



Federal Ministry for  
Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,  
Women and Youth



New perspectives – new opportunities



# «What's old anyway?»

Selected entries in the 2011 photographic and video competition



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Selected entries in the 2011 photographic and video competition


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This illustrated book contains a selection of photos by amateur and professional photographers who took part in the photographic and video competition «What's old anyway?» from January to April 2011.

The seven categories were compiled for inclusion in this illustrated book. The video entries have been published at [www.programm-altersbilder.de](http://www.programm-altersbilder.de).

The photos marked

with a  were awarded prizes by the jury.

Sources for information at the beginnings of chapters: German Ageing Survey, GeroStat ([www.gerostat.de](http://www.gerostat.de)), brochure «Older people in Germany and the EU»



«Everything that's fun keeps you young»

Curd Jürgens  
German film actor • 1915 – 1982

## Did you know

... that more than a third of 70- to 85-year-olds (36 percent) exercise at least once a week?

... that more than half of all 55- to 69-year-olds (53 percent) takes some kind of exercise at least once a week, which means that this age group is just as physically active as the 40- to 54-year-olds (54 percent)?

... that 52.5 percent of Germans aged 50 and over use the internet, compared with almost 93 percent of 14- to 49-year-olds?



In the studio at 84





First trip to the stadium at the age of 82 – a childhood football fan



75 (Grandma) + 11 (dog) = young at heart



Cooking



Sales assistant



Old? No way!



Workout



71 ... so what? (2)





Grey stars 01



Number 1



Look, I'm old ... so what???





Yay!! My favourite song!



The old man and the PC



Moving with the times



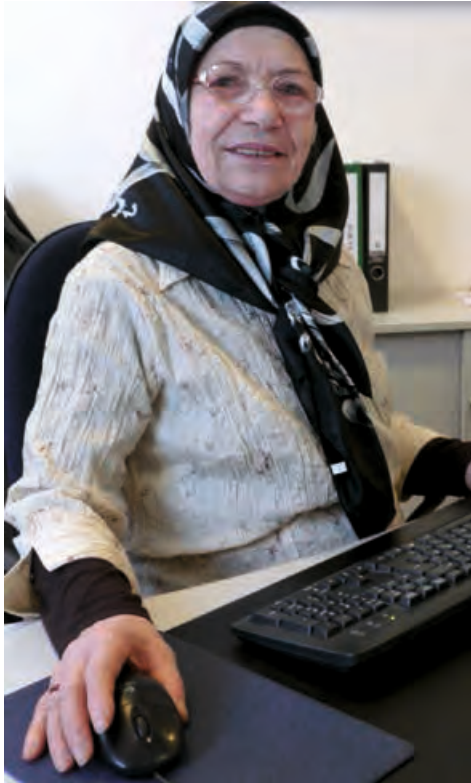
Silver surfers



At 66 ... fit and fun!



Senior starter 01



My daughter is proud of me!



An easy ascent





Happy trio



Old friendships never rust away



Alma's the best !!



Grandma's flea market bargain



The demonstrator



Handicap – no such thing!



Loving life



**«The face is a mirror of the soul.»**

Marcus Tullius Cicero  
Roman politician, author  
and philosopher • 106 BC – 43 BC

## **Did you know**

.... that in Germany, the number of people aged 65+ as a proportion of the total population rose by 42 percent from 1990 to 2009?

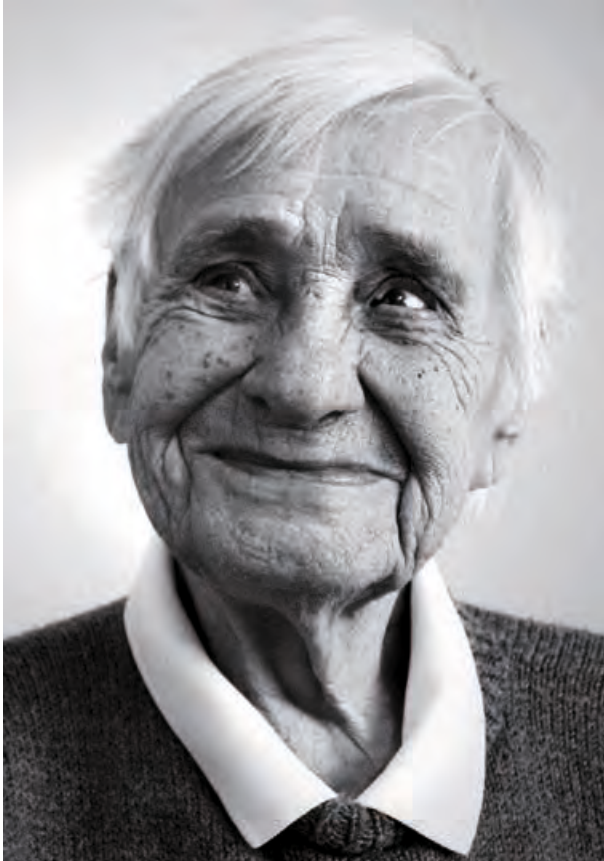
... that in 2009, one in five people (21 percent) in Germany was 65 years old or more?

