

#### THE PUG.

# A COMPREHENSIVE EXCURSION ON ITS ROLES AND PERCEPTION WITH AN EMPHASIS ON GERMAN CULTURE

**UDLS** Lecture

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### INTRODUCTION









- Pug = Real Dog
- FCI Classification:
  - Group 9 Companion and Toy Dogs
  - Section 11 Small Molosser Dogs
  - Siblings in Sec. 11: French Bulldog, Boston Terrier







### INTRODUCTION









- Weight: ~6-8 KG
- "Much charm, dignity, intelligence. Balanced, happy, vivid."
- Go well together with children
- Tend to underestimate danger of other dogs





### INTRODUCTION









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Paper, Printing, Compass, Gun Powder, Soccer, Pugs, ...

Who invented all of of this?

When you don't know, or you're in doubt ...







- Before 3rd century: Pugs bred in China
  - Privelege of the emperors, such as Ling of Han (168-189 A.D.)
  - Pugs rank similar to that of the emperor's wives
  - Individually protected by soldiers of palace guard
  - Only fed with the best food
  - Attempts to harm or steal a pug could result in death sentence





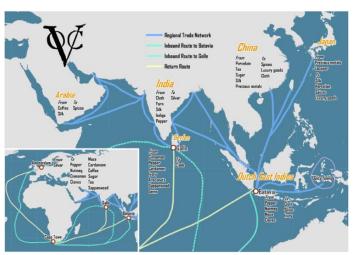








- 16th century: Travel to Netherlands (East India Company)
- 1572: Pompey saves life of Prince William the Silent
  - Pug becomes official dog of the house of Orange
  - Increasing popularity in high society and arts (Paintings)













- 1689: William III (Orange) gets King of England
  - Together with his wife, Queen Mary II, they bring pugs
- 17th century: Pugs popular all over Europe
  - Journal of a Mrs. Piozzi from Italy (1789):
     "The little Pug dog [...] has quitted London for Padua, I perceive.
     Every carriage I meet here has a Pug in it."













- 19th century France: Fortuné gets famous
  - Compagnion of Joséphine de Beauharnais
     (Napoléons wife and French empress for some years)
  - Smuggled messages between Joséphine and her Children during her time in prison after the revolution
  - Joséphine insisted to have him in their shared bed













### THE PUG IN GERMAN CULTURE



# What could be Germany's most favorite dog? Three candidates:



The German Shepherd? (Ger.: Schäferhund)



The German Dachshund? (Ger.: Dackel / Dachshund)



The Pug? (Ger.: Mops)

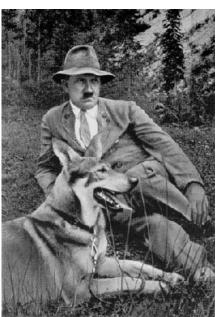








The German Shepherd? (Ger.: Schäferhund)





- Considered a very "German" dog.
- Maybe even considered a bit too "German"in the past ...





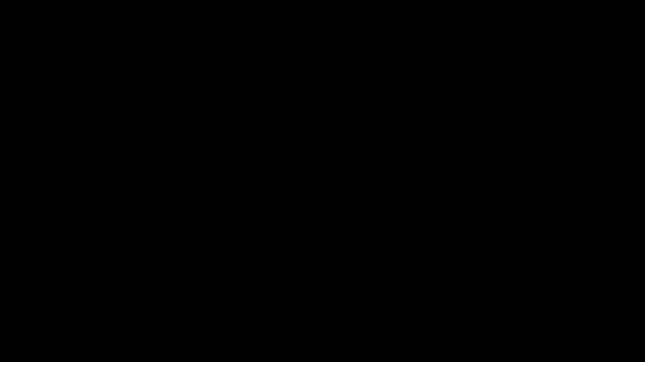


The German Shepherd? (Ger.: Schäferhund)



Clip from "Danger 5":

Undercover at the Nazi Talent Show





# What could be Germany's most favorite dog? Three candidates:



The German Shepherd? (Ger.: Schäferhund)



The German Dachshund? (Ger.: Dackel / Dachshund)



The Pug? (Ger.: Mops)













- German dog, bred for hunting foxes or badgers (Ger.: "Dachs" = badger)
- 1972 (Munic) used as First Olympia Mascot, "Waldi"
- So... would you like to go hunting animals that live in tunnels?



# What could be Germany's most favorite dog? Three candidates:







The German Dachshund? (Ger.: Dackel / Dachshund)



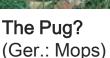
The Pug? (Ger.: Mops)















Conjecture: The pug is truly Germany's most favorite dog!

#### Clues (following slides):

- 1. Much loved in Germany since 17th century (Order of the Pug)
- 2. Many references in popular culture (Loriot)
- 3. Germany sets new impulses in breeding (The Retromops)



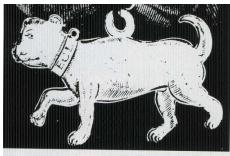


### THE ORDER OF THE PUG



- Ger.: "Mops-Orden"
- Secret order founded 1740 (?)
- By Klemens August,
   Archbishop-Elector of Cologne
- Exposed 1745, then dispersed
- Exciting rituals!





