



# Hello!

*I would like to present to you a project that am currently working on.*

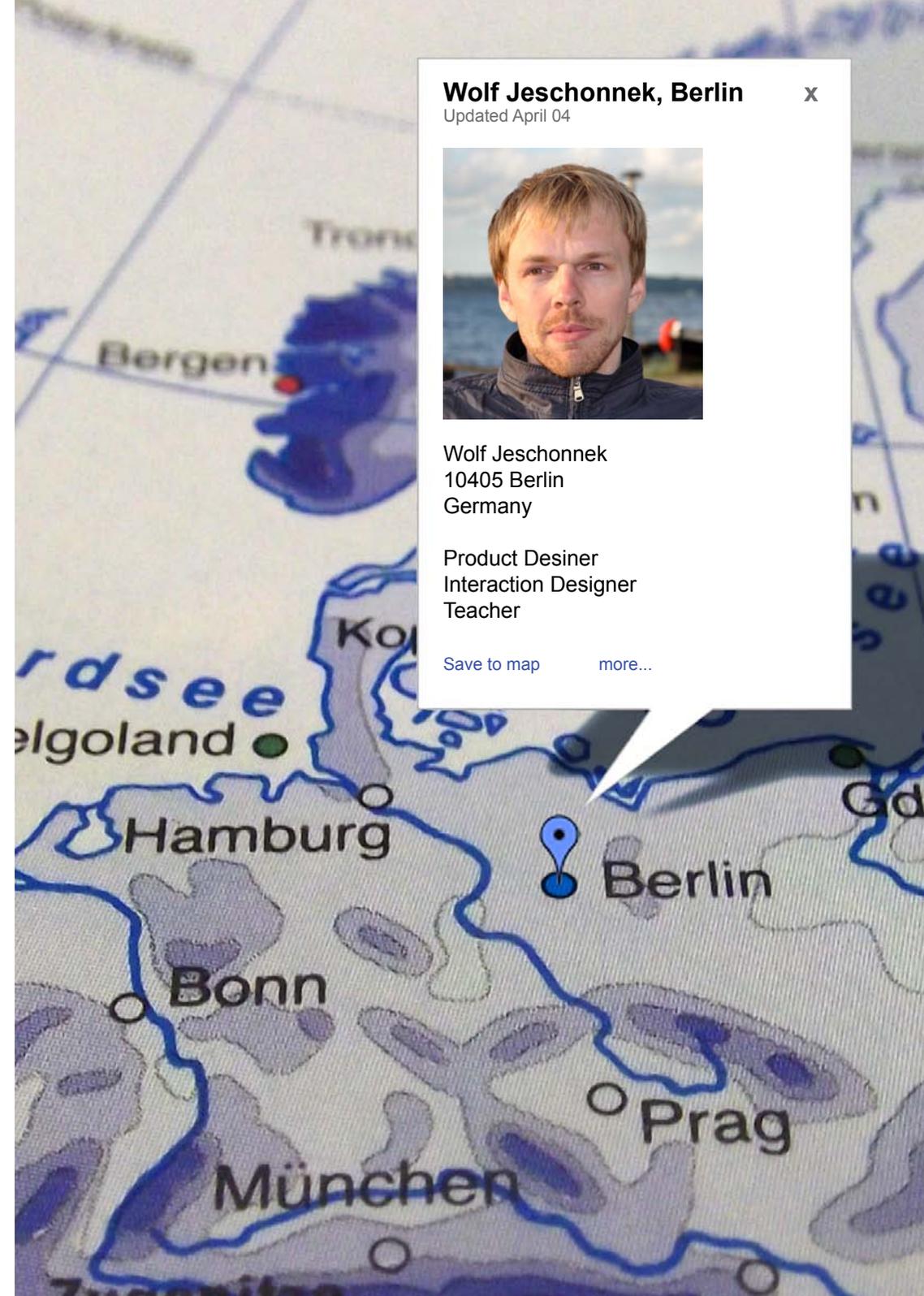
*This summer, I will be spending 3 months (August – October) in the United States to conduct research on digital fabrication, more specifically on how Fab Labs might be used to teach science and sustainability to school children. I will visit 8 – 10 different sites and would like to ask if you would be willing to host me in your lab for approximately 1 week this summer.*

Before I continue explaining the project, I would like to introduce myself briefly:

My name is Wolf Jeschonnek, I am an Industrial/Interaction Designer living and working in Berlin. In addition to “classic” design projects, I have also committed myself to working on innovative education models for schools for the past 1½ Years. More precisely, I worked in the “ÜberLebenskunst.Schule” project, which is funded by the German Federal Cultural Foundation and carried out by the Haus der Kulturen der Welt.