... that the number of people who become 100 years old and more is five times higher today than it was in 1980?



Impish





Satisfied



Life lines (1)



Experiences of history – Prof. Dr. Joachim Münch



Without words





Jack





Radiance



Beauty in old age



A closer look ...



Doris



Martha



Love of life



Georg-Stefan Troller



Franziska



Images of ageing 03





Passion for music



The child in the man



Shifting the framework



Young eyes





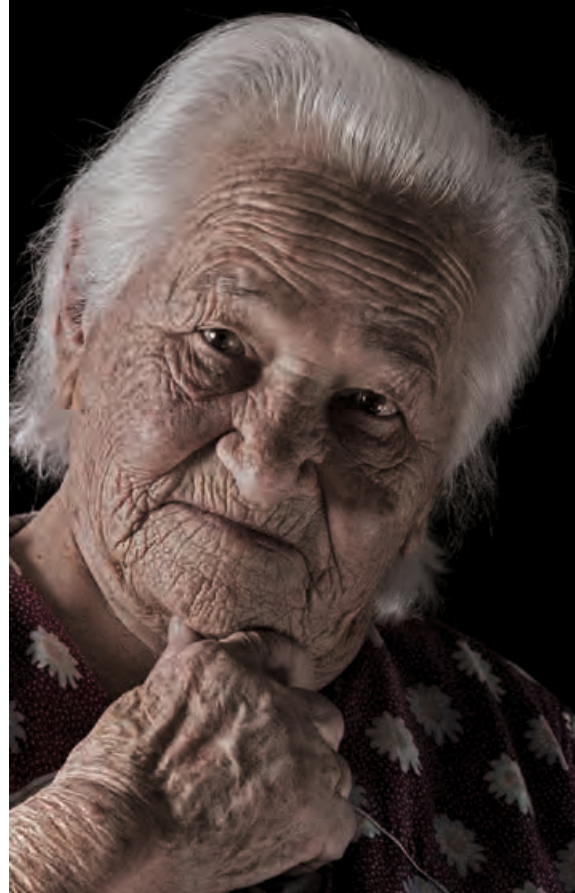
Beauty



Wise beauty



Sassy



Life is hard but never hopeless



The Cowboy of Lake Constance



Enjoying life



What's old anyway? Hans in Luck!



Poppy flower





Love of life

«When I was young, I dealt with old people,  
and now I'm old, I deal with young ones.  
This is how humankind can get through the  
world as comfortably as possible.»

Wilhelm Raabe  
German author • 1831 – 1910

## Did you know

..... that a good half of 55- to 69-year-olds and at least three quarters of 70- to 85-year-olds are grandparents?

... that their role as grandmother and grandfather is important or very important for well over 90 percent of grandparents?

... that despite the increase in mobility and the distances between the homes of grandparents and (grand)children, 31 percent of 55- to 69-year-old grandparents look after their grandchildren?

... that around 80 percent of 40- to 85-year-old rate their family relationships as good?

... that the proportion of family relationships rated as poor, on the other hand, has remained constantly low, at less than 5 percent over the years?





Harmony





Generational change



Old and young internationally



Come on, tell me something



Eye to eye





Where do I need to look through?



Skating for fitness



Power granny!





All stitched up



Thank you!



Young and old



Together we're strong



Old meets young



Everyone's there for everyone



Bla!



Family ties



Late joys of fatherhood



Cake mix



My granny's young, see?!



The programme has parents





Three generations of hands (III)



**«Don't cry because it's over –  
smile because it was so beautiful.»**

Gabriel García Márquez  
Colombian author  
and journalist • 1927 – 2014

## Did you know

... that in 2009, 78 percent of women aged 85 and over and 37 percent of men in this age group were widows/widowers?

... that 77 percent of 70- to 85-year-olds suffer from two or more illnesses and that 22 percent have no or «just» one illness?

... that high blood pressure, arthritis and higher cholesterol levels are the three commonest illnesses in the second half of life?

... that approx. 1.2 million people currently live with dementia in Germany?

... that around eleven percent of Germans aged between 40 and 85 report that they have suffered discrimination in the last twelve months because of their age?



