



## **DrumAbout Tour Germany 2016 Report – BERLIN – Kids, Teachers, Elderly DCs**

### **ELDERLY**

The Villa Albrecht is a well elderly rest home and a day center for elderly people that also accommodated the elderly with dementia. This is a special place sponsored by the German Red Cross and the government. This is a very modern, clean, well sunlit and open space.

The elderly participants are regular drum circle participants, as they hold their drum circle sessions twice a week. They own and maintain all of their own equipment.

To finish off my Berlin part of this DrumAbout tour, we met Ricarda Raabe at the Villa Albrecht. She was also at the 3-day Barcelona Playshop on this VMC Euro Tour.

Ricarda instigated this amazing ongoing self-facilitated elderly drum circle, and she still visits and facilitates the circles twice a month. This drum circle I participated in was her 51st one that she has facilitated at this venue.

Ricarda started off the circle with a vocal "Gotten Morgen" call and response with the group that started a great Drum Call.

Basically this was a regular drum circle but populated by elderly people who were veteran drum circle participants. When Ricarda handed the group over to me, "On The Run", they were very well warmed up, and there were some very good gray-haired players in the group.

I did a little "Accent Note Facilitation" and some "Volume Showcasing" before bringing the group to a close and introducing myself.

Then I told them a little story about when I was a small boy visiting in southern Germany, I was taught a local drinking song by Maria Mittamyer. I told the German players that I only knew the first verse and if they would sing along with me, could they teach me the second and third verses. Then we all sang the whole song of "In Munchen stat en Hoffbroy Haus, Ins Zwi Suffa" together... all the way to it's 'Ompa-Ompa' ending. As the group sang, they played their drums all the way to the end.

After our drinking song ended, I asked if anyone else has a song that they wanted to share and lead. Of course, there were plenty of volunteers. We sang five other songs together as we played our drums. Three of those songs were lullabies that their parents had sang to them when they were small children.

After the song session, I brought out the large REMO, (Not So Loud), standup Table Drum that Ben and I had been carrying around in our GEWa drum van. I put it into the center of the circle and produced 4 extra mallets. Then I enticed participants into the center of the circle to play it together. Everyone took turns, while the rest of the circle played with them. Some danced when they were standing and playing the large headed drum. Some sang their own song to themselves as they played. The drum enlivened the

whole room in a totally different way that the regular drum circle did. Ben had also brought in the smaller stand up REMO Table Drum and had two other people play it in the back of the circle.

At the end of the drumming session Benjamin Flohr, as the official representation of GEWA, announced that we were going to give Ricarda the smaller Table Drum to use in her programs as a "Permanent - Temporary - Loan." Ricarda jumped for joy. A great end to a great drum circle, and a great end to the Berlin part of our Germany DrumAbout.

Here are some Facebook pics...

[www.facebook.com/philipp.schaefer.71/posts/1137700872982623](http://www.facebook.com/philipp.schaefer.71/posts/1137700872982623)

Does that work? Now its time to travel south to Cologne.

Life is a dance..... When your Sharing your Spirit... Arthur

Quelle:

<https://villagemusiccircles.com/arthurs-corner/global-drumabout/germany-2016-report-berlin-kids-teachers-elderly-dcs/>