

# DORF EIGEN ART a "participative open art village initiative"

Landkreis Kassel December 2022





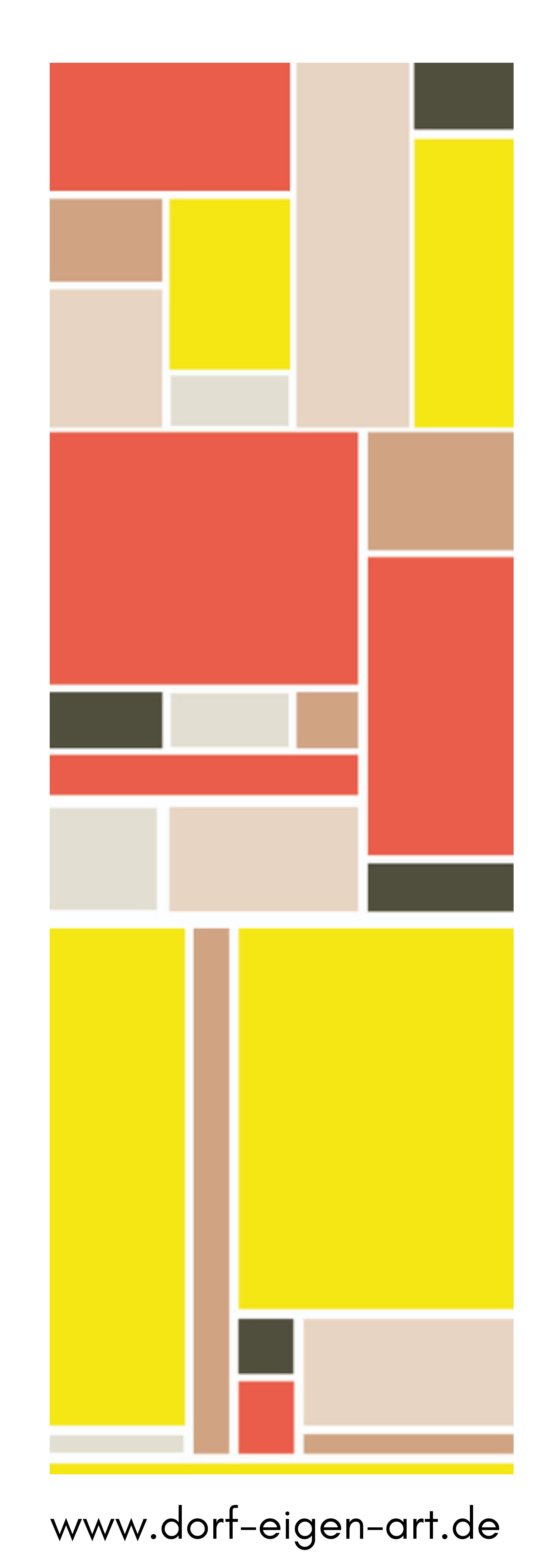




# Alina Hanske-Vogt

board member Dorf Eigen Art e.v.





#### We talk about "DORF EIGEN ART"

- a cultural community in a little village - Zierenberg-Oelshausen (county of Kassel)

