

## **wXw holds keynote on wXw NOW streaming service, announces details on Germany's first wrestling network**

wXw just announced the first in-depth details on our new "wXw NOW" streaming network, which will launch one month from now on 8/13 at [www.wxwnow.de](http://www.wxwnow.de). It will not just be a collection of shows like a lot of companies offer for a monthly fee via Pivotshare but also offer original content and a lot of archived shows, some dating back as far as 2006. We will also have our uniquely designed interface/UI, while hosting and infrastructure will be managed by Vimeo, our long-time streaming partner, dating back to 2013. Wrestling journalist Markus Gronemann (DarkMat.eu, Wrestling Observer) considers this to be the biggest launch of an over-the-top pro wrestling channel by a single promotion since New Japan World.

wXw Managing Director Christian Jakobi held a keynote presentation tonight at 8 pm CEST at the wXw Wrestling Academy training school, which was streamed live on Facebook (the video is available, albeit only in German, [here](#)) and talked about what future and past events and what kind of original content would be available. We had up to 750 viewers simultaneously on Facebook and also had some students and a trainer (Toby Blunt) in attendance to provide some crowd noise and cheering at key points during the announcement.



Marquee Events are wXw's version of **pay-per-view caliber shows**, where feuds start and end and international talent often appears. There currently are 10 marquee events on the calendar, with some of them being multi-day shows:

- Back to the Roots
- Dead End
- 16 Carat Gold Tournament (March, three days, lots of international and indy stars)
- True Colors
- Superstars of Wrestling (two shows lately, our legends/convention shows)
- Shortcut to the Top (our version of the Royal Rumble, usually the final show of the first tour of the year)
- Fans Appreciation Night (early in the second tour of the year, 8/27)
- World Tag Team League (9/30 to 10/2, three days, lots of international and indy tag teams)
- Broken Rules (10/22)
- Anniversary (12/10, final show of the second tour)

All of these events will be filmed with **five HD cameras** and will be available **"72 hours after the last bell has sounded"** - so if a show takes place on Sunday, it should be available on demand by Wednesday night. They will feature **both English and German commentary**; English commentary will be provided by the Irish/Scottish/Dutch trio Alan Counihan, Jeremy Graves and Rico Bushido.



These are **bigger events** that take place on tour featuring bigger matches, stars and angles. These will be filmed with **three HD cameras** and will also be available **within 72 hours** of ending with **German commentary**. We confirm the following shows for this concept in the second half of 2016:

- 8/13 - The End (Tommy End's final show in Germany, booked by The Sumerian Death Squad)
- 9/2 - Shotgun Live Tour: Hamburg I (wXw the Markthalle)
- 9/16 - Chemnitz: Champion's Night (all titles will be defended, wXw switched to a bigger venue in Chemnitz for this one)
- 9/30 - wXw Femmes Fatales, the first ever wXw ladies wrestling event
- 11/12 - Shotgun Live Tour: Weyhe (small town we've run for a few years, great small-time crowd)
- 12/2 - Shotgun Live Tour: Hamburg II (wXw the Markthalle)



Shotgun is our weekly 30 minute YouTube show which focusses on storytelling and match extracts. Shotgun will undergo a relaunch for a brandnew season starting August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Shotgun Plus will be **exclusive to wXw NOW at 60 minutes** and will **feature the regular Shotgun content plus the best matches from each previous weekends touring loop.**



Original content will focus on content that is wrestling-centric but with an original twist. We are working on various shows, but announced three projects, all of which will have episodes available once the service launches. Jakobi also stated, when jokingly asked if we would see "wXw Legends House", "wXw Tough Enough" and "Hardcore Divas", that a show about our own Wrestling Academy training facility might be something to consider for the future. The three shows that were announced are:



## Time Travel ("Die Zeitreise")

General manager **Christian Jakobi** & head of talent and media relations **Tassilo Jung** sat down and **watched the first five editions of 16 Carat Gold (2006-2010)**. They provided an **audio track for these shows** and reminisced about what it was like to book and be part of these shows, what happened backstage and how things were a lot different from today. The **season will be extended in 2017**, but 16 Carat Gold 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 will be available right away in this format.



