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THOMAS RAPPOLD

Born in 1971, Thomas Rappold is an internet entrepreneur and investor. He is a knowledgeable expert in Silicon Valley and has been involved with various different start-ups there as an investor. Last year he published his book "Silicon Valley Investing" with the FinanzBuch Verlag.

SPECIAL REPORT: HOW TO

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eter Thiel was born in Germany and grew up in the USA.

As the founder of payment service PayPal, the mysterious big data company Palantir and the first investor in Facebook, he played a decisive role in three global companies at the same time and became a billionaire.

But his mission continues. He believes the western world is trapped in a period of complacent stagnation, in which politics and economics are no longer driven by risky innovations and great visions in the style of Kennedy's moon-landing project.

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The successful DNA of Peter Thiel decoded for the very first time: how he thinks, how he invests



PHILIP PLICKERT

Born in 1979, Dr Philip Plickert studied economics at the University of Munich and the London School of Economics. He has been a member of the FAZ economics editorial team since April 2007, and writing about the ECB's monetary policy since the euro crisis. In 2009 he received the Ludwig Erhard Prize for economic journalism, in 2010 the Bruckhaus Prize from the Schleyer Foundation. He manages the FAZ economics section of the website "Der Volkswirt" and teaches at Frankfurt University and the University of Siegen as an economics lecturer.

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MARKUS KRALL

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Markus Krall holds a doctorate in economics and during his dissertation worked at the Imperial University in Nagoya after being awarded the Monbusho Scholarship by the Japanese government. In 2003 he joined McKinsey as a partner, where he managed the risk management practice and went on to organise the initiative for founding a European ratings agency. In 2014 he moved on to the independent advisory company goetzpartners as management director, where he was responsible for the Financial Institutions Practice.

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Von Nürnberg ins Silicon Valley: Aya Jaff ist die bekannteste Programmingenin Deutschlande-und als Freu ains Evenin i Von Numberg ins Silicon Valley: Aya Jaff ist die bekannteste Programmiererin Deutschlands- und als Frau eine Exotin in der

AYA JAFF

Aya Jaff is 21 years old and studied Sinology and Economics at the Friedrich Alexander University in Nuremberg. Even in her younger years, she was interested in the subject of the stock market and, whilst working as CTO at Tradity, developed one of the current largest social trading stock market games in collaboration with the elite university WHU and Telefonica. Thanks to a scholarship, she was one of just a few female participants to attend a course for start-up founders in 2015 costing almost \$10,000 at the Draper University in Silicon Valley. Among others, she writes for the Orange news portal, which is released by the Handelsblatt publishing group.

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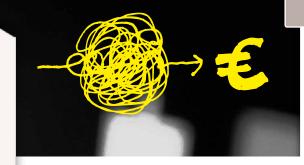
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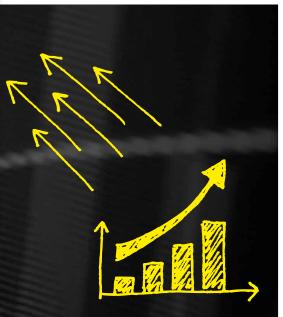


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ROLF MORRIEN

Rolf Morrien studied history, economics and politics in Münster and Vienna before completing professional training in economics journalism.



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AARON KOENIG

Aaron Koenig has been active in the Bitcoin economy since 2011. He has produced numerous films for Bitcoin start ups with his company Bitfilm. Koenig organises a Bitcoin film festival and monthly Bitcoin exchange in Berlin. He holds a degree in communications and has been working in the creative internet sector since 1994.

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HARALD SEIZ

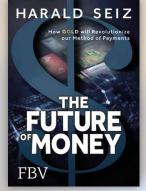
Harald Seiz was born in Calw near Stuttgart in Germany in 1963, and has been working successfully as a financial and investment advisor since 1978. In 2011 he founded Karatbars International GmbH in Stuttgart and works as the managing director. Since then he has been continuously internationalising the businesses with great success. In 2016 he was granted the title of senator by the German Federal Association for Economic Development and Foreign Trade (BWA).

ever before in a period of peace has the issue of money provoked so much uncertainty as now. The value of our money is continually shrinking. At the same time, the use of cash is being called into question for anything other than emergencies, and the media is increasingly broaching the issue of a total end to cash.

