

## Moments in Time 1989/1990

### (“Wir waren so frei ... Momentaufnahmen 1989/1990 im Unterricht“)

#### The Internet archive

The Internet archive [wir-waren-so-frei.de](http://wir-waren-so-frei.de) came into being with the exhibition of the same name, “Wir waren so frei ... Momentaufnahmen 1989/1990,” which took place between 1 May and 9 November 2009 at the Museum für Film und Fernsehen in Berlin. The exhibition centred around approximately 300 private photos and films, which were contrasted with recordings of international TV reports and images by German documentary filmmakers. A search was launched from summer 2008 for these private images from the years 1989/1990, snapshots that go beyond official reporting. Following appeals in newspapers, research with the aid of amateur film clubs and experts, as well as via friends and employees, around 180 private lenders sent in more than 7,000 photos, 40 hours of film material (8mm, 16mm, High8) and more than 100 short and long personal stories.

All submitted shots for which their lenders have agreed to publication are now permanently presented in the Internet archive [www.wir-waren-so-frei.de](http://www.wir-waren-so-frei.de). This makes the archive the most comprehensive online collection by the Deutsche Kinemathek so far and, at the same time, also a type of pilot project for the establishment, to find out how collections can be presented on the Internet. When the project commenced it was definite that the archive was to be freely accessible and interactively usable. Content can be rated; registered users can comment and tag. The aim is an archive that not only shows images, but puts these images into context and thereby make (hi)stories vivid and liveable, turns them into material for reflection and teaching and thereby fulfils the claim of a modern archive.

In order to realize this, licensing – which is often the biggest obstacle for any publication on the Internet – played a crucial part. Some 80% (exactly: 77.7%) of the films and photos are subject to Creative Commons licence CC BY-NC-ND 3.0: “Namensnennung-NichtKommerziell-Keine Bearbeitung 3.0 Deutschland” (“Attribution – Non-Commercial – No Derivative Work 3.0 Germany”). This means that everyone is permitted to reproduce, disseminate the work, or respectively the content, and make it accessible to the public. Subject to the following conditions:

- **Attribution** — You must attribute the work in the manner specified by the author or licensor
- **Non-commercial use** — You may not use this work for commercial purposes.
- **No Derivative works** — You may not alter, transform, or build upon this work.

(Source: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>)

This form of licensing made it possible to make sure that the materials are available in schools or universities, as well as for exhibitions or other non-commercial purposes. Younger generations in particular, who did not personally experience the period of upheaval, are to be the target users of the image fund. During workshops with school groups at the Museum für Film und Fernsehen and through the feedback from teachers it soon became clear that targeted interpretations can make confrontation with the images easier. The primary aim, therefore, is to make the films and photos on [wir-waren-so-frei.de](http://wir-waren-so-frei.de) utilisable specifically for teaching at school, as the content of the Internet archive meets a curricula-defined scholastic need. Thus, the multimedia offering which is available around the clock is to be made utilisable for everyday teaching purposes with the portal, “Wir-waren-so-frei ... im Unterricht.”

### **Framework conditions**

The important aspect when designing the portal, beside the content-related weighting and elaboration of the scholastic work materials themselves, is accessibility for the teacher as multiplier. In this context the time factor is crucial, as offerings designed for school use must keep in mind the short time budget of this professional group and must not be (majorly) time-consuming. It is therefore one of the primary aims of the teaching project to prepare the image fund in order to enhance the attractiveness of working with the stocks in school.

### **Utilisation concept**

The portal is set up for a double target group. Teachers and students respectively will be able to work with it, without having to call up completely different pages. The difference lies, rather, in virtual freedom of movement within the portal: while the teacher’s freedom of manoeuvre is extensive when “surfing” on the portal (intuitive or topic-specific access or according to performance level) and is primarily used for lesson preparation – this also includes textbooks and information materials -, the idea is to have students work first of all singly, in pairs or in groups within a specified framework (a sub-page on the work materials) on curriculum-relevant content with a clearly defined selection of image and text sources, before free research within the Internet archive is involved too.

Taking school reality into account, i.e. limited technical equipment and the limited technical affinity of some teaching staff, the materials are designed for both online and offline work, or other mixed forms of use are also conceivable, though.

## Content

The everyday school routine is taken into consideration in the choice of topics and methods, as well in the devising of tasks, to make integration in regular lessons easier. The image fund of the Internet archive was drawn on to perform a quintessential selection of images and films that are connected with tasks on image analysis, the historical context but also partially with creative work. The image fund's content-related weighting, equally its genesis, led to a focus being placed on the school subjects history, political science and art, as the content relation is self-explanatory for these subjects and the content contained within the stocks of the Internet archive (German-German division, fall of the Wall and period of upheaval, image analysis) is an established part of the subject curricula.

Topic complexes: Image and text sources were consolidated as examples in the following topic complexes. This was performed in the form of work materials for various performance levels (elementary level, secondary I and secondary II) on the following topics

- Leisure
- Border and Wall
- Hope
- Youth
- Parties and placards
- Protest

Special topics: To enable freer access, but also for use beyond the classic teaching format (double period / lesson unit at three hours each), special topics are on offer. These are also suitable among other things for use as part of project or field days or class trips (to Berlin):

- Perspectives: Another look at the period of upheaval
- Today and then: Historically important places as times changed
- City walking tour: On photographic trails ...

The major potential of interaction and participation in designing multimedia Web offerings also extends – at first only with the Feedback function – to the portal, “Wir-waren-so-frei ... im Unterricht,” which on the one hand recognises the students' efforts (working results acknowledged through publication) and, on the other hand, presents possible usage scenarios to future portal visitors. However, during the pilot phase the interactive potential is still limited to the already mentioned function, as the focus here is on evaluating and optimising the portal design and work material. From practical usage experience with the

portal in particular, the expansion of individual interactive usage methods may ensue subsequently.

### **Evaluation**

User-friendliness and the question of the target-group specific design of the portal and its content is to be examined during an evaluation phase. Schools from throughout Germany will be able to try out the materials – with subject-related and, if necessary, staff support – during summer 2011 and, with the evaluation they complete afterwards, will help to turn “Wir-waren-so-frei ... im Unterricht” into an enrichment of scholastic work.