

Dear friends,  
Dear supporters of Denkstatt,  
Dear companions of the Toymakers' Festival,

As you already know, this year is a special one! **From 29 to 31 August 2025, the Toymakers' Festival** will take place for the third time in Seiffen – where it all began. But this time it will be different. Bigger. More visible. European! From parachute pilots to graffiti art – the festival programme is set, and you'll be the first to know!

Thanks to the unique collaboration with Chemnitz 2025 European Capital of Culture, we can take the festival, which we have built up together with you and a lot of passion over the last few years, to a new level.

### **>> Wooden toys on the main stage <<**

What began as a local initiative at DENKSTATT is now part of a European cultural project – visible across borders, supported by people who take play seriously and want to keep craftsmanship and culture alive.

We cordially invite you to join us (again) – whether as a visitor, multiplier, helper, supporter – or simply as someone who wants to enjoy a few beautiful, inspiring, surprising days in the toy village of Seiffen.

You can expect 45 participants from the toy corner of the Ore Mountains, Saxony, Germany, Europe, as well as the USA and Japan.  
And a very special highlight on top of that: we are transforming the former Seiffen water park from a lost place into a happy place.

- Changing rooms become exhibition spaces
- The swimming pool becomes a workplace and dance floor
- The terrace into an adventure garden
- The slide into the venue for a very special wooden car derby

### **It all starts on Thursday, 28 August:**

5 p.m.: short tour of Seiffen with 2-3 marble run stations (meeting point: Hotel Bunttes Haus)

7 p.m.: “SommerHutzn”! Campfire, guitar and barbecue in the garden of the Denkstatt (address: Waldweg 2) for a warm welcome and getting to know each other.

## **Friday, 29 August:**

From 10 a.m.: Forum & symposium for experts from the fields of craftsmanship, education, design and culture – with exciting lectures and international exchange in the “Haus des Gastes”

On Saturday and Sunday, you can look forward to three days full of crafts, knowledge, games, design, music and encounters.

A programme for children, adults, the young and the young at heart – for anyone who is curious about crafts, wooden toys, art and shared experiences.

Rediscover the joy of play at numerous interactive stations and in exciting workshops:

- Build your own parachute pilot and take off on a long flight.
- Design an original PineWoodCar from the USA and win the challenge on the slide.
- Build an ark from a matchbox and special small parts.
- Launch a wooden bicycle down the pipe – or build your own
- Experience automata – mechanical marvels – and try your hand at their mechanisms
- Let a UFO spin the future or design your own spinning top
- Explore a boundless world of play made of coloured wooden elements – stack, sort, combine, invent.
- Stamp to your heart’s content or conquer the stream with homemade wooden boats.
- Build small and large ball tracks – until they fill entire rooms.
- Become a game character yourself or immerse yourself in digital worlds.
- Paint your own wooden figure – using a special painting technique that leaves delicate colour gradients and the wood grain visible.
- Design your own whimsical character from geometric wood scraps.
- Experience how urban graffiti art meets wooden toys – and design your own piece that combines tradition and street style.

...and that’s just a first taste! 😊

And of course – as befits a real festival: handmade music – local heroes play every day!

- Thursday evening: Campfire & acoustic guitar
- Friday evening: Asphalttraketen & DJ at the opening – festival kick-off with a party atmosphere
- Saturday afternoon: Kevin Jones & George Martin Unplugged with relaxed grooves for a laid-back festival afternoon
- Saturday evening: Festival-style party night with Expect – the band & DJ
- Sunday morning: exciting children’s and family programme with Pirate Whysker

- Sunday afternoon: Festival finale in Erzgebirge style with the Hutznbossen – a final highlight before we say goodbye to each other.

But that's not all: Seiffen is becoming a festival town!

In addition to the programme at the water park, we are also organising a unique **toy maker rally in the toy village**:

Various workshops will open their doors and offer an individual programme – visitors to the stations can win great prizes!

To get you from A to B comfortably, there will be a **shuttle service** from the various car parks in the village to the workshops and the festival site (there are no parking spaces at the festival grounds themselves; the road in front of the water park will also be closed at this time.

And for those who are travelling from further afield or would like to stay for the whole weekend:

In addition to hotels and guesthouses in the village, a **caravan site and a campsite** will also be set up this year – making the festival a mini holiday experience in the heart of the Ore Mountains. Please contact us if you are interested.

### **Important note:**

Due to official regulations, the number of tickets is limited. We strongly recommend that you buy your tickets in advance. (Participants do not need a ticket, of course.)

There are different types of tickets – from day tickets to festival passes – so you can plan your visit according to your wishes.

Tickets: <http://bit.ly/4lo8iyd>

→ You can find the poster and logo in the attachment – feel free to forward, post, print or display them – whether in your shop, office, WhatsApp status, social media or in your window at home.

Because this festival thrives on our collective support.

We look forward to seeing you in Seiffen at the end of August!

And afterwards, we'll be back with more exciting news from the mountains! For example, our preparations for Dutch Design Week, great product collaborations, the Interreg programme in the Czech Republic, and much more.

Best regards,  
Genia & Markus

Denkstatt Erzgebirge