

# Osnabrück to Berlin

## Textile Studies, Craft Education and Makerspaces



Hafven Hannover; Burg Giebichenstein/RUTSIS - Reviving Usbekistan's and Tajikistan's Sustainable Ikat and Silk Production/Lisa Runkehl, Joachim Unterfrauner, Johanna Rugalla, Bärbel Schmidt; Burg Materialarchiv/Henning Francik; Ana Bueser/HTW master program, Textile Prototyping Lab/Bärbel Schmidt, Essi Glomb.

*Fotos: Bärbel Schmidt/Lucia Schwalenberg.*

**Textile Studies, Craft Education and Makerspaces** were the main topics of a cooperation tour to Hannover, Hildesheim, Halle, Wildau and Berlin by Prof. Bärbel Schmidt and Lucia Schwalenberg/Osnabrück University. The goal of the Textile Studies program at Osnabrück University is to train future teachers of Textiles Studies, to stimulate the students' curiosity and interest in textiles and encourage further studies in textile culture. The Textile Studies department offers an academic setting in which students discover that knowledge is unlimited and learning is for life. Textile Studies has a special responsibility to promote Education for Sustainable Development and creative skills.

The project is funded by the Lower Saxony Ministry for Science and Culture through the support program INTENSIVinternational which aims to strengthen pan-European collaborative projects. This project follows on from research trips to Finland, The Netherlands and Belgium. Its goal is to investigate holistic educational approaches to Textile and Craft Education as a cross-generational, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary lifelong learning process. Its aim is to explore concrete possibilities for cooperation between Textile Education Institutions for student, staff and knowledge exchange. The focus of the research is on Makerspaces as future-oriented locations for a shared economy, shared education and equipment and as places for joint knowledge transfer.



Hafven, Hannover, co-founder Christoph Zimmermann, woodworking.

Hafven is a makerspace with coworking-facilities and café in Hannover. The workshops have a strong focus on wood and metal, completed by lasercut, 3D-Print, CNC, embroidery machine, ceramic kiln and other devices, demanded by the community. The space is founded by a team of professional designers and used by a community of more than 1.000 users from hobby to professional with different membership models. The Hafven team supports startups by an accelerator and consults makerspaces by offering a digital platform. Hafven aims to provide members with access to people, knowledge and technology. Founded in 2016 Hafven received a number of architectural awards. Thank you very much to co-founder Christoph Zimmermann and team for sharing time and informations.

From Hannover to Hildesheim: Der Puls is a cultural hub in the initial phase. The space next to the railway station is currently under reconstruction. The coworking space, shared cultural offices, café and open space is scheduled to open soon. Synergies with several cultural and educational institutions like HAWK Faculty of Design are in the pipeline. Thanks to project coordinator Sabine Zimmermann for sharing visions, courage and organisational talent.



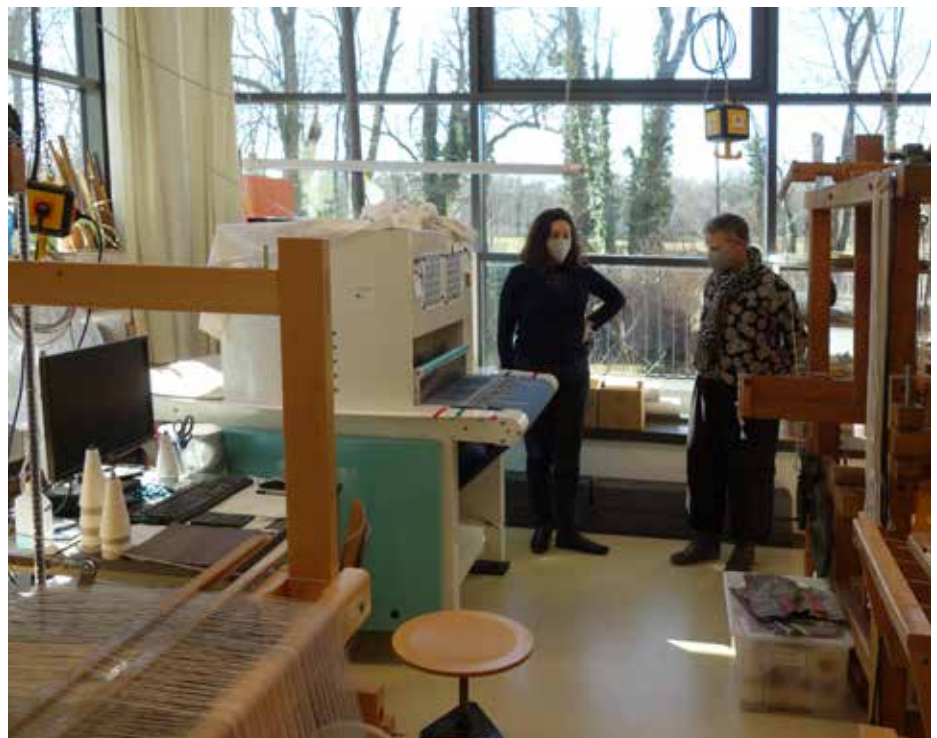
Der Puls, Hildesheim.



