

Panther-Prize for Helga Dieter

A German newspaper "tageszeitung" = "taz." published the conditions for a special 'election' --an award for "Heroes of Everyday Life." Somebody proposed the project "Vacation from War" and Helga Dieter personally. Among 324 proposals the "Taz jury" chose 12 candidates and published portraits and reports about their interesting social projects.

Helga had some difficulty posing as a "hero" for a photographer. I tinkered with a garland of plastic grape leaves on my head and insisted on a quotation from the German poet Bertolt Brecht from his play Galileo, "Unhappy is the land that needs a hero." (See attachment.)



In September 2003 the readers of taz and supporters of the projects could vote on the Internet, and I was the prize winner, the readers' choice with a big majority! The project got a donation of 5000 € An unknown donor topped the sum with another 5000 €

There was another prize, whose winner was chosen by a jury of prominent politicians and journalists. Two Turkish boys from Berlin got it. They posed on a postcard with the sentence, "Our honour is the freedom of our sisters!" (Just now in Berlin there is a trial against three brothers who murdered their sister because she didn't obey the strict moral code of her family and culture.) I think this postcard manifestation is also a great project.

In October 2003 there was a big celebration in Berlin with Gala-Dinner and cultural program with Giora Feidmann, the "King of Klezmer"..

