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TED SalonBerlin

PROGRAM

23 June 2014

in Berlin

on.ted.com/TEDSalonBerlin



© visitBerlin, Photography: Wolfgang Scholvien, Alexanderplatz

BITS OF KNOWLEDGE

Willkommen/Welcome!

Berlin is one of the most vibrant and attractive cities in the world and is a growing hub of design, technology, the arts and global affairs. It was only 25 years ago, in 1989, that the Berlin Wall came down, reuniting a city (and a country) that had been divided for decades, and reshaping the future of Europe and of the world. Today, Berlin stands as a powerful symbol of freedom, of the way history can suddenly change course, of the improbable happening.

For all these reasons, and more, we are excited to be hosting the first official TED event in Germany today. TEDSalon Berlin takes place with the support of the City and several TED Partners (a warm thank-you to all of them!) and in collaboration with the local TEDxBerlin team.

We have curated a program around the theme „Bits of Knowledge“. During the course of two sessions, fifteen speakers and performers will explore the nexus between technological innovation, science, politics and the economy. As always, our approach is intentionally eclectic, with topics ranging from big data to new social movements, from economic inequalities to photography, from the astonishing behaviour of single celled organisms to what we really know -- or, often, don't -- about the world.

Beyond the stage program, the event is also an opportunity to meet other TEDsters, including numerous TEDx Organizers, TED Translators and TED Fellows who are joining us today from all over the world.

On behalf of the TED team: Welcome to TEDSalonBerlin!

Bruno Giussani
European director, TED

PS: The next official TED event will be TEDGlobal, taking place 5-10 October 2014 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. We are still accepting applications to attend.

Details can be found online at conferences.ted.com/TEDGlobal2014/

Speakers' Program

15:30 - 16:30 Registration

16:30 - 18:15 **Session 1**

Kenneth Cukier, *Data Editor*

WHAT IS REALLY BIG IN BIG DATA

Thomas Piketty, *Economist*

ARE RISING ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES INEVITABLE?

Erica Hagen, *Activist*

PUTTING KIBERA ON THE MAP

Rose Goslinga, *Microinsurer*

INSURING THE RAIN

Simon Anholt, *Thinker*

GOOD COUNTRY

Daria van den Bercken, *Pianist*

SPREADING HANDEL

Adam Magyar, *Photographer*

PHOTOGRAPHING THE UNFOLDING OF DAILY LIFE

18:15 - 19:15 Networking break

19:15 - 21:00 **Session 2**

Heather Barnett, *Artist*

THE INTELLIGENCE OF A SINGLE CELLED ORGANISM

Sergei Lupashin, *Aerial robotics researcher*

DRONES, KITES AND VIDEOCAMERAS

Katie Davis, *App sociologist*

UNDERSTANDING THE APP GENERATION

Jeremy Heimans, *Fosterer of social movements*

WHAT NEW POWER MEANS

Hubertus Knabe, *Historian*

THE STASI FILES, 25 YEARS ON

Hans and Ola Rosling, *Ignorance fighters*

THE MAJORITY GONE MISSING

Celina Bostic, *Singer and songwriter*

MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Curated and hosted by: **Bruno Giussani**

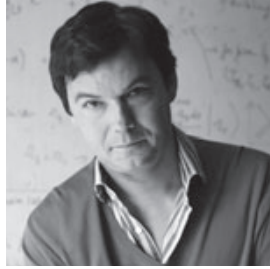
Production: **Stephan Balzer, Stephanie Igunbor, Roxanne Hai Lash**



Kenneth Cukier, *Data editor*

The world is awash in data and Kenneth Cukier, from his perch as the Data Editor at *The Economist* in London, has become adept at sorting the hype from the reality of what we call „Big Data“ and its impact on society, business, governance and innovation. He’s the co-author of „Big Data: A Revolution That Will Transform How We Live, Work, and Think“, published in 2013, with Oxford University’s Viktor Mayer-Schönberger. From 2007 to 2012, Cukier was the *Economist*’s Tokyo correspondent, and before that, the paper’s technology correspondent. He’s also on the board of International Bridges to Justice, which fosters legal rights of ordinary citizens in poor countries.