Burg Giebichenstein, Halle: „RUTSIS - Reviving Usbekistan's and Tajikistan's Sustainable Ikat and Silk Production“/Lisa Runkehl/ Joachim Unterfrauner/Johanna Rugalla, Bärbel Schmidt; dying and printing lab.

Visionary thinking and creativity are the fundamental principles trained at Burg Giebichenstein in Halle. The Kunsthochschule is equipped with workshops and labs including a material archive, textile restoration laboratory, workshops for dying, printing and weaving. Textiles at Burg Giebichenstein is currently working on „RUTSIS - Reviving Usbekistan's and Tajikistan's Sustainable Ikat and Silk Production“. The project is funded by the European Union and is part of the SWITCH Asia Grant Program. RUTSIS aims to reconnect the fragmented parts of Uzbek and Tajik silk value chains and revives sustainable practices in the production. The project reintegrates formerly used natural dyes and promotes a sustainable treatment of water in general and wastewater in specific. The countries benefit from the international approach of the project, which includes the proposal of a sustainable silk eco-label and access to local and global markets, to strengthen the position of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan as countries of origin for silk products.

Our gratitude to Johanna Rugalla, Lisa Runkehl, Joachim Unterfrauner, Henning Francik, Ilona Fitzner and Isabell Schneider for deep inspiration, knowledge and spirit.



Burg Giebichenstein Textilmanufaktur/Ilona Fitzner, Bärbel Schmidt, Johanna Rugalla; Burg Giebichenstein/Textildesign weaving workshop, Johanna Rugalla, Bärbel Schmidt.



TH Wildau.

