

My India

Feature by Merzouga.

Produced by Westdeutscher Rundfunk 2016.



Childhood and youth in Vorarlberg, an Alpine region in Austria. High mountains. A book on their parents' shelf about "Yogis, Sorceres and Fakirs" triggers the twin-brothers' longing for mystical, foreign landscapes. Throughout their lives, this longing helps them to navigate their own development and gives their lives direction.

"Driven by our longing and our curiosity, we consequently set out to places that represented some kind of a promise", says Wolfgang Herbert. For the cultural scientist this was Japan, for his twin brother, jazz-musician Peter Herbert it was New York. At almost 50 they went on a journey together to India, the place of their teenage-dreams.

"Life-longings (Sehnsüchte) can never be fully satisfied", says Prof. Alexandra M. Freund, developmental psychologist at the Zurich University. Life longings are "dialectical figures that advance our development."

"My india is an invention", writes Wolfgang Herbert. "A country that lies in the past, in my childhood. India is an inner continent."

Regie & Komposition: Merzouga

Featuring: Wolfgang Herbert, Peter Herbert, Prof. Alexandra M. Freund (O-Tones), Robert Dölle, Katharina Schmalenberg

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