www.cukier.com
@kncukier



Thomas Piketty, *Economist*

Thomas Piketty’s 900-pages tome „Capital in the Twenty-First Century“ is one of those books that change the way we think about the world. A publishing sensation when it first appeared in French in September 2003, and even more so since its publication in English in March 2014, „Capital“ is a work of great scholarship and scope, exploring the evolution of the distribution of income and wealth over several centuries and taking into account piles of hard data as well as social and cultural changes. It makes the case that in capitalism there are „fundamental logical contradictions“, particularly a key tension between wealth (and its returns) and income (and its growth), with the former growing faster in slow economic times. If left unaddressed, Piketty argues, this tension will inevitably lead to rising economic inequalities and threaten the fabric of democracy itself.

piketty.pse.ens.fr/fr/



Simon Anholt, *Thinker*

There are many ways of looking at the progress of countries, but we always focus on domestic performance, as if countries were islands. Even though we know they’re not. In the age of globalisation, everything we do and make has costs and consequences way beyond our national borders. Simon Anholt has helped more than fifty countries engage more productively with the rest of the world, and his latest project, the Good Country Index, is the first to measure exactly how much each country contributes (or borrows, or steals) from the planet and from humanity. This „national balance sheet“ is his recipe for making governments more accountable for the way the whole world works. He will be presenting the first results exclusively at the TEDSalon.

goodcountry.org
@simonanholt



Daria van den Bercken, *Pianist*

One afternoon, sick at home and surfing the web, Dutch/Russian virtuoso pianist Daria van den Bercken came across sheet music from German-born British baroque composer George Frideric Handel, famous for his operas, oratorios, anthems and organ concertos. Daria fell in love with Handel’s notes, felt they deserved to become better known and thus the „Handel at the Piano“ project was born. Her project is aimed at bringing Handel’s keyboard works to the broadest audience, through wonderfully original public „concerts“ where she (and her piano) have hung in the air above a public audience in Brazil and have been towed through the cobbled streets of Amsterdam.

handelathepiano.com
@dariavdb



Erica Hagen, *Activist*

It is estimated that more than 250,000 people live in Kibera, Africa’s biggest informal community, in Nairobi, Kenya. Yet, until just a few years ago it was represented as a blank spot on maps. In 2009, young residents created Map Kibera, the first free and open digital map of Kibera, using online tools such as OpenStreetMap. Since then, Map Kibera has evolved to include Voice of Kibera, a website that maps stories by local media and allows resident to report via SMS; the online video initiative Kibera News Network; and more. „We wanted to support residents to do their work better, to be seen, to make their voices heard“, says Erica Hagen, who co-founded Map Kibera with partner Mikel Maron. They have recently brought their work specializing in community-based participatory technologies to other corners of the globe through GroundTruth Initiative.

mapkibera.org
@ricaji



Rose Goslinga, *Microinsurer*

Think of microinsurance the way you think of microcredit. Except that all the rules that made microfinance grow don’t apply to microinsurance. Since 2008, Rose Goslinga has been selling microinsurance to African farmers. Because a lack of rain can destroy the livelihood of a smallholding farmer, accessible and affordable microinsurance (accompanied by a significant deployment of technology, from weather-monitoring stations to mapping to cell-phone messaging) makes it possible to farm securely. „I insure the rain.“ half-jokes Goslinga, who was involved in insuring nearly 200,000 small-scale African farmers in 2013.

@rosegos



Adam Magyar, *Photographer*

Adam Magyar finds innovative ways to observe life using technology, such as capturing the passage of time and freezing it into amazing still photographs and videos. Using modified or self-built high-tech digital tools and cameras that „see“ what the human eye can not see and what human nature rarely perceive, he has created mesmerizing representations of speeding subway trains and of flows of people on busy sidewalks. Born and raised in Hungary and now based in Berlin, he travels the world extracting dramatic images from the simple, ever-changing nature of daily urban life. „I am just an observer with a camera and a scanner.“ he says.