Meals on wheels



Old people's home



Goodbye to the family home







Does she still remember?

P



The old people's window





No crutches



Pension at 60 !





Love in spite of everything





Every day is a new beginning ...



Timepiece



Poverty in old age



Resting



Images of ageing 17





Untitled



Geriatric psychiatry here and now



What does age have to offer?

**«If you keep your childhood  
with you, you'll never grow old.»**

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe  
German poet • 1749 – 1832



## Did you know

... that people over the age of 70 feel on average 13 years younger than their physical age?

... that satisfaction with life rises slightly with increasing age?

... that over 60 percent of 55- to 85-year-olds report a high level of satisfaction with life?

... that eight percent of people aged 65 and over live with family members of different generations?

... and that only one percent of women and men aged 65 and over live in households with three and more generations, i.e. with children and grandchildren, for example?



Poetry



Own view – External perception



Self-reflection



Then





Old day - every day



Old day - every day 2



It's never too late



Remembering



Signs of the times





Travelling together



**«People can do without lots of  
things, just not without people.»**

Ludwig Börne

German journalist, literary  
and drama critic • 1786 – 1836

## Did you know

... that half of all women and three quarters of all men aged 65 and above live in households of two people?

... that in this age group, 44 percent of women but only 18 percent of men live alone?

... that in 2008, 2,367 of over 60-year-olds married for the first time in their life?

... and that these were mainly «late bridegrooms» (68 percent), with fewer «late brides» (32 percent), although women make up the majority of the 60+ age group?



A day in May, Szczecin



Being there for each other



You with me and I with you – for a lifetime





50 years married – a coordinated team



On the bench



Friendship



Thanks for a great trip



Twosome



The master and his pupil



Teenage love



Unadorned



Love knows no age



Love never ages





Travelling



Growing old together

**«The problem is not age, but  
rather our attitude to it.»**

Marcus Tullius Cicero

Roman politician, author  
and philosopher • 106 BC – 43 BC

## Did you know

... that the oldest person ever to visit the North Pole was  
89 years and 109 days old on arrival at the pole?

... and that it was a woman, not a man?

It was Dorothy Davenhill Hirsch (USA, born on 11 May 1915),  
who reached the North Pole on 28 August 2004 on board the Russian  
ice-breaker «Yamal».

... that the group «The Zimmers» set up as part of a BBC documentary  
on retirement homes and residential facilities is probably the  
oldest band in the world to date?

The oldest member was 100 at the time,  
and the youngest 63.

Today, the band has around 50 members, and their combined  
age is around 3,700 years.



Miss Carinthia





The revival of the crochet bikini



High age



High age (II)



Declaration of beauty



How relaxing not having to accept every invitation ...





So near and yet so far ...



