## Basket Fair 2019 Preparations

**Basket Fair Jubilee: for the 40th time in Lichtenfels**

**Teilbereich „Flechtkultur“ - das Flecht•Kultur•Festival**

The 40th Basket Fair - A reason for celebration. Namely with friends, who have played a crucial role in shaping the road to the international Weaving Culture Festival during the last few years. They all will be a part of a special jubilee event.

The preparations for the wickerwork cultural part of the basket fair 2019 are generally finished. This is the programme we have arranged:

<table>
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<th>Weaving Project: Parish Church</th>
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<td>This will be one of the highlights of the 40th basket fair for the visitors keen on weaving. Three internationally famous wickerwork artists agreed to contribute to the jubilee in form of a wickerwork project.</td>
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**Jette Mellgren and Jan Johannsen** are a Danish wickerwork artist couple, which has been invited to many international art projects. Long-time visitors of the basket fair will remember their exhibition "Wickerwork Culture in Uganda" in the former synagogue (2015).

**Tim Johnson** is a British artist that lives in Catalonia. Since 2013 he's actually regularly visited Lichtenfels around the time of the Wickerwork Culture Festival. Last year's exhibition of his work in Lichtenfels "Lines and Fragments" in the city castle gained international attention. In 2015 he enriched the basket fair together with Lore Wild, who will have a booth in the garden of the Parish Church, with the project "Shelters" (Wicker igloos).

**Carlos Fontales and Joan Farré Oliver** are a wickerwork artist team from Spain, who have realised a vast number of art and wickerwork projects not just in Spain. Attentive visitors of the basket fair know them from their project "Castles in the Air" in 2017 in front of the Stadtpfarrkirche.

What's special about this is that we can give three teams consisting of students and graduates of the technical college for wickerwork design the opportunity to work directly with the established artists and to simultaneously gain experience in a very significant part of wickerwork culture.
Exhibitions in the City Castle

For this anniversary year we managed to attract informative and interesting exhibitions from Europe for the City Castle once again.

Andrea Magnolini (Italy) with the exhibition „Baskets in the Frame“.
The idea behind the exhibition is genius and shows that weaving techniques has been passed on over centuries (and more!). Paintings of 16 Italian masters which show baskets, were the inspiration. Italian wickerwork masters have weaved the baskets after these models. Parts of the paintings now appear completely sculptural.

Serfenta (Poland), an association for the support of the wickerwork of Poland, leader: Paulina Adamska with the exhibition „We Weave!“
The creative team of the association Serfenta surrounding Pauline Adamska has developed a new exhibition which tells the stories surrounding the weaving materials used in Europe die Geschichten rund um in Europa verwendetem Flechtmaterial erzählt - based on practical examples.
- 33 boards with photos and descriptions
- Many weaved items - traditionally & newly designed products like bags, mats, baskets, etc.
- Three interactive booths where one can test one’s skills
- Movies about the materials and Serfenta
- Three weaving workshops to make one’s own weaved item out of the materials (see flechtworkshops.de).

Basketmaker-Museum Dalhausen headed by Hansger Butteweck and Centre of European Weaving Culture. with Manfred Rauh: „Me and my favourite basket“.
A small but extraordinary exhibitions, which changes constantly with new posts arriving through the Internet. For it is an interactive photo art project that grows from cooperation. Information and participation: www.ichundmeinlieblingskorb.de

Tip: Visitors of the basket fair 2019 can even have their photos taken with their new baskets in the pavilion of the garden of Parish Church. Technology makes this possible: Shortly after the picture is a part of the photo art project which can be viewed in the city castle.

Gentle giants celebrate with us: DUNDU

After their renowned appearence in Lichtenfels 2013 and 2014 the giant puppets made out of mesh really took off. They conquered the continents of the world in a peaceful manner.

Meanwhile they are famous globally and are ambassadors for togethers - just "Du und Du" (you and you), recently in the Allianz-Arena or at a global cultural symposium in Weimar.

Even though they have a very busy schedule, they did not want to miss the 40th basket fair and want to celebrate with us. However because of other appointments they can only be seen in Lichtenfels on Saturday.

The programme on Saturday:

Starting at 12 p.m. they will join us during the parade.

Starting at about 4 p.m. they will visit the market bustle in a "Walking Act" and eventually as a highlight:

In the evening they will perform a show with the then lit up Dundus in front of the townhall.

We're already excited and looking forward to our dear friends from Swabia.

For more information on the artistic work and the often very emotional performances, see www.dundu.de

Theatre Dramaukles

No matter if as "Allfons - the balloonist", as "Marie", the photographer „Gustave“ or recently as „Generall de Fleur“ - the professional actor and theatre man Sven Lange has enchanted us all with his stilt figures. The figures - above all "Allfons" - belong to the basket market just like the baskets themselves.

One can be excited whether he has invented something new once again. Rumours are afloat that he's bringing an Elfriede Schlackenstein this time!

Further information: www.dramaukles.de

Basket-Merry-go-round (Switzerland)

The Basket-merry-go-round by Werner Turtschi has been greatly enjoyed especially by children for many years! Werner Turtschi is one of the most well known basketmakers in Switzerland who campaigns a lot for his work in his homeland. He's also part of the team this year. Now his merry-go-round is already an Institution or rather an endearing tradition directly next to the townhall.

For more information see www.flechtereien.ch
**Basket theatre Alfred Büttner**

And the unique basket theatre by Alfred Büttner celebrates its anniversary as well: The puppet theatre with the stage woven by a master of basketry has been performing for 30 years. Congratulations! Everything started - and that closes the circle - with a first performance at the basket fair in Lichtenfels 30 years ago!!