magyaradam.com



Heather Barnett, Artist

London-based Heather Barnett works with slime mould, observing and capturing (and trying to direct) the growing patterns, navigational abilities and seemingly human behaviours of this biological material. Whilst it has no brain nor central nervous system, the single celled organism, *Physarum polycephalum*, shows a primitive form of intelligence and memory, problem-solving skills, and the apparent ability to make decisions. It is used as a model organism in diverse areas of scientific research, including biological computing, robotics and structural design. „It is also quite beautiful“, says Barnett, „and makes therefore for a great creative collaborator -- although ultimately I cannot control the final outcome -- it is a rather independent organism.“

heatherbarnett.co.uk
@HeatherABarnett



Sergei Lupashin, Aerial robotics researcher

Switzerland-based Sergei Lupashin is developing the Fotokite, an easy-to-use, widely accessible flying robotic camera that can enable immediate, safe, intuitive access to bird's eye images and perspectives of the world surrounding us. A 2014 TED Fellow, Lupashin imagines this light mini-quadricopter camera could be used by firefighters under dangerous or sensitive conditions, or by journalists to report on events that are happening just in front of them but are impossible to access. His previous work has included unmanned aerial vehicles and autonomous cars, and he was part of Raffaello d'Andrea's team that demonstrated quadricopter acrobatics at TEDGlobal 2013 (you can watch the talk and demo on TED.com).

fotokite.com
@untitledtitles



Hubertus Knabe, Historian

Hubertus Knabe is a German historian and a widely recognized specialist of oppression in the former communist states of Eastern Europe, particularly in the German Democratic Republic (DDR), a country his parents fled in 1959, shortly before he was born. From 1992 to 2000, Knabe was on the research team of the German Federal Commissioner for the Stasi archives, investigating the actions and documents of the Stasi, the former DDR secret police and intelligence agency. Currently he is the scientific director of the Berlin-Hohenschönhausen Memorial, a museum located in a notorious former Stasi prison in Berlin. He has authored several books on the subject, and has argued in favor of a stronger debate in Germany to come to terms with the crimes committed by the DDR's communist dictatorship.

en.stiftung-hsh.de



Celina Bostic, Singer and songwriter

Celina Bostic sings with a perfect voice about the imperfections of life, discovering beauty in the gray of the everyday. The Berlin-born singer and songwriter performed with various bands before setting out on a solo career. The acoustic album reflecting this new journey will be released this Fall. Her music and lyrics (in German) effortlessly bridge the gap between folk and soul, humor and melancholy, elegance and street jargon. She calls it „campfire soul“. And indeed when performing live, like around a campfire, her contagiously honest laughter and her powerful yet gentle tones create a unique link with the audience.

celinabostic.de
@CelinaBostic



Jeremy Heimans, Fosterer of social movements

Jeremy Heimans has been building movements since childhood, when he ran media and fax campaigns on issues such as environmental conservation and third world debt in his native Australia. A former McKinsey strategy consultant, he has co-founded several online campaign groups and citizen activism initiatives, including GetUp and Avaaz. Now based in New York, he is co-founder and CEO of Purpose, an incubator of social movements and ventures that, he says, „uses the power of participation to bring change to the world.“ He and colleague Henry Timms, founder of #givingtuesday, will be publishing an essay later this year examining new forms of power and their meaning. Tweetable excerpt: „Old power downloads and commands; new power uploads and shares.“

purpose.com
@jeremyheimans



Katie Davis, App sociologist

Katie Davis studies the role of digital media technologies in adolescents' social, educational and moral lives. Based at the University of Washington's Information School in Seattle, where she's an assistant professor, she recently published with Howard Gardner „The App Generation: How Today's Youth Navigate Identity, Intimacy and Imagination in a Digital World“. The research detailed in the book explores what it means to be „app-dependent“ versus „app-enabled“, points out drawbacks and benefits, and describes the power of apps (stimulating greater creativity and aspirations) and their mixed impact on personal autonomy. She also serves as an Advisory Board Member for MTV's digital abuse campaign „A Thin Line.“

katedavisresearch.com
@katiebda



Hans and Ola Rosling, Ignorance fighters

The tagline of Hans and Ola Rosling's Gapminder Foundation is „Unveiling the beauty of statistics for a fact-based world view.“ From their base in Stockholm, Sweden, Hans (one of the most popular TED speakers) and his son Ola have been using technology, analysis and wit to challenge and change the way we look at notions such as „development“ and „poverty.“ As advocates of democratizing access to statistics they are now engaged in a campaign against ignorance -- against the lack of essential knowledge that fills our world view with misconceptions. Their Ignorance Project, led by Ola, highlights the public ignorance of global development through large representative questions about global facts.