Cool wheels



Moving up to the start





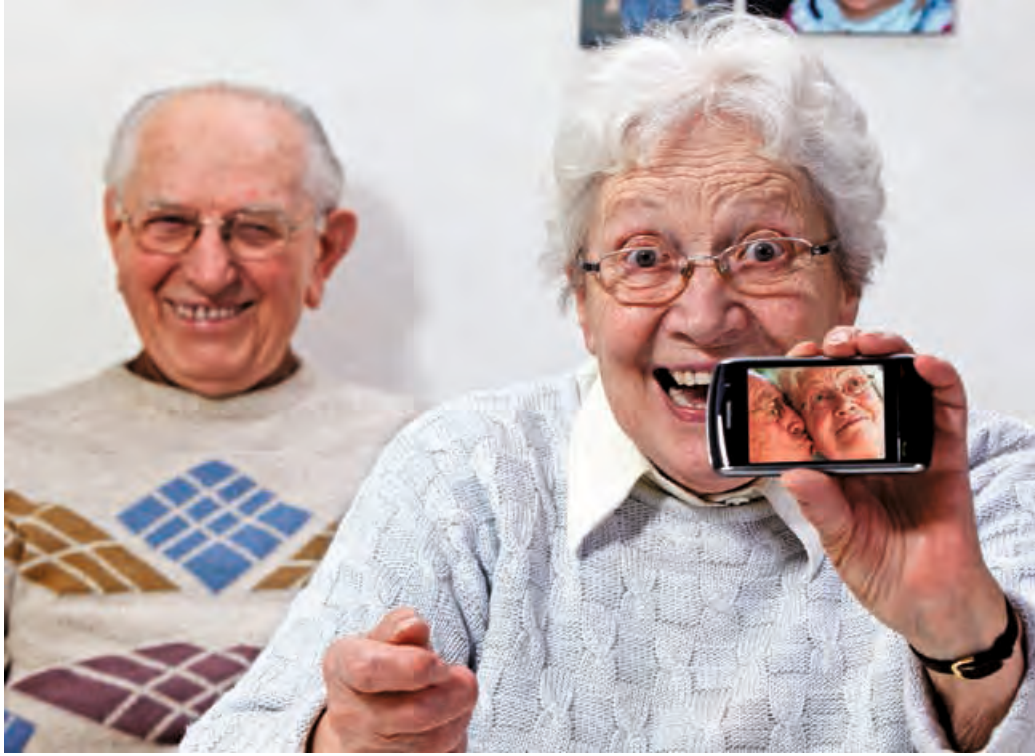
Origami



London lady



Looking young, grandpa!



Young love on the smart phone



Some women never age!



Don Quixote (3)



Forever young





Fairytale prince wanted ...

The images in this publication are selected entries from the photographic and video competition with the title «What's old anyway?», which ran from 11.1.–30.4.2011. Entries were invited for the competition to mark the start of the «Images of ageing» project run by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.

Further information is available from:

[www.programm-altersbilder.de](http://www.programm-altersbilder.de)

The members of the jury were:

- Rufus Beck • actor
- Hartmut Becker • actor
- Willy Borgfeldt • President of the Deutsche Verband für Fotografie e. V. – DVF (German Photographic Association)
- Katerina Jacob • Actor
- Wilfried Korfmacher • Professor of Graphic Design at the University of Applied Science, Düsseldorf
- Dr. Rolf-Ulrich Schlenker • Deputy Chairman of the Board of BARMER GEK
- Boris Zaffarana • Press Spokesperson of the Deutsche Volkshochschul-Verband e.V. – dvv

Competition office: Bruno Neurath-Wilson

The financial prizes offered by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth were as follows:

- 1st Prize, photos and videos • Amateurs and professionals: €3,000 each
- 2nd Prize, photos and videos • Amateurs and professionals: €2,000 each
- 3rd Prize, photos and videos • Amateurs and professionals: €1,000 each

Special prizes in the form of visits to charitable family holiday centres were provided by :

- AWO SANO – Familienferiendorf Rerik – 18230 Ostseebad Rerik
- Begegnungs- und Familienferienstätte «St. Otto» – 17454 Ostseebad Zinnowitz
- Casa Familia Familienferienstätte – 17454 Ostseebad Zinnowitz
- Familienferienstätte Zingsthoof – 18374 Zingst
- Kolping FERIENLAND Salem – 17139 Salem

A special prize for a younger competition entrant in the form of a two-week guest residency (“stage”) at the Landesstudio Düsseldorf was provided by ZDF.

## The Jury's comments on the prize-winning photographs



### **Photo on page 7: In the studio at 84 | Author: Astrid Brondke • 2nd Prize, Amateur Photos**

This is where I am a person, this is where I want to be. Alone with himself in his workshop, which he has probably cherished and nurtured for years, the old man is totally immersed in his dedication to his task. And for this reason in particular, he does not give up, even as an old man. This photograph shows the concentrated experience that distinguishes a job from a vocation. And all the design aspects of the camera work support the effect on the observer perfectly. The colours are only used very subtly – and yet they depict the entire spectrum. The depth of focus treads a fine line – but this fine line is what separates this artistic masterpiece from a merely technically perfect shot.

### **Photo on page 21: Impish | Author: Philipp Hebold • 2nd Prize, Professional Photos**

How many portraits have we seen already? Just take a look at any kiosk. There's not a single magazine without a person looking out at you – or supposedly looking at you. In fact, very few photos offer us an understanding of the person depicted. This picture manages it. Although we do not know the old lady, she's familiar to us immediately. And we really like her. It seems as if there could only be this picture of her. This is not a model, this is life. How lovely to be able to grow old – like this.

### **Photo on page 39: Harmony | Author: Andrea Aplowski • 3rd Prize, Amateur Photos**

The old lady and the young boy. A life at the beginning of adulthood – and one that has already seen everything that is part of it. It is the intimacy and respect with which two people meet across the generations. This is how it can look – the relationship that allows us to safeguard traditions, experience new things and transfer the past to the future. By aesthetically reducing the double portrait to a pure black and white representation, the picture avoids being a cliché and reveals the mystery of the dialogue between old and young.

### **Photo on page 53: Goodbye to the family home | Author: Ursula Saly • Special Prize**

This photo, showing the transition from one's own home to supported living, is also thoughtful and profound. The message is conveyed with pinpoint accuracy, and the execution is beautifully crafted.