## The Power of Three

Ten of the most popular wXw wrestlers (well, 'nine and Kim Ray' as Christian stated, yet it's very much eight and Kim Ray + wXw matchmaker Felix Kohlenberg) sat down with host Verena Fischer and talked about some of **their favorite or most memorable matches** in wXw, provide thoughts and feedback on them and how they felt about these matches then and now. The **ten episode season** will run from **August through December**.



## Conversations

This is a **shoot interview concept** wXw started on DVD a few years back, interviewing such names as **Shane Douglas, Chris Hero, Daisuke Sekimoto, Drake Younger, Eddy Steinblock and the wXw Office** (all of these past interviews will be **available right away**).

We picked this up again and will put out **a number of new interviews** this season, conducted by **Olaf Bleich, a German wrestling podcaster and online journalist**. The **first three episodes** will feature **wXw office** members Christian Jakobi, Tassilo Jung and Felix Kohlenberg.





**All** of our events, **starting with January 2013 up to now** will be available in **HD**. This also includes all events from January to October 2013 which previously only were available on DVD and have been digitally remastered and upscaled to HD. While this may not sound like a lot from any other independent promotion, keep in mind that wXw has run two full tours a year since November of 2013 (where we run 2-3 shows on most weekends) and promoted **more than 170 events** during that time, all of which will be available. **Additional years will follow at a later time.**

Shows included in this first batch are **all the 16 Carat Gold Tournaments** from 2013-2016 (2006-2010 will be available too, but only with the alternate "time travel" commentary), the **wXw/CZW/Big Japan World Triangle Leagues** in 2013 and 2014, last year's **World Tag Team Tournament**, the various **Superstars of Wrestling** legend's shows and some of the shoot-style **AMBITION** tournaments, which are a pretty unique experience.

Here is some of the international (U.S., Canada, UK, Japan, Mexico, etc.) talent that appeared for wXw and who you can see on these shows:

ACH, Adam Cole, AJ Styles, Akira Tozawa, Andrew Everett, Angelico, AR Fox, Biff Busick, Big Ryck, Black Fire, Bobby Fish, Bram, Brian Myers, BxB Hulk, Candice LeRae, Cedric Alexander, Chris Brookes, Chris Hero, Chris Masters, Chris Sabin, Chuck Taylor, CIMA, Colt Cabana, Crazy Mary Dobson, Daisuke Harada, Daisuke Sekimoto, Damian O'Connor, Dave Mastiff, Davey Boy Smith Jr., Davey Richards, David Starr, DJ Hyde, Doc Gallows, Donovan Dijak, Doug Williams, Drake Younger, Drew Galloway, Drew Gulak, Eddie Kingston, Eugene, Evil Uno, Gangrel, Grado, Grandmaster Sexay, Harlem Bravado, Hiromu Takahashi, Hiroshi Tanahashi, Jack Jester, James Davis, James Storm, Jeff Jarrett, Jigsaw, Joe Legend, Joey Ryan, John Morrison, Johnny Gargano, Johnny Kidd, Johnny Moss, Jon Ryan, Jonathan Gresham, Jushin Thunder Liger, Karl Anderson, Kay Lee Ray, Kazuki Hashimoto, Kenbai, Kevin Steen, Kimber Lee, Kris Travis, KUSHIDA, Kyle O'Reilly, Lancelot Bravado, Leah Von Dutch, Leva Bates, Madman Pondo, Mark Andrews, Mark Haskins, Martin Stone, Marty Scurll, Masashi Takeda, Masato Yoshino, Mason Ryan, Matt Jackson, Matt Striker, Matt Sydal, Michael Elgin, Mike Bailey, Mikey Whiplash, Nick Jackson, Nikki Storm, Nixon Newell, Pete Dunne, Player Dos, Rhino, Rich Swann, Ricky Marvin