gapminder.org
@gapminder

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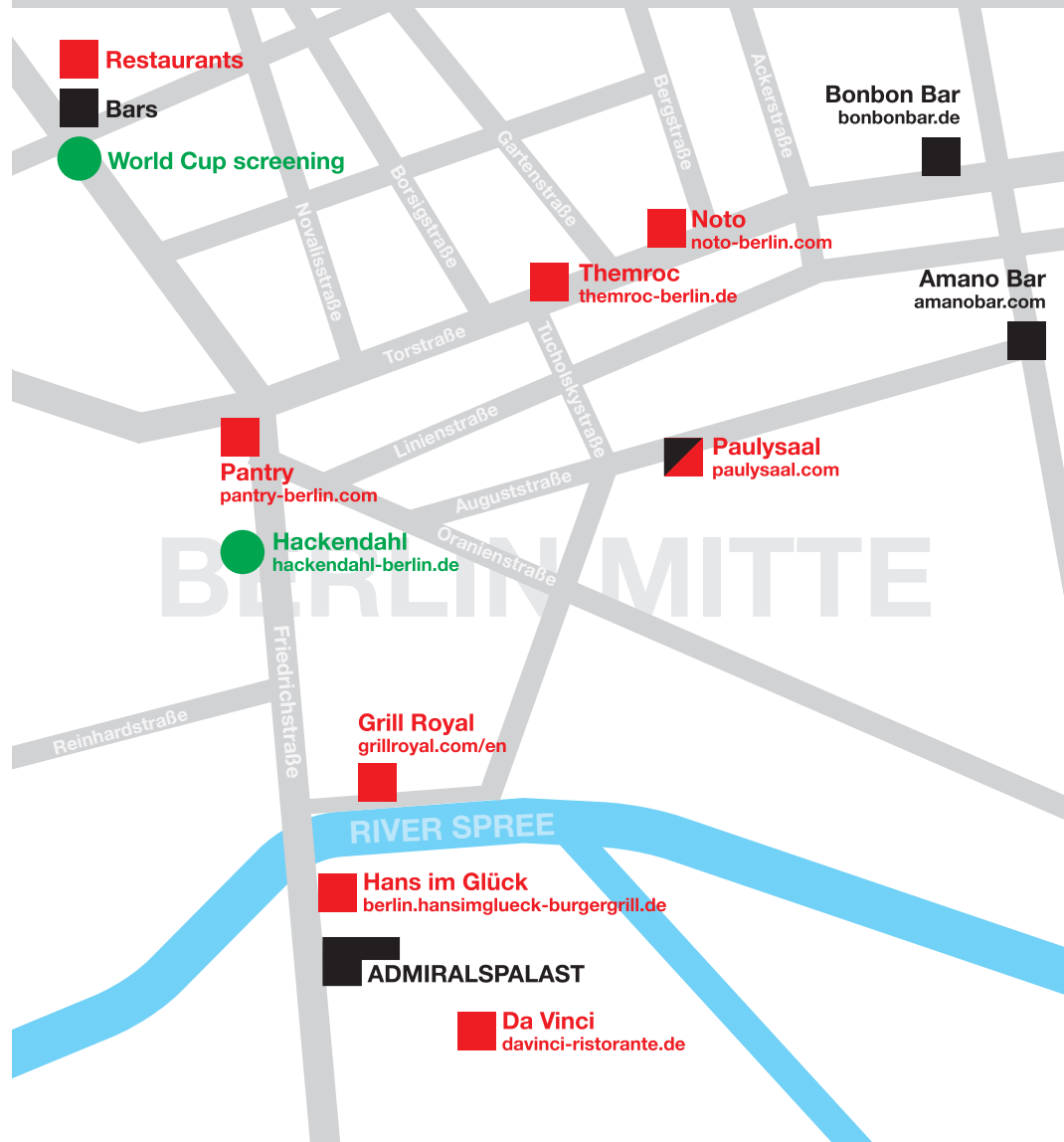
WallDecaux
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www.wall.de

Thank you!

Post Salon Dinner and Drinks

Doors close at the Admiralspalast at 9.30pm, but there are several nearby restaurants and bars where you can enjoy an after-event dinner or drinks. We encourage you to make a reservation on your own and take this opportunity to mingle with other TEDsters.



BITS OF KNOW LEDGE