### **Photo on page 54: Does she still remember? | Author: Fritz Friesl • 1st Prize, Amateur Photos**

This is an image that violates many of the standard rules of form. Yet it is precisely the apparently unskilled bleeds and visual interference that give this photograph such great integrity. The extreme use of colour, which brilliantly translates the fragrance of the blossoms, is particularly impressive. The synaesthesia hypnotises the observer, drawing him into the image and placing him in the role of the person depicted. Age thus becomes tangible and can be experienced – positively. The picture does not reveal that the old lady is probably suffering from dementia, as the author's comment indicates. And that is not relevant, in any case. This is the good news in this work.

**Photo on page 55: The old people's window | Author: Traugott May • Special prize**

A very skilful image structure: The picture achieves its powerful impact through the direct eye contact and the use of the grab handle of the hospital bed as a “window”. This touches and affects us.

**Photo on page 58: Love despite everything | Author: Jürgen Schwiers • Special prize**

A snapshot of a long life story: He has survived five strokes and the couple are fellow travellers in life, carried by love. Sensitive, thoughtful and profound.

**Photo on page 77: A day in May | Author: Timm Stütz • 1st Prize, Professional Photos**

Woodstock lives. Here, two people who belong together are lying in the grass. However, the picture is not just a trite reconstruction as an homage to the wild 1960s. Instead, it shows a couple who could have been there then. The “snapshot” element is removed. This is reflected in the two cropped feet at the upper edge of the picture – the fact that they have not been cut off shows how well calculated the composition is. The motif is uncontrived and thus feels simply tender. Amateur, after all, originally meant “lover”. A wonderful depiction of life in old age.

**Photo on page 81: The master and his pupil | Author: Kristin Loos • Special prize**

A photo reminiscent of the “Old Masters” in the world of painting, it is characterised by its absolute mastery of light and contrast. Calm, concentration and trust are the dominant feelings in the picture.

**Photo on page 88: The revival of the crochet bikini | Author: Eva Swoboda • 3rd Prize, Professional Photos**

Women alone together. Two who have seen a lot in life – and one who still has her life before her. The scene shows a close female community. And, to a certain extent, it presents the female inter-generational contract as part of the laws of nature. At this moment, who needs gender-based jargon or the fig-leaf of feminism? These Three Graces are totally together with each other. The lines and the colour balance are sublime. What seems rather unskilled at first glance proves to be an effortless composition in the style of the Old Masters. Only the imagery is contemporary – and thus “forever young”.

**Photo on page 91: So near and yet so far | Author: Sandra Niermann • Special prize**

A skilful double portrait. The presentation is recognisable immediately, and yet it looks spontaneous and lively. Young and old show similar emotions – which makes old age seem relative.

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Timm Stütz

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Holger Rochow

*bottom, from left*

Sven Löffler

Dieter Thomas

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Volker Wagner

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Michael C. Möller

*bottom left*

Christian Scholz

*right*

Sandra Niermann

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**Page 13***top left*

Karel Stipek

*bottom left*

André Schubert

*right*

Cordula Conredel

**Page 14***top*

Angelika Henke -Rumpf

*bottom*

Viorel Munteanu

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Marion Wenzel

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Andrea Hofmann

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Claus Liewerkus

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**Page 18***both pictures*

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**Page 25**

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Ferdinand Jendrejewski

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Richard Hebstreit

*bottom, from left*

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Jörg Kassühlke

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Ursula Henn

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Christian Träger

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**Page 34***top left*

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*bottom left*

Ruediger Kramer

*right*

Dietmar Arnold

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Lena Brunnquell

*bottom, from left*

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Richard Hebstreit

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**Page 39**

Andrea Aplowski



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*bottom left*

Agnes Gerstenberg

*right*

Milena Kirschner

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*bottom*

Josef Hinterleitner

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Kirsten Seyfarth

*middle row from left*

Hartmut Weber

Barbara Jäger

*bottom*

Agnes Schürkötter

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Heike Meffert

Karlheinz Nickola

*bottom*

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*bottom, from left*

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Werner Schaub

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Arnaud Roi

*bottom*

Jürgen Schwiers

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*top*

Eberhard Vogler

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Bernd Küppers

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Joachim Büchler

**Page 94**

Christina Markard

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Ingo Bartussek

**Page 96**

*from left*

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Babette Siewe

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Olaf Slaghekke

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Christian Rummel

**Cooperation partners for the Photo and Video Competition  
«What's old anyway?»:**

BARMER GEK  
[www.barmer-gek.de](http://www.barmer-gek.de)



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[www.dvf-fotografie.de](http://www.dvf-fotografie.de)



Deutscher Volkshochschulverband • DVV  
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