Silberner Anhänger als Zeichen der Mitgliedschaft zum Mops-Orden (1772).







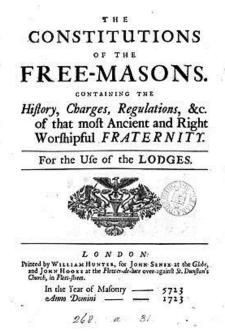
### THE ORDER OF THE PUG



"[...] Thus these aforesaid Societies or Conventicles have caused in the minds of the faithful the greatest suspicion, and all prudent and upright men have passed the same judgment on them as being depraved and perverted. For if they were not doing evil they would not have so great a hatred of the light. [...]"

 In eminenti apostolatus, papal bull by Clemens XII, 1738





- Essentially, a parody of what they said about Freemasonry
- Mocking pope Clemens XII, bypassing bull In eminenti apostolatus

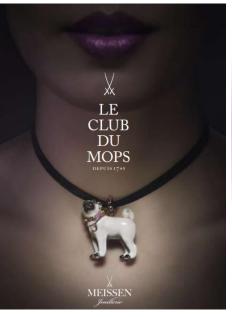




### THE ORDER OF THE PUG



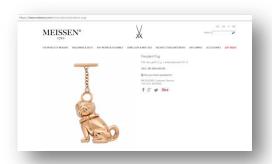






 Special collection by MEISSEN (German porcelain & jewelry)

https://www.meissen.com/en/products/pendant-pug



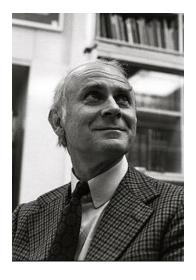


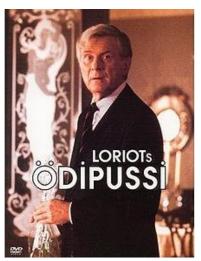


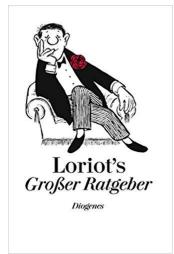
### PUGS IN POPULAR CULTURE: LORIOT



- Loriot (1923 -2011) = Cartoonist, Humorist, Comedian
  - A bit like the German version of Monty Python
  - Still very famous caused several well-known sayings etc.
  - Loved pugs and included a lot of references to them in his work







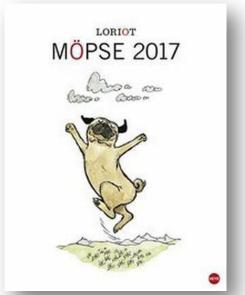


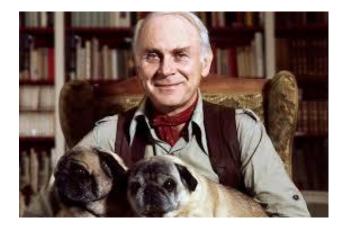




### Pugs in Popular Culture: Loriot

















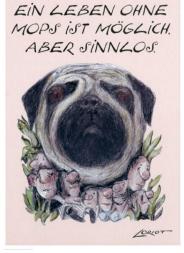
### Pugs in Popular Culture: Loriot



#### One pretty popular quote ...



















### PUGS IN POPULAR CULTURE: LORIOT



Another one (maybe a bit less popular)







### SERIOUSLY: LET'S HELP OUR PUGS



- Today: Pugs = overbred dog race
  - Oxygenation: Many pugs can hardly breathe
  - Overweight, issues with cooling
  - Genetic disorders



- 2008: Study by Imperial College, London
  - Significant inbreeding between pedigree pugs
  - Gene pool of 10K pugs in UK equivalent to 50 individuals
- FCI breeding standard revisited in 2010
  - Breeding strongly degenerate pugs gets punished
  - Health of the animal gets more attention
- So, what can we do?

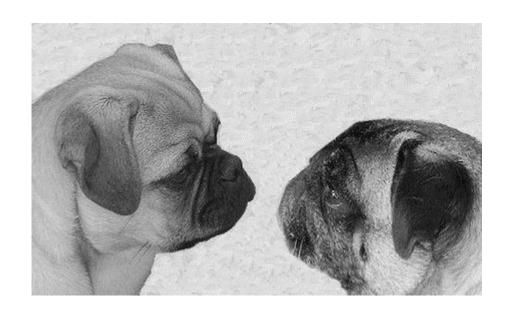




### SERIOUSLY: LET'S HELP OUR PUGS



- Why not buy more Retro Pugs (Ger.: Retromops)?
  - A recent German effort: <a href="http://www.zuechterkreis-retromops.de/">http://www.zuechterkreis-retromops.de/</a>
  - Bred with special care towards animal welfare
  - Oriented on original 19th century form





### **TAKEAWAYS**



- Pugs are amazing!
  - Originate in ancient China
  - Conquered Europe from 16th century
  - Many interesting anecdotes
  - Very popular toy dog nowadays
  - Problems with overbreeding



- Conjecture: Pug = Germany's favorite dog
  - Order of the Pug
  - References in Pop Culture (Loriot)
  - Working towards healthy next-gen pug (Retromops)







### FIN





