



Das Land des Lächelns

Martin Langer

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- Martin Langer's black-and-white photos illustrate everyday life from the early 1980s in the Ostwestfalen-Lippe region

The 1980s weren't that long ago, but visually much has changed. Martin Langer's black-and-white photos illustrate everyday life from the early 1980s in the Ostwestfalen-Lippe region, focusing on the towns of Bielefeld, Detmold, Herford, Gütersloh and Paderborn. Also depicted are the forests and meadows in between, but Langer's approach to his craft falls into the genre of street photography. So the stage is set for the day-to-day, complimented by subjects photographed at the sidelines of major local events.

Text in German.

Martin Langer studied photography in Bielefeld in the 1980s. Since then, he has been working as a photographer who focuses on political and social issues. His most famous photo from 1992 shows an unemployed man in Lichtenhagen wearing a German football shirt and urine-stained jogging bottoms while doing the Nazi salute. It is one of the most iconic images from German post-war photography. The photo has been published hundreds of times, and is on display in collections at the Haus der Geschichte museum in Bonn and the German Historical Museum in Berlin.

