

The item-nose: Torben Otten

Getting hold of a Hermès Kelly bag is not a question of money – it's just not possible, as these items have a delivery lead time of up to three years. But not at Otten von Emmerich, where collectors of luxury goods and hard-to-find items can often find a whole selection of these sought-after bags.

A Louis Vuitton suitcase from 1876? Romy Schneider's beauty case? A Rolex Explorer 2, out of production for many years now – the same watch that Steve McQueen wore in "Le Mans"? No problem, it's all in stock. Store owner Torben Otten has an instinctive nose for such things, and knows exactly where he can pick them up from previous owners.

His network of buying contacts for these highly desirable status symbols is vast – even star tenor José Carreras was persuaded to sell his entire set of Louis Vuitton luggage to the charming little boutique in Bleichenhof. Suitcases,

## Otten von Emmerich is the specialist for luxury goods that no-one else stocks - and at affordable prices!

bags, watches and costly accessories – all pre-owned, all at reasonable prices, and all in stock. Welcome to the wonderful world of Otten von Emmerich!

When money changes hands for the sought-after collector's items, the transaction is kept as simple and straightforward as possible. Items can be purchased for cash if preferred – and the practice of selling on commission, which is commonplace in the luxury goods segment, is not encouraged here because it has been so discredited. And only genuine originals are sold in the store – in good condition, complete with a certificate of provenance, and often at surprisingly affordable prices.

This is a shop with something for everyone – from the 18-year-old who wants a genuine Gucci bag as a school-leaving present to the 80-year-old grandmother who has dreamed for decades of owning a classic Chanel purse. Prada, Dior, Tod's, Lange & Söhne, Patek Philippe, IWC, Cartier, Breitling, TAG Heuer – these are just some of the legendary brand names that lure passers-by from the large window displays.

## OTTEN VON EMMERICH

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Opening hours:

Mon. – Fri., 10.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. Sat., 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

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The following tale is typical of many that the shop's staff could recount. When the wife of a seriously wealthy industrialist heard that the Hermès Birkin bag – long since out of production – could be bought off the shelf here, she ordered her husband's private jet, flew straight to Hamburg – and emerged from Otten von Emmerich weighed down "with lots of things I've been looking for years".