat a path to our door here in Berlin.” Especially Martin Bieri (not in the picture) makes a lot of acquaintances.

## WE KEEP MEETING INTERESTING PEOPLE HERE



Albert Liebl in front of a photograph he took from the window of his New York studio. He left New York out of **protest** after the 9/11 attacks.

“At my **good friend’s place** I feel very cosy wearing comfortable clothes. She shows me the simplicity of an Eastern Berlin way of life.” After a successful theatre show Lars Studer might as well spend the night between somebody else’s sheets.



“We keep meeting interesting people here and I just don’t get to watching television anymore, despite the fact that I’ve finally fulfilled my dream of having a **plasma TV**,” says Liebl, the avowing TV junkie. He likes to watch games of the North Korean soccer team with Martin Bieri best. “Martin always supports the exotic ,“ laughs Liebl.



“We **share** everything in our group....?”  
Breakfast afterwards.



Her father’s **valuable library** had to come with them to Berlin. He was an actor at the Vienna Burgtheater and still is her most important critic.



**„WE HAVE TO PREVENT THIS CREEPING PROVINCIALISATION “**

Why not the other way round?



“In my former life I was a **cat.**” Lars Studer is a very social person.



The sociable and open-hearted Lars Studer has **no fears of contact**, not even with pornography. “The City of Berlin is a cosmopolitan city, isn’t it. We have to prevent this creeping provincialisation,” he says mischievously.



Anna-Lisa shows her empty wardrobe. She is a real **shoe addict**: “I left many of my favourite shoes in Switzerland. Of course I buy all my new shoes in Berlin!” Martin Bieri (not in the picture) will certainly accompany her. “He has the same quirk,” Anna-Lisa says smirking.



“This scent reminds me of my first theatre play,” says Anna-Lisa, “already at that time we had **very special ideas**, we had a whole lavender forest on stage!”



Like father, like daughter. Anna-Lisa calls herself a **leading person**. After all her great grandfather was the director of a big Scandinavian shipping company.



Schauplatz International in their **tour office**. From here their management plans the world tours. "Cool, all the places we've been to," Anna-Lisa Ellend blurts out seeing the world map.

"My parents were and still are a **role model** for me. At the beginning they didn't understand what I did, now they are happy about our success and they are also a bit proud of me," says Albert Liebl.



"I allowed myself to this absolute **favourite plastic** from an Iranian artist recently in a gallery friends of mine manage. It is the number one gallery at the moment," says the stylish Anna-Lisa.

**LIKE FATHER,  
LIKE DAUGHTER.**



Albert takes one of the kids' puppets and playfully **improvises** a scene and completely forgets about the photographer. That's when you notice he really lives for theatre.

"I like sitting on my camel best," says the performance artist who just came home from a big Schauplatz International tour in the Near East. He loves his practical trophies from all over the world.



One of the secrets to Schauplatz International's success: Everyone can be **the boss** at his turn.



Always up for **fun!**



"My **colour consultant** didn't like this frog. We educate our children with the great true fairy tales written by the Brothers Grimm," the father of three children admits defiantly.



"My **small but mighty** collection of considerable art implicitly inspires my own artistic production. Without my paintings I would lose ground," the highly sensitive upper-class hobby collector Lars Studer admits.

"Sometimes I seclude myself and do nothing. I listen to my body," says Lars Studer who is one of the lucky guys who has a quiet **loft** of his own in **Berlin Mitte**.



## „ART IMPLICITLY INSPIRES MY OWN ARTISTIC PRODUCTION“

"Since I live in Berlin I've become a real **fashion victim**. Here is a leather jacket from a young Israeli designer from Neukölln."





After a hard day of rehearsals in the capital Anna-Lisa loves to cuddle up in her **cashmere blanket**.

## AFTER A HARD DAY OF REHEARSALS



Anna-Lisa at her private working place in her Berlin home: "I've always been a **night owl**, often I sit there until late and pore over new ideas." Together with Martin Bieri (not in the picture) she wrote a whole theatre play in just one night – via chat!



"The fact that I can read a bedtime story to my child in this great city makes me **really happy**. I'm sure my child will remember this one day!"