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MARIO LÜDDEMANN

Mario Lüddemann is a day trader, trading coach (certified by the German Institute of Educational Coaching) and AgenaTrader training partner. He started off in 1996 as a private exchange trader specialising in arbitrage trading on the German stock market before deciding after two years to become a full-time trader. Since 2016 he has been working on his new training concept "Professional screening" with AgenaTrader.

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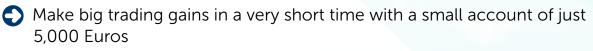




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UWE WAGNER

While studying, Uwe Wagner (born in 1964) worked as a broker at the stock exchanges in Berlin, Vienna and Madrid. After successfully graduating in foreign trade, he began his career at Deutsche Bank AG in Frankfurt before passing through different levels of responsibility in the equity and nostro trading sectors between 1991 and 2004. From 1995 to 1998, he managed derivatives trading at Deutsche Bank S.A. in Madrid. As an author and speaker, he held guest lectures on technical analysis and option pricing theory in Germany, Spain, Austria, Luxembourg and Russia. For many years, he has issued a widespread technical morning commentary on the current movements in the markets.

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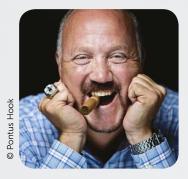


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BRADLEY BIRKENFELD

Bradley C. Birkenfeld is a retired financial expert renowned for being the most significant whistleblower in his industry. Birkenfeld began his career as a banker in Boston before moving to Europe, where he worked as a successful private banker at Credit Suisse, Barclays Bank and UBS. In 2005 he lodged a protest to UBS management against illegal practices by the private bank, whose employees were aiding American customers with considerable wealth by evading taxes. When UBS failed to take this any further, Birkenfeld turned to the American authorities. This began a process of explosive revelations with the US Treasury helping to seize more than 12 billion dollars in tax arrears payments, fines and penalties by American tax evaders.

wiss numbered accounts and offshore vehicles – Bradley Birkenfeld was a master in hiding away millions in the depths of the Swiss banking system for wealthy customers. He worked for the major Swiss bank UBS, jetting around the world, meeting with the beautiful and rich, and helping them to hide their wealth from the tax authorities, spouses and business partners. A life like a James Bond film, with fast cars, attractive women and more money than you could spend in a lifetime.

When he caught wind that UBS wanted to use him as a scapegoat for those exact lucrative activities, he broke his silence and approached the US government as a whistleblower. But instead of being willing to listen, he was branded a conspiracy theorist as the Ministry of Justice tried to silence him. But Birkenfeld refused to be intimidated, and passed his information on to the US Senate and the regulatory and tax authorities.

This highly-critical material led to tax arrears payments currently totalling 15 billion dollars and eventually the fall of secret Swiss banking. However, he also ended up spending 30 months in prison.

In 2012 subequent to his release, the Internal Revenue Service granted him a reward of 104 million dollars, the largest reward ever paid out to a whistleblower. In "Des Teufels Banker" (The Devil's Banker) Bradley Birkenfeld explains what really happened and gives a unique and shocking insight into a world in which discretion means everything. »UBS whistleblower Bradley Birkenfeld deserves a statue on Wall Street, not a prison sentence.« New York Daily News

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MARKUS ELSÄSSER

Dr. Markus Elsässer grew up in London, Hong Kong and Paris as the son of an Ambassador. Following training in banking and a degree in economics, he worked as an auditor before being selected as one of the top ten up-and-coming managers in Germany by 'Manager Magazin'. His career in industry began as a financial director at Dow Chemical Deutschland, which he followed up with a position as general manager for Benckiser, before ending up in Singapore as the Asia-Pacific managing director for the Storck Group. He has been working as an independent investor and fund advisor since 1998, as well as founding the ME fund that he has looked after for more than 13 years.



