



Press Release

Log-in instead of check in: On the road with Graphic Travelogues

Boarding completed: The Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan New Delhi invites you to embark on a special journey through its website *Graphic Travelogues*, set to be launched on 12 June 2020.

Travel, as a theme per se, plays an important role in various art forms – be it in literature through Goethe's Italian Journey, in film through Wim Wenders' road movie 'Paris, Texas' or in music through Richard Strauss' 'Alpine Symphony', to name a few examples. But, comics and graphic novels as art forms do not quite capture the attention they deserve, especially when it comes to travel.

With the website 'Graphic Travelogues', this will change: it **highlights travel experiences of international comic artists, identifies recurring themes and provides a platform for their work**, while also raising questions around concepts and motivations, techniques and experiences.

Around the world with a drawing pencil

Through an interactive world map, *Graphic Travelogues* offers travel and comic enthusiasts, the possibility to select their destination and discover the most diverse places, regions, and countries, together with renowned artists. Care to explore Havana with Reinhard Kleist or perhaps Delhi with Barbara Yelin? A trek through the Australian Outback with Jan Bauer or in the mighty Himalayas with Philip Cassirer? From sketches to graphic novels and graphic diaries to travel illustrations, there is something for every type of traveler – be it adventure or meaning seekers, everyday heroes, connoisseurs, or city explorers.

The Goethe-Instituts around the world work regularly with German comic artists, resulting in a large collection which remains yet to be fully discovered and made accessible to the masses, mainly because many treasures are partly hidden, stored in private archives, on servers, or in drawers. But, not anymore. Since 2019, the creators have been collecting and sifting through all the **Graphic Travelogues**. They created an initial, carefully subjective selection of works and decided immediately: the website must and will grow. To bring to light new comics and artists from all over the world.

"About a year ago, when we in the South-Asia region began with the **idea of traveling the world with a pen and a screen**, no one had imagined how topical this could become," says Thomas Meyer, Head of Information at the Goethe-Institut New Delhi. "We are glad that with *Graphic Travelogues*, we can open a door to the world at a time when it is somewhat closed to many people. It is therefore, that we are especially happy that *Graphic Travelogues* is being translated into other languages. Besides German and English, the website will soon be available in Russian as well." Given that Eastern Europe and Central Asia are already on board through their contributions to comic art and travel destinations in Russia. "This is exactly our goal, to discover the world with international artists," explains Meyer.

Those returning to the website can look forward to new destinations on the map, which will be opened up by upcoming comic artists. "At a later date, we will hold residencies that, unfortunately, had to be postponed due to the current situation. We believe, many new travel artworks will be created in the process", Thomas Meyer adds.

Come on this journey with us at www.goethe.de/india/graphictravelogues

More information:

Thomas Meyer
Director Information Services
Region South Asia
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan
3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg
New Delhi-110001
Tel.: +91 11 23471100 Ext.237
thomas.meyer@goethe.de

www.goethe.de

**GOETHE
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.