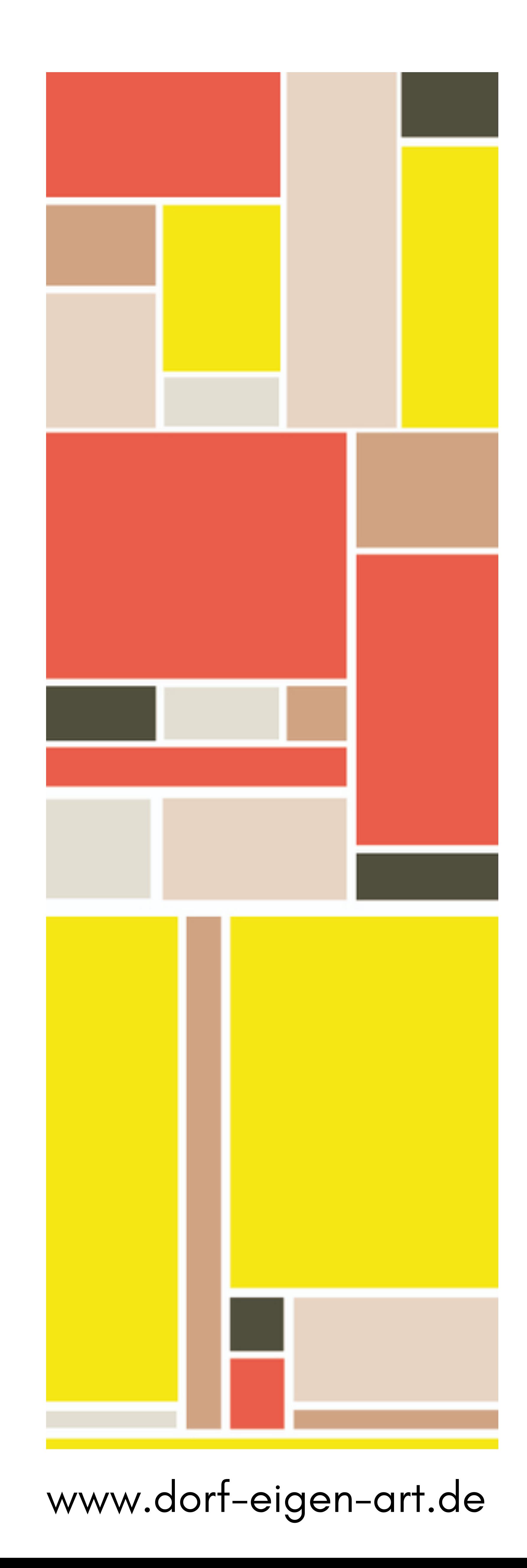
My interview partner is Alina Hanske-Vogt. She belongs to the board of the cultural association "DORF EIGEN ART" and she will explain and present the project.

#### This are the questions:

- Can you shortly describe the project?
- How did the idea come about?
- Who initiated the process of "community building"?
- What are the goals of DORF EIGEN ART?
- How long did it take to implement?
- Who supported the project in the community?
- Who did support the project financially? Was there financial support from the county or the state of Hesse?
- Is DORF EIGEN ART a success story? Has the work been worthwhile?
- What are the future plans? Is there a concrete action you are working on? When is the next exhibition?
- How do you organize the reconnection, the linking back to your community members and the village citizens?
- What is your connection to the DORF EIGEN ART project?







#### "DORF EIGEN ART"

– a cultural community in a little village – Zierenberg-Oelshausen (county of Kassel)

#### Can you shortly describe the project?

Every 4 years a cultural community in Oelshausen opens doors, gardens and stables for artists and visitors. Private households wellcome people for one week.

#### How did the idea come about?

It started in 1997. The initiative came from Dr. Sylvia Kernke who came back to the village from Munich. She was supported by the politician Bernd Häfner. They saw the potential. Both were active on the board of the association for a long time and have established the art project as a permanent event.

