



BUILDING BRIDGES - BRÜCKENBAU

TEIL 3 – WELLENREITEN TRANSKRIPT

I was away from the school. And I started meeting other young people and, in particular, I met a bunch of people, young guys, who were the first to have ever surfed the Taranaki coast. And I talked to them and straight away you could feel the passion, and you could see it – just how cool it was. That really attracted (to) me. And they invited me to have a go. And so, I did, and I was absolutely hooked. And I got into it, and I, actually, with the help of a friend, made a homemade board. It was based on a polystyrene blank, which we shaped, and we used boat fibre glass and epi glass resin, boat resin, and made this great big, long thing, which we called the banana board. And that was it! It was just absolutely fascinating.

Taking the time just to sit and look at this. And just feel it. Not in a rush. Just the experience of seeing these waves. I mean, they've been coming in for ever. You get out in that, and there's a kind of a chemistry. Your body feels it. You figure, well hey human beings actually evolved from creatures that came from the sea. Hundreds of millions of years ago. Cellular life on earth developed in a liquid environment like this. When you're out on a surfboard you can look out away from the beach or the coast to the horizon and you see this amazing sky which merges with the horizon and the ocean. And sometimes depending on what's there in terms of waves or clouds, it's almost like the two are - the two merge together. they're the same sort of medium. They belong together. And so that very definitely for me when I think back, is my first feeling for ... This is utterly amazing. You're out in this environment and you see this extraordinary thing above you, this atmosphere, merging down into the ocean, where the waves are generated. Yeah, so that as a - probably 14, 15-year-old - I'm not sure - 16... would be my first memory of really thinking about the atmosphere.

www.goethe.de



BUILDING BRIDGES - BRÜCKENBAU

“You could see the atmosphere merging down into the ocean, all the different colours. You could smell the spray, feel the spray, and it taught me about the environment. I went to the New Plymouth library, and I was amazed to find these books on the environment, on waves: How they’re generated often thousands of kilometres away by big storms. So, waves you get here in New Zealand might have come from the Antarctic or from Hawaii. All of us had this feeling for the environment because you knew that that was what was creating the surf. And we used to talk about the waves. How was it that the waves were formed. And at this stage I had started reading books at the New Plymouth library, and I had found that waves were actually generated thousands of kilometres away by storms. We used to talk about that and how you could predict when they were coming. So, I really started to change very rapidly, after that in terms of Hey. Yeah, you know I started to think about the future, started to think about where I might head.

www.goethe.de