



PhotoMail is an occasional picture newsletter for those with an interest in photography, nature and the environment, travel, Africa, Zambia, African life and happening things. And especially for those who just like looking at pictures.

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The Story Behind the Pictures: The Creators: Aufschnitt - Berlin's Fabric Butchery

In this PhotoMail, we take a look at an example of The Creators - those people who think, dream and do things new and differently.

Anything goes in Berlin! Parts of former East Berlin are being redeveloped and are now thriving and "hip" centres for a large influx of young people and a huge number of "start-up" businesses, attracting those with new and innovative ideas.

Walking along one of these trendy, cafe-lined streets, most people tend to walk straight past what appears to be a traditional butcher's shop - some meat on a slab in the window; joints of beef, pork and ham looking fresh, clean and cold in a well-lit butcher's display counter; and sausages & polony galore hanging from bright hooks on the white-tiled wall behind.

But then many passers-by suddenly stop, shake their heads in a "double-take", and go back in disbelief: "Did I really see that?" they seem to be asking themselves. Then they see the butcher's produce they thought they saw is in fact made not from meat, but from fabrics! Cotton, velvet, polyester, spandex, satin, leather etc. all designed, cut and sewn to look just like the real thing. No such thing as digital printing here!



Aufschnitt - Berlin's First Fabric Butchery is in the trendy Friedrichshain district of east Berlin (Aufschnitt = "Cold Cuts")



As I peered through the window, the door opened and Silvia introduced herself saying: "Please come in to look, the sausages don't bite..."



Look through the Aufschnitt window and you realise what you're really seeing - pieces of fabric skillfully fashioned into joints of meat, sausages, steaks etc. Even the butcher's scales are made from textiles.



The leg of ham Bean Bag on the floor comes in two "flavours" - Italian Air-Dried and Black Forest Smoked! On the wall display are a Cow Heart Pillow and a butchered Cow Stomach Pillow, complete with oozing stomach contents.



'Beef' going through the Aufschnitt mincer



Sunny side up? In the backroom workshop, Rebecca (from Australia) makes big fried eggs. They are sold for use as conversation-stopping pillows and cushions.



Workshop



Bread & buns



Welcome to the amazing Aufschnitt! See more creative ideas, and buy some cold cuts, at www.aufschnitt.net

Technical (all shots):
 Leica M Summilux 50mm/f1.4 ASPH &
 Leica M Summicron 35mm/f2.0 ASPH

Advertisement

PHOTOGRAPHER FOR HIRE

Stephen Robinson is a photographer operating from his Zambia base. He undertakes photo assignment work in the corporate, industrial, mining, donor-aid project and environmental fields, including the production of photo based communications, advertising and promotional media.

This commercial work supports his nature photography speciality, including landscape, environment, conservation and wildlife work - and including his well-known panoramic photography project and exhibitions on the remote landscape, peoples and environment of Zambia.

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