This year’s programme which is free for all visitors because of the support coming from the City of Lichtenfels and the Sparkasse Coburg-Lichtenfels:

**Saturday 2:30pm and Sunday 4pm:**
"Der kleine Rabe Socke - Alles Rabenstark"
A redraft of the in Germany well-known raven is being performed. The small raven "Socke" (sock) loves to play all day long. And because he loves to ruffle his feathers and open his beak wide, he loves to play king.
Duration 45 minutes; for children

**Saturday 4:30pm and Sunday 2pm:**
"Olga packt aus"
A „coo(w)l story about lots of garbage that doesn’t have to exist...“.
Duration 45 minutes; for children
All performances take place in the former synagogue.
For further information regarding the pieces, see [www.korbtheater.de](http://www.korbtheater.de)

**International Market Parish Church**

The centrepiece of the Weaving Culture Festival in Lichtenfels is the market around the parish church. It is the most important market for high-quality baskets and wickerwork in all of Europe. This is reflected both in the number of registrations and in the origin of the exhibitors this year.

Exactly 41 stands are located in this part of the basket market around the City Parish Church and in the idyllic parish garden - more stands than ever before. We had some cancellations due to illness but also many new registrations, so that the stands were not sufficient. Some of the basket makers could still be accommodated in the Coburger Straße.

And the exhibitors come from many parts of Europe, besides Germany from eight other nations. For the first time also from Norway. The total number of journey kilometres for the exhibitors is 26,016.
New stand concept Parish Church

Another novelty for the 40th anniversary: The city of Lichtenfels has decided for several reasons to purchase new market stands for the area around the City Parish Church. This is a big step forward and also does justice externally to such a large international market.

This is a great improvement especially for the exhibitors from many parts of Europe because they don’t have to use precious space for their own stand. The extremely time-consuming and messy setup phase on Friday afternoon will also hopefully cease because the stands will already be assembled!

The 41 stands surrounding the City parish Church are available in three different sizes so that the floor space can be used most efficiently.

The stands were supported with subsidies by the EU from the LEADER-Programme - a great decision-making aid.

Around the townhall

apart from basket businesses of the Bavarian guild of wicker work, important institutions of the wicker work craftsmanship present themselves, like the vocational school for wickerwork design in Lichtenfels and the German basket museum in Michelau. One can be curious for the project of the vocational school! It isn’t entirely sure yet but there might be an informational stand of the partner school from Fayl-Billot (France) right next door.

Here a new stand concept comes into effect as well. The stands of the basketmakers and wickerwork designers are now at both sides and behind the townhall to satisfy the desires of the exhibitors for less noisy stands (customer talks!). At the front side, the stage technology stand will be followed by the information stand of the basket fair.

Basket merchants

from many different regions of Germany and beyond - e.g. from Lithuania or Poland - will show their goods mainly along the Laurenzistraße and Hirtenstraße.
Gate to the street of the nations

It's for the jubilee: There is going to be a new entrance gate to the "street of the nations" in the Badgasse. Currently there is a draft of Hans Peter Sturm which will be realized by the city of Lichtenfels in cooperation with the Centre of European Weaving Culture.

Hans Peter Sturm is not unknown in the wicker work scene. For Lichtenfels he has designed and realized the "ant" and the pavilion in front of the train station.

A few years ago he weaved onto the ceiling of the church in Aalen. With this project he has been nominated by the jury under the last 50 projects for the FIBRA Award 2019 which honours architecture with herbal fibre. A great honour!

Courses and Workshops

What's more obvious to do when visiting such a major basket fair than trying out oneself how easy or difficult (?) the production of such wicker work actually is. Or one has already participated in some courses and wants to master some new techniques. In this case there are traditional wickerwork courses and workshops.

And for the jubilee basket fair we dare to take another step in the direction of more internationality. Apart from five regional and national resident course instructors there will be international ones as well for the first time who will offer some very remarkable courses. Especially exciting is a two-day course (Thursday and Friday), during which a basket will be woven that has been awarded as intangible cultural heritage in Poland.

The courses will take place in two workshops in the historical vault and on the ground floor of the city castle.

For further information, see flechtworkshops.de

Photo Competition „Fokus Korbmarkt ‘19“

This is intended to encourage visitors who like to take photographs to submit their snapshots and thoughtful motifs to this anniversary basket fair and have them evaluated by a jury of experts in a competition with like-minded people.

The competition is combined with cash prizes for places 1 to 10. The winning pictures will receive 300/200/100 €.

Next to it the winning photo from 2018, "shot" by Helmut Kober in the exhibition Lines and Fragments.

For information and eligibility requirements (which should be looked at), see www.korbmarkt.de
**Recent developments concerning the basket fair can be tracked through our facebook fan page "flechtkulturfestival - Korbmarkt Lichtenfels". The programme will be gradually integrated into our official Internet page [www.korbmarkt.de](http://www.korbmarkt.de).**

V.i.S.d.P.: Manfred Rauh (Projektleiter)
Zentrum europäischer Flechtkultur Lichtenfels, Ringgasse 4, 96215 Lichtenfels, rauh@flechtkultur.eu

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**The „Orga-Team“ …**

… is something we really want to draw attention to at this point. Young and committed inhabitants of Lichtenfels who are involved in the basket fair as friendly helpers and who support the operators. They distribute programmes, help with the search for attractions, lend their support to artists, are active in the backstage area and are always there when they are needed. Every helping hand is important at such a huge event. In case one wants to join (helpers are always welcome!), just get in touch through the mail address rauh@flechtkultur.eu or come to the city manager Steffen Hofmann in the townhall.