My colleagues and I helped the children design and manufacture different kinds of products using digital fabrication technologies. Doing that we were able to open the “black box” of manufacturing processes and give the students an understanding of how the design, production, shipping and (hopefully) recycling processes of products affect their sustainability.

*(For more details on this project see [page 5 and 6](#)).*



## *The Journey*

My plan is to Start in Chicago and visit Labs in Detroit, Champaign, Lorain, Boston, Providence, New York and Washington DC, then fly to California to continue in San Francisco and San Diego (see map [next page](#)).

I will be working on my own manufacturing project, continuously developing it at every stop of my journey, adding something new and distinctive from each place and hoping to acquaint myself with every lab in the process.

I am also planning to conduct interviews and attend workshops and classes.

## *Back in Berlin*

Once I am back I will try to synergize my “homegrown” and overseas experiences in order to set up a Fab Lab that focuses on cooperation with the educational sector. This last part of the project is still in an early conceiving phase but I am sure the 3 months of research will provide a great opportunity to develop it further.

## *Documentation*

Right now I am also looking for a platform to publish the documentation of my journey. (and whatever comes after that). If you are in contact with anyone who might be interested I would appreciate it a lot if you could put us in contact. I think I would definitely appreciate some help with the writing aspect of it. I would be open with regards to the potential format of the documentation and I would be very grateful for the opportunity to discuss and develop this with someone.



**#9a San Francisco:**

Arrival: 08.10.2012  
Stopover

**#3 Detroit:**

Arrival: 20.08.2012  
Mt. Elliott Makerspace  
[www.mtelliottmakerspace.com](http://www.mtelliottmakerspace.com)  
Fab Lab Incite Focus

**#5 Haystack Mountain:**

Arrival: 03.09.2012  
Haystack Mountain Fab Lab  
[www.haystack-mtn.org/FabLab.php](http://www.haystack-mtn.org/FabLab.php)

**#1 Chicago:**

Arrival: 06.08.2012  
Fab Lab Museum of  
Science & Industry  
[msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org)

**#4 Lorain County  
Community College:**

Arrival: 27.08.2012  
[lorainccc.edu](http://lorainccc.edu)

**#6 Boston:**

Arrival: 10.09.2012  
Fab Lab Boston  
<http://fab.cba.mit.edu/>

**#2 Champaign:**

Arrival: 13.08.2012  
Champaign-Urbana Community  
Fab Lab  
[cucfablab.org](http://cucfablab.org)

**#7 Rhode Island:**

Arrival: 17.09.2012  
AS220 Labs  
[as220.org/front](http://as220.org/front)

