

ABOUT KATRIN HERZNER (GERMANY)

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When trying to start describing what Katrin is all about it's important to note that she gave away all her belongings some time ago and has been travelling and working in exchange for food and places to sleep at ever since. She keeps what's important to stay inside the grid close and leaves the rest behind on a regular basis. Money truly is secondary in Katrin's life considerations. From cutting hedges over caring for elderly people to sorting through garbage- ever since she made that spontaneous decision she has experienced a multitude of ways in which it is possible to make getting by her way possible. Her stay at the Niederlassung in Wedding is "paid" for by her helping with renovating the Institute's new space Betriebsgelände in Weißensee.

Next to living in this special way she has made it her quest and art project to follow a straight line headed eastward by foot. She started walking from an exhibition in Freiburg, only accompanied by her backpack, a tent and a compass, without planning anything or knowing where her finish line will be. Ever since then Katrin has taken 8 travelling trips down that path, the last of which ended somewhere in the Ukraine. The only way in which this is fairly remotely documented is a landline where people can reach her on the road 24 hours a day. When getting a call, Katrin tries to share current states, dreams and random thoughts with the anonymous addressee by just starting to talk. She chose this way of coping with her travelling experiences carefully and purposefully, because to her sharing them seemed like the only way of making them matter. She says that it's almost like the line is made out of the people she meets and talks to along

the way and that it's also become her life in a certain metaphorical way now. In this sense she has created a unique way of capturing the beauty of fleetingness and humanity in an unbearably speedy world.

Katrin doesn't ever know when she will hit the ground running again. That's not only an important factor for the overall process of her project, but also explains why having an end point to look forward to was never part of the plan for her. Someone smart once said that it's about the journey, not the destination and it seems like Katrin has made it her mission to find out just how much that is true for her and everyone lined up along her way.