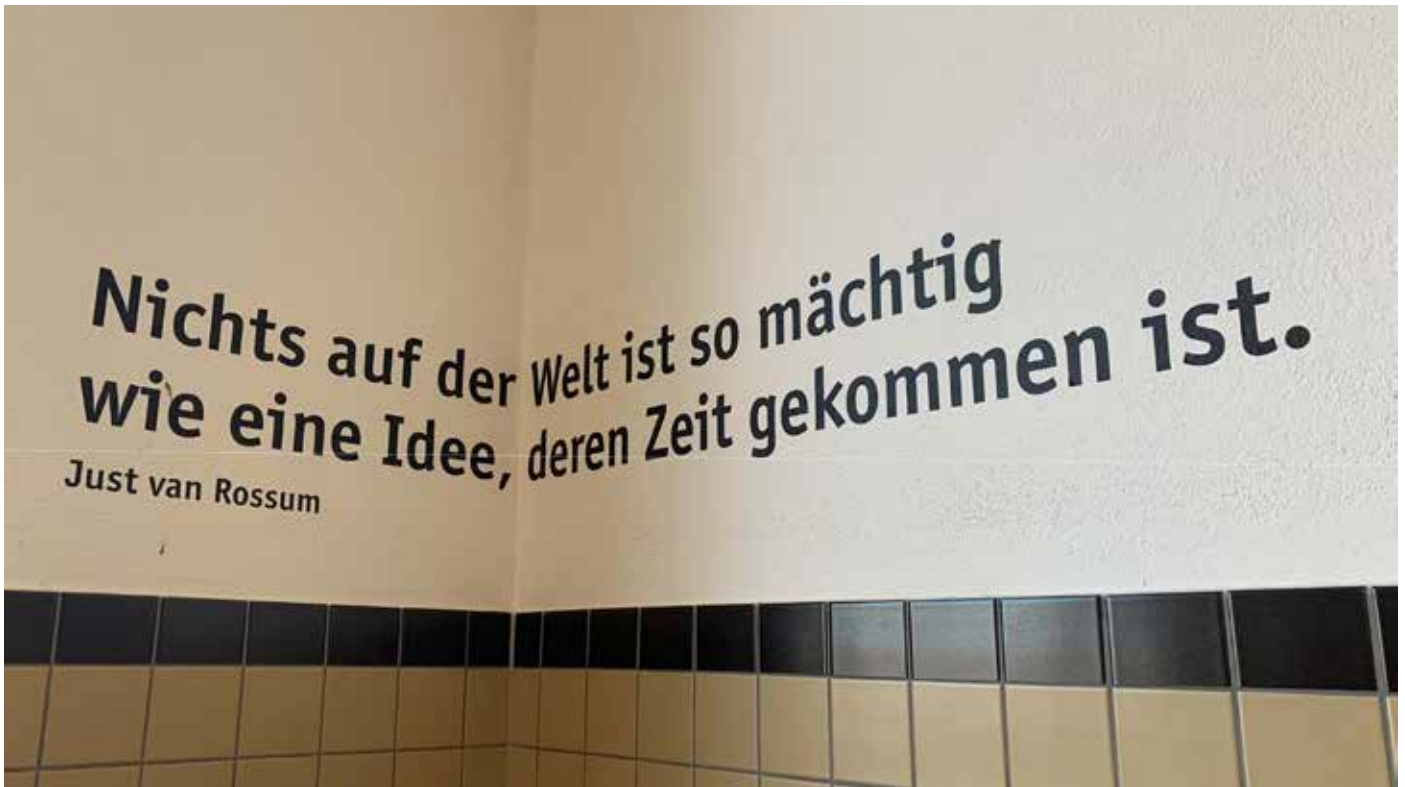
ViNN:Lab (Venture Innovation Lab) at TH Wildau is a makerspace providing users easy access to Rapid Prototyping technology. This is being done within the scope of teaching and research, workshops for school children in the KiVi:Lab and social projects. The ViNN:Lab is open for anyone who wants to work on ideas.

ViNN:Lab is one of the first University own makerspace in Germany. Founded in 2014 the team refers to a wide network and experience. The space is equipped with a range of makerspace equipment including textile devices as a digital embroidery machine. Eva Ismer as team member is specially trained at Fabricademy Amsterdam for textile correlations.

Once a week there is an open day not only for University members but also for interested public. Currently the 3D-printer-facilities are highly frequented for to provide a regional project with special devices measuring distances between motor traffic and bicyclists. Each single device has to be 3D-printed in dozens of hours. Thank you Eva Ismer for supporting us with insights, introduction and shared informations.



Eva Ismer introducing the digital embroidery machine to Bärbel Schmidt.



HTW Berlin, staircase.

*“Nothing is more powerful than an idea, whose time has come.”* This sentence from Just van Rossum catches the eye of visitors in the staircase of HTW Berlin.

Johanna Michel as professor for CAD-Fashion has a strong focus on digital print in her textile work. The fashion department is equipped with digital printing facilities as well as sewing, knitting, screen printing and more. The students are taught to express themselves free and develop their own style. In addition to creative diversity, there is also contemporary design, materiality and technology conveyed. From experiment to innovation the work is based on circular economy and sustainability.

The teacher team is joined by London based designer Hussein Chalayan for to strengthen the experimental textile approach.

Thank you for warm welcome and insights into study structure, workshop facilities and visions to Johanna Michel and Lena Lieb.



HTW Berlin: Anna Bueser/3D-Print; sewing lab; building; digitalprint/Lena Lieb; Bärbel Schmidt and Johanna Michel.



Haus der Materialisierung, Berlin. Collective workshops and projects focusing on recycling, reuse and sharing of material resources.