### Who initiated the process of "community building"?

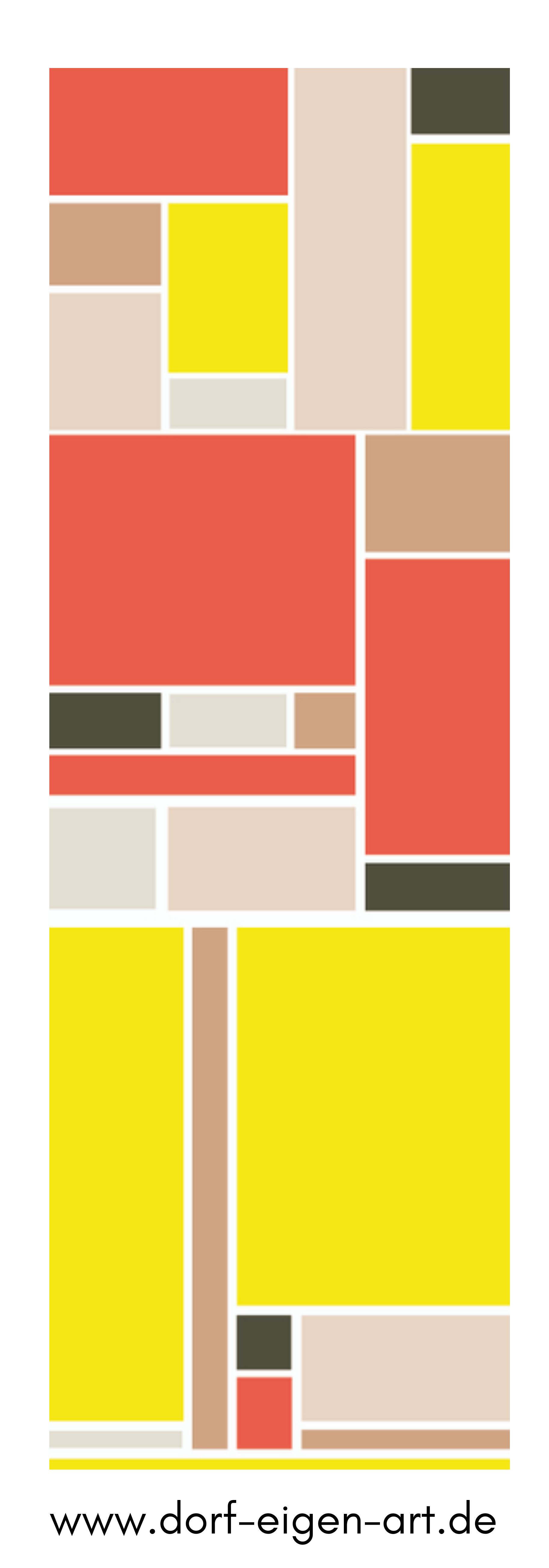
The process of community building was started by asking people personally if they want to participate. S. Kernke chose the market place to address people.

### What are the goals of Dorf-Eigen-Art?

The initiative wants to show that living in a village, living in a rural area does not mean to be cut off from cultural life and art. They wanted to demonstrate, that a common idea and participation of the village community can create positive actions.







### How long did it take to implement?

The idea was born in 1997 and in the same year the first art exhibition opened its doors and houses. This was only possible due to the personal connections and involvement of the initiators.

#### Who supported the project in the community?

The support had to grow, the basis was "mouth-to-mouth-propaganda". The local presence of the initiators was very important. The idea convinced and inspired a lot of people. Families and neighbors caught fire. The support has been growing ever since.

# Who did support the project financially? Was there financial support from the county or the state of Hesse?

It is a financially minimalistic project since it is based on voluntaries. Some money came from the city of Zierenberg and some from the Landkreis Kassel (county)

### Is DORF EIGEN ART a success story? Has the work been worthwhile?

It definitely is a success story. The identification with the village and village life has been growing. And now the village community identifies with the project as well. The number of "art hosts" is stable, the hosts change. The number of supporters is growing, and the number of visitors (4.000) as well. It is a positive stimulation for the village life.







## What are the future plans? Is there a concrete action you are working on? When is the next exhibition?

DORF EIGEN ART has just launched a new homepage. And the next exhibition will open from the 10th–17th of September 2023. The open call for the 7th "Art Village Oeslhausen" has just been published.

# How do you organize the reconnection, the linking back to you community members and the village citizens?

The cultural community is working with a core group of five people. The inspiration coming from a successful, lively and socially positive time is the motivation for doing this.

### What is your connection to the DORF EIGEN ART project?

The connection of Mrs. Hanske-Vogt is typical for a lot of local supporters. She "slipped" into the project because of personal connections. With the engagement grew the commitment and the identification.

The interview was conducted by Wilburg Kleff (Landkreis Kassel + PPS Team)





















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