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„Für 40 Mark quer
durchs Land?“ fragte Jim.
„Richtig“, nickte Lukas.



**Bahnreisen zu Jim Knopf-Preisen:
Niedersachsen-Ticket.** Für 40 DM fahren bis
zu 5 Pers. o. Eltern mit allen eigenen Kindern (bis 17J.)
einen Tag durch Niedersachsen, Bremen u. Hamburg.
Mo. bis Fr. von 9–16 und von 18–3 Uhr des Folgetages
In allen Nahverkehrszügen (2. Klasse). Näheres, auch
zu Verbundregelungen, bei allen DB-Verkaufsstellen.



Die Bahn kommt!



DBG-MKT

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freshly-made fruit juice. Incidentally, the location is super-convenient if indulgence rather than freshness is the theme of your evening there: Hallerstraße underground station as well as a taxi rank are virtually right outside.

The Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Hamburg

Roberto Carballo investigates

Founded in the early Fifties by Italy's Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the **Istituto Italiano di Cultura** has 91 centres worldwide, and of the seven in Germany we are lucky enough to have one right on our doorstep here in Hamburg-Rotherbaum. It is located at Hansastraße 6 inside a private villa that the Italian state acquired in 1953, and which was built back in 1911 by Martin Haller.

The IIC offers a wonderful all-round service, targeting culturally-interested learners of Italian as well as native speakers. In abstract terms, they aim to create and foster intercultural contacts, to provide information about Italian life, culture and institutions, to promote cultural events, to help integrate Italian emigrants in Germany as well as keeping their cultural links with home alive, to assist Italian students and scientists here, and to stimulate interest in the Italian language.

In practical terms, fulfilling these objectives involves an impressively comprehensive list of activities and services. The Istituto's library (open Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 10 until 4, and Wed. from midday until 8 p.m.) comprises 10,000 volumes as well as Italian magazines and daily newspapers. They opened a video library last October, which will shortly be followed by a media centre with CD-Roms plus internet facilities. Two years ago, in conjunction with the *Società Dante Alighieri*, they launched an examination centre alongside their existing language courses, which are offered at all learning-levels, as well as conversation courses, intensive courses, literary appreciation lectures, introductions to Italian cookery and preparatory sessions for the "Certificato della Competenza Generale in Italiano come L2 dell'Università degli Studi di Roma Tre" - which represents a level of linguistic competence comparable to that of the Cambridge Proficiency examination. **The Winter Term starts on 6th September, but it may still be possible for some late registrations to be accepted.**

In addition to all this, the IIC offer translation services, as well as advisory services for young people seeking a traineeship in the cultural or media fields in Italy itself. **And their cultural-events programme is respectable by any standards: regular**

concerts, lectures, author readings, art exhibitions, and original-language films (the latter being screened virtually every Tuesday evening - 7 p.m. - in the library, at no charge).

The man responsible for organising and co-ordinating this ambitious programme is Dr. Sergio Scapin, the Cultural Attaché from the Italian Consulate-General. A highly cosmopolitan personality, the Arts degree he obtained in Rome focused on Scandinavian languages and literature, and during his



Dr. Sergio Scapin (r.) with Roberto Carballo.

studies he won three 9-month scholarships to study at the universities of Lund, Copenhagen and Oslo. He then joined the **Cultural Office of the Italian Embassy in Oslo**, moving 11 years later to a similar post in **San Francisco** for four years. After a subsequent two years at the Foreign Ministry in Rome he was appointed to his present post here in Hamburg. But his wife - is from Switzerland!

Dr. Scapin very much enjoys the scope his work offers for active involvement in cultural life, despite the long hours and many organisational headaches. In his own words: "One particular feature of Hamburg residents that has struck me is their unusually high degree of active interest in meeting authors and watching films - even on warm, sunny evenings we can count on audiences of between 30 and 40. **My impression is that people here are highly receptive to, and appreciative of, our Italian language, culture, cuisine, wines and fashions**, which makes it all the easier for me to feel truly "at home" here. Five years ago a society was founded here - **something absolutely unique to Hamburg** - called the "*Comitato di collaborazione culturale*", to promote Italian culture in the city. Many leading cultural protagonists are members - the Senator responsible for

cultural affairs, Christina Weiß, as well as artistic directors from the worlds of theatre, films and music, representatives of the university and many more areas."

Highlights of the September programme include a **chamber concert from L'Offerta Musicale di Venezia in the Musik-halle** (kleiner Saal) at 8 p.m. on Tuesday the 21st; an exhibition of sculptures by Italian artist **Nicoletta Braccioni** from Fano and paintings by Hamburg-born **Angela Mrositzki** - both of whom live and work in Urbania, Marche - opening at 7 p.m. on Sunday the 26th at the Landdrostei Pinneberg; and a lecture from Georg Borchardt (in German) on "**Felix Mendelssohn and Goethe in Italy**" in the Istituto's library at 7 p.m. on Thursday the 30th.

Anyone can attend most of the Istituto's public events, but members receive price-reductions as well as use of the library and a full regular briefing on forthcoming events (in the form of a booklet which is published three times per year). Membership costs DM 60 annually, or DM 90 for couples. For further information, readers can call 440441, go round and talk to the membership secretary, Ms Luciana Medici, at Hansastraße 6, 20149 Hamburg, or start by visiting the IIC's web site at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/IIC_hamburg>. Designing the site, incidentally, was just another job for Dr. Scapin...

Exclusive Carpets and Silk Lingerie

Yes, as of June we have been able to acquire both items under one roof. Not that there is necessarily any connection between



the two. In Papenreye 20, over the road from the Metro wholesale centre, there is the new "**Niendorfer Factory Outlet**".

Mehdi Chavoshinia, President of the Chavoshinia company as well as of the Euro-China Handels-GmbH (ECH), comes from Persia, **a country which excels in both product lines.**

Chavosina Handels-GmbH have been trading in oriental carpets for generations; in 1980 they opened their own factories in



China, and these, together with Persian master carpet-makers, make carpets to patterns supplied by the company. Almost, anyway, as sometimes the Persian experts impose their own colour preferences at the last minute; **but that just adds to the individuality of the final product.** On the first floor of the new store you can view hundreds of stunning carpets and rugs - ideal for adding a finishing touch to the home - and there are even more in the Free Port warehouses. Customers can, on request, **take a carpet home** on approval to check the effect of the lighting and other furnishings on the piece.

The company also clean and repair carpets in Hamburg. **And you won't have a language problem:** staff in both the carpet and lingerie sections can advise you thoroughly in German, English, French, Persian, Brazilian Portuguese and Arabic.

On the ground floor, ECH are currently presenting their own collection. Entitled "**La Nature**", it comprises ladies' knitwear in silk and cashmere, underwear and nightwear, tops and seamless bodies. The bodies are made in China on specially-designed fine-grade knitting machines that basically produce shaped tubes, ensuring a smooth finish; the materials used are ecologically untainted silks and wild silks. **There is a separate machine to cater for each permutation of proportions and sizes** - unique in the whole world. It cost Chavoshinia DM 20 million to develop the system. The "**Niendorfer Factory Outlet**" also offers cut-price shoes and clothing by a variety of designers, including Versace, Gucci and Valentino.