

“I am Annette Reissfelder, and I have no CV.”

Biographical sketch

Who am I?

2017 snapshot at
Bayrische Staatsoper Munich



My life up to my 50ties can be divided into three phases:

- A youth (10-20) obsessed with **facts and figures** (bought and paid for my own Encyclopaedia Britannica at age 17), and knowledge, including languages (I speak 6)
- My early work life (22-32) obsessed with **processes** (a predictable career in management consulting first around lean management in Kassel/Germany, later co-founding a business process analysis and lean production/lean management consultancy in Prague),
- Mid-life to present: discovering and becoming comfortable around the complexities of **people and contexts** (transformational executive coaching, i.e. working with people who see how their mindset co-creates the issues in the companies they are running – and the lives they are leading)

Fleshing it out a little:

- Born in Germany to an opera singer mother and (mostly) consultant father, moving often, and being exposed to a very international environment
- Studying in London/UK (Economics and Economic history) and MILARS (Modern Iberian and Latin American Regional Studies) in London and Cordoba/Spain, then psychology in Hamburg/Germany, largely bored during most of it which was why I was also working in various companies part-time on the side (admin jobs including stints in wealth management, an editing house, and Big4 consultancy)
- majoring in Organisational development and non-linear interventions in complex systems (not much boredom there any more)
- Moving to a completely new context including language in 1995: post-communist Prague, a place where I experienced that I was perceived as a German first, and an individual second (if that).
- Sold my share of the consultancy I helped build to 35 consultants after 5 years of working non-stop with the idea to reclaim a life beyond work, and start working for inspiration and pleasure rather than as a “drug”.
- Due to a bit of a “personal black-swan event” that dramatically affected the consultancy, ie the designated source of funding for at least 10 carefree years, I had to slightly modify that plan and became a “drug user” again for the first half of it.

I am passionate about classical music, philosophy, history, literature, ie various applications of what extraordinary people can and will do in all sorts of circumstances.

PS But I do have a LinkedIn Profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/annettereissfelder/>