**#10 San Diego:**

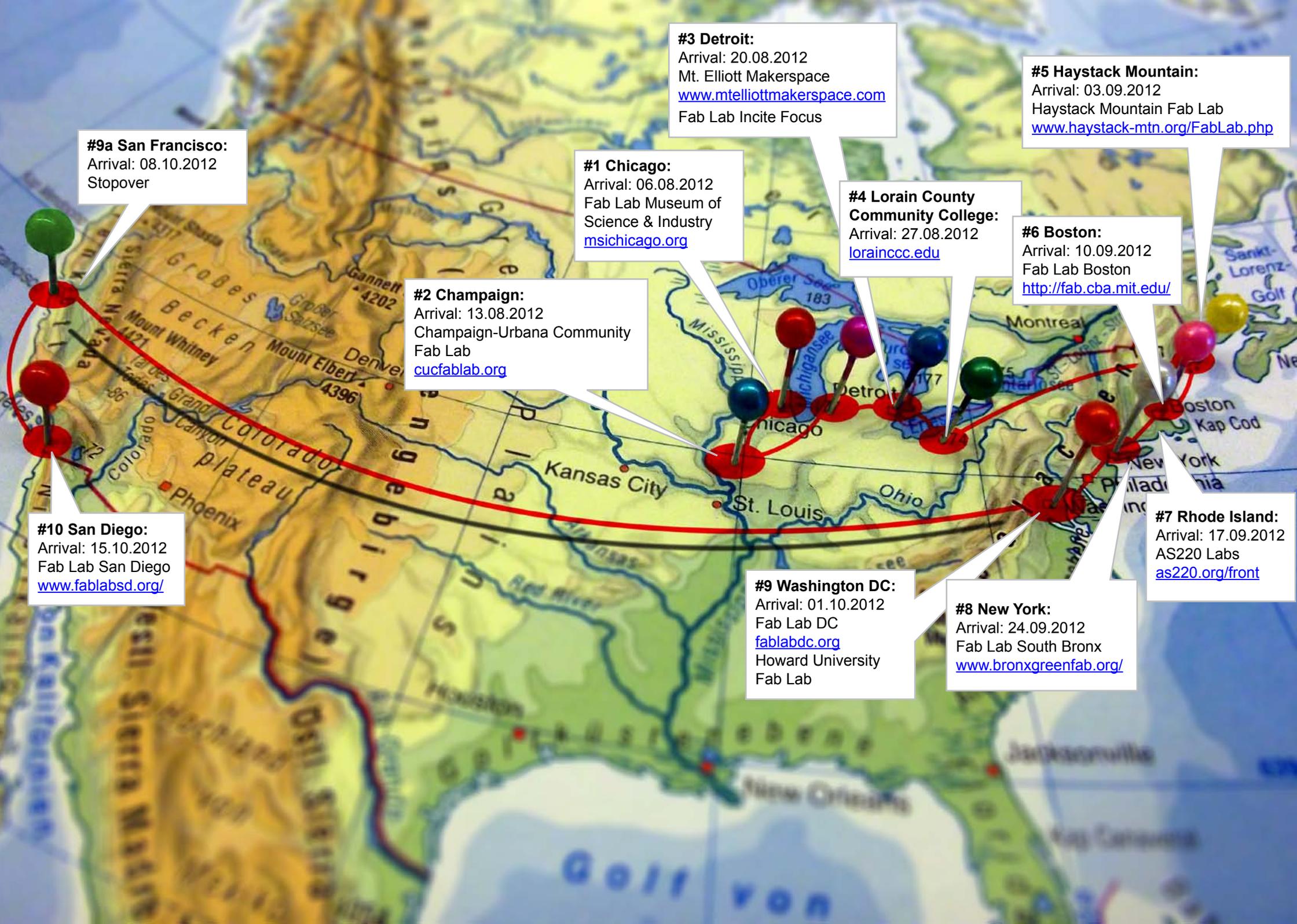
Arrival: 15.10.2012  
Fab Lab San Diego  
[www.fablabsd.org/](http://www.fablabsd.org/)

**#9 Washington DC:**

Arrival: 01.10.2012  
Fab Lab DC  
[fablabdc.org](http://fablabdc.org)  
Howard University  
Fab Lab

**#8 New York:**

Arrival: 24.09.2012  
Fab Lab South Bronx  
[www.bronxgreenfab.org/](http://www.bronxgreenfab.org/)



## *My work at ÜberLebenskunst.Schule*

In the ÜberLebenskunst.Schule project I have been working in a secondary school and a vocational school in Berlin since Fall 2010. In cooperation with the students we explored the impact of design processes on sustainable development. My colleagues and I helped the children design and manufacture different kinds of products (the example on the right is a table tennis bat). Doing that we were able to open the “black box” of manufacturing processes and give the students an understanding of how the design, production, shipping and (hopefully) recycling processes of products affect their sustainability. More importantly, they were able to experience that even complex products can be made locally and tailored to individual needs by using digital fabrication technology. We had a lot of fun during this project and furthermore equipped them to be able to explore how they can be creators and makers of their own ideas.

This very successful and fruitful experience encouraged me to further explore the topic of teaching connected to digital fabrication. For this, I have already won the support in form of a fellowship of the German Academic Exchange Service. In the US, I intend to visit up to 8 Fab Labs in order to learn how to trigger and manage self-sustained digital

*Table Tennis bat designed by  
Whatiftherewerenomoreartgalleries*



*Final exhibition in the BVS School, Berlin.*



**Contact:**

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More infos on Überlebenskunst.Schule:

<http://weltgestalten.wordpress.com/>  
<http://www.ueber-lebenskunst.org/schule>

Thank you for reading.  
Looking forward to hearing from you!

Best Regards:  
Wolf Jeschonnek