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ROBIN HARING

Robin Haring is one of Germany's youngest professors, best-selling author and huge fan of constructive failure. The demography graduate and professional drummer was gained a Ph.D in epidemiology in 2010, took on a postdoc position at Boston University in 2011, qualified in 2013 and became a professor in 2014 at the age of 32. Robin Haring is a teacher and researcher at the EUFH (European University of Applied Sciences) in Rostock, Germany and at the Monash University, Melbourne.

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CHRISTIANE BRANDES-VISBECK

Communications expert Christiane Brandes-Visbeck runs her own consultancy agency Ahoi Consulting, which specialises in communication and leadership in the digital age. She previously worked for Bertelsmann AG where she actively promoted the use of digital technology in the media.



INES GENSINGER

Ines Gensinger works for Microsoft Germany where she heads up the team responsible for commercial customer/end user communications ϑ analyst relations. As a leading figure behind the *digital economic miracle* programme, she understands that the digital revolution requires everyone to get involved.

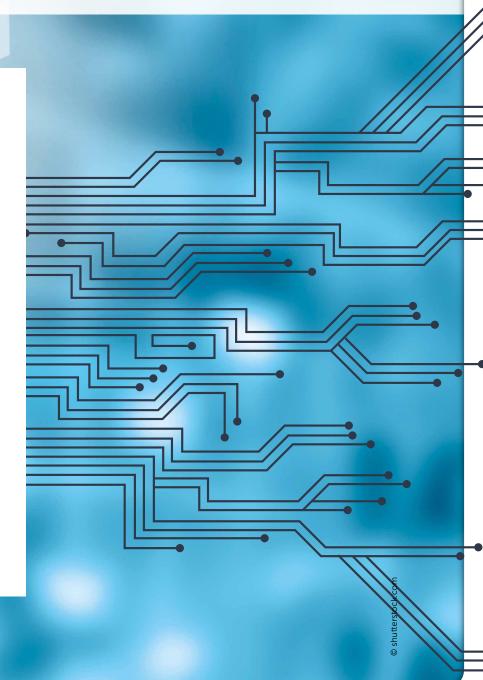
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FLORIAN MÜCK

In 2005, Florian Mück completed a secondment at one of the largest rhetoric clubs in the world in Barcelona and this is where he discovered his natural talent as a speaker and orator, and his gift for giving presentations. He started his career as a professional orator and rhetoric trainer in 2009. He currently works together with the IESE Business School in Barcelona among others. His inspiring communication seminars, presentation coaching sessions, keynote speeches and skills as a moderator have, in the meantime, become popular worldwide. Der einfache Weg zum begeisternden Vortrag [The simple way to an inspiring presentation] is already in print from the Redline Verlag publishers.

John Zimmer

JOHN ZIMMER

The Canadian John Zimmer, now living in Switzerland, can look back on more than 30 years of experience in giving presentations. The seven-times European champion in public speaking competitions currently works across the globe as a professional orator and rhetoric trainer. His blog 'manner of speaking.org' was recognised by Prezi as one of the top 100 online resources for information on giving presentations. He developed the world's first public speaking board.

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ERIK RENK



Erik Renk, founder of the Diamond Academy and einfachstartup.de, founded his first company at the age of 19. Since then, he has built up a wealth of experience in founding companies, thanks to various start-ups and the buying and selling of numerous businesses, which he passes on to potential founders both through his firm and in his blog.

any people dream of owning their own business. After all, who wouldn't want to be their own boss, have their own successful company and make their own ideas become reality? Yet most people let themselves be put off from this adventure into independence due to the fear they may not be able to make a living from it. But there is a solution on hand, that makes setting up on your own achievable without too great a risk – setting up your business alongside your job. The advantages

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Large target audience: In 2015 alone, 480,000 people set themselves up independently alongside their job

The entrepreneurship expert Erik Renk knows how to make setting up a new business alongside you day job work, and gives plenty of examples