

### **Twelve Road Blocks of Slow-Budget-Filmmaking**

In 2005, we started to work on a documentary film on computer pioneers and “grandfather nerds”. Very soon, we met M.I.T. legend and charismatic storyteller Joseph Weizenbaum who became the main character of our feature-length documentary “WEIZENBAUM. REBEL AT WORK.”

Without funding, without any support of a production company, we yet started shooting in October 2005. During the project, we faced – what we called the twelve road blocks – but ultimately the film was shown on TV, at the transmediale.07 in Berlin and on a film tour through entire Germany, Austria and in July 2007 in Zurich at the ETH Zurich.

We want to reveal all the obstacles, pitfalls and setbacks. In the middle of a paradigm shift from traditional film towards digital film, our film had a very tough time to get finished and an even harder time to get presented.

Ultimately, we were able to work around the road blocks which in return shaped the aesthetics and language of the film; we used the internet as a complementary resource and we contributed a lot of content and turned our film website into a project site attracting an interested and highly supportive community.

During a period of 2 years we developed – what we coined SLOW-BUDGET FILM. For us, the unintended business model of independence worked out: to market our DVD via website to a growing community which helped us to activate multipliers, get publicity and identify digital cinema locations and get invited to digital art weeks and festivals.

In 2007, our film was awarded the Wolfgang von Kempelen Award for History of Computing Science.