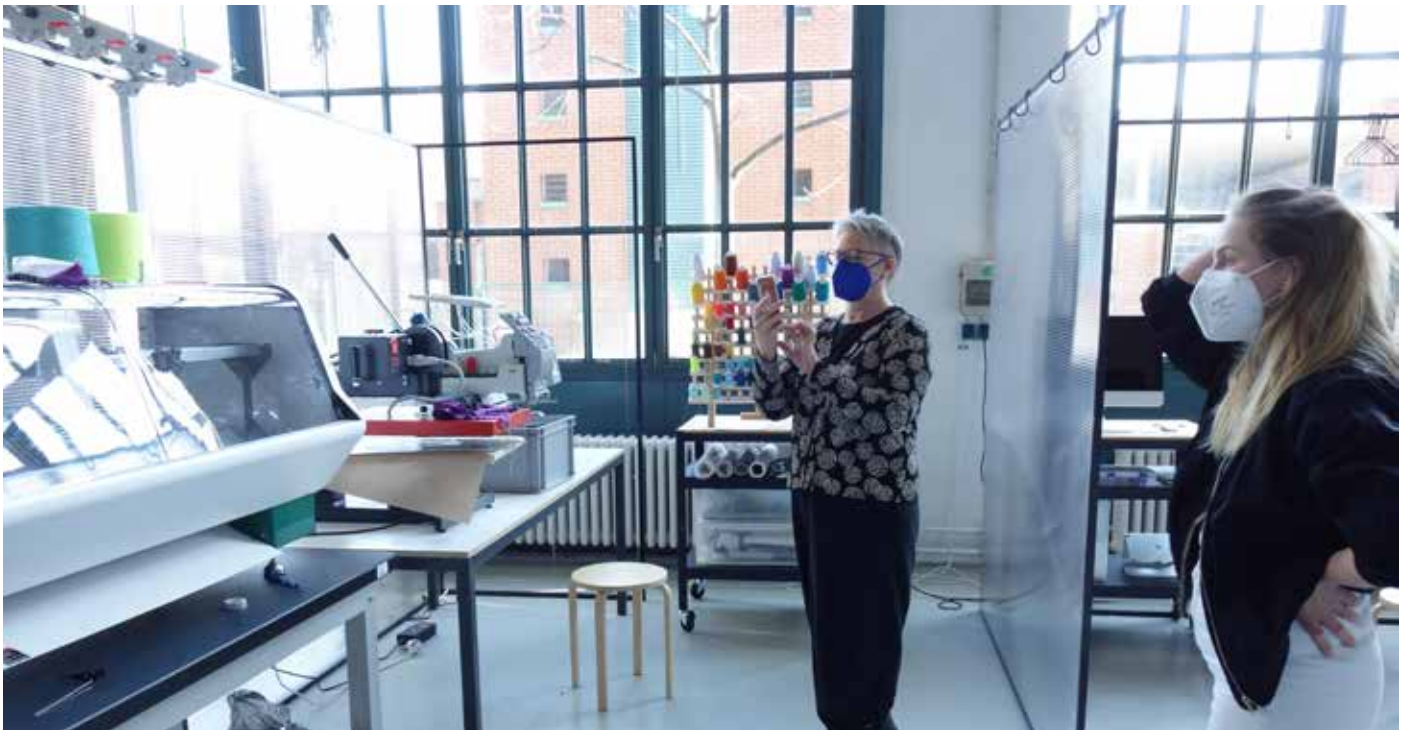
Haus der Materialisierung bundles collective workshops and alternative projects concentrating on recycling, reuse and sharing of material resources close to Alexanderplatz in the centre of Berlin. The building is scheduled to be demolished and is surrounded by condemned houses. There are repair workshops as for bicycles, clothes, woodworking and find material as well as social initiatives for foodsharing or seminars for circular economy. All initiatives are focusing on the theme of shared economy and the vision to take up the challenge of climate change by new ways of economic activity.

One of the involved institutions is Berliner Stadtmission. The team of Berliner Stadtmission supports sharing and reusing of textile donations with its so-called Textilhafen. Textilhafen maintains a workshop space at Haus der Materialisierung in order to offer workshops and seminars for pupils and citizen.

Much obliged: Ana Lichtwer and Sofie Leon Göppl from Berliner Stadtmission and Textilhafen for sharing their insights into the complexity of old clothes collection, social equity and textile distribution.



Textilhafen/Haus der Materialisierung, Sofie Leon Göppl. Berliner Stadtmission sharing and reusing textile donations.

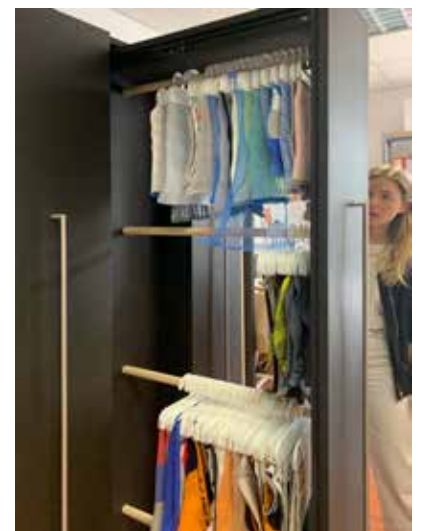


Textile Prototyping Lab, Berlin: Essi Glomb introducing the digital knitting machine KNITERATE to Bärbel Schmidt.

Textile Prototyping Lab (TPL) in Berlin is a research collaboration of organisations from the fields of textile, electronics research, design and economy. The theme of the project is Open Innovation. Research and development is conducted under the context of sharing of results. Research and development relevant for individual actors are developed jointly and made available beyond their own organisational boundaries. The TPL is led by Zane Berzina and coordinated by Essi Glomb, Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee/Textiles. Partner institutions are Fraunhofer Institut for Reliability and Microintegration IZM, Saxon Textile Research Institute and Textile Research Institute Thuringia-Vogtland. The research project is funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research as part of the futureTEX project. The Textile Prototyping Lab is open for designers, technologists and product developers as well as interdisciplinary students and researchers. The Lab is fully equipped with digital knitting machine Kniterate, digital jacquardloom TC2, digital embroidery machine, 3D-printing, lasercutting and more devices.

An important part of the Textile Prototyping Lab is an increasing material archive. The material archive includes a collection of samples for to demonstrate the technical opportunities. The samples show different materials, their processing and functions as a textile surface. That can be a braided conductor as well as a threedimensional woven piece. There are former project examples and cooperations archived to inform and inspire. Fact sheets with detailed informations about raw materials supplement the collection.

Heartfelt thanks to Essi Glomb explaining and showing awesome materials, details and correlations.



Textile Prototyping Lab, Berlin: 3D-printer; digital jacquardloom TC2; lasercut samples; Essi Glomb showing the material archive



Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee: Anne Hederer ad Essi Glomb introducing the weaving workshop to Bärbel Schmidt.

Into the wonderful world of weaving we immersed with Anne Hederer, who mindful runs the workshop at Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee. Her heart is beating for weaving in all its complexity, colours, materials, bindings and dyings. We got a glimps onto samples on the loom like deflected doubleweave or honeycomb. Thank you very much Anne for inspiring.

Thanks to ... everybody who helped, opened up opportunities and made this tour possible. Special thanks to Hafven, Der Puls, Burg Giebichenstein, TH Wildau, HTW Berlin, Berliner Stadtmission/Haus der Materialisierung, Textile Prototyping Lab, Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee. We met incredible warmhearted and openminded people.

About Bärbel ... She teaches Textile Studies as a Professor at Osnabrück University/Germany. Her research fields are textile culture and textile education. She is working on a cooperative project with the Textile Research Centre Leiden/NL and Immaterial World Cultural Heritage Blueprint.

About Lucia ... after studying Journalism and Textile Design in Munich and Hannover, Lucia completed the Shuttle Course at Kunsthochschule Linz/Textiles Zentrum Haslach/Austria. She works as a textile designer, weaving lecturer and research staff member at Osnabrück University/Textile Studies. She is working on her PHD-project "The Beiderwand weaving workshop Meldorf as a textile place of memory".



Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee, Berlin: pattern looms, weaving workshop yarn storage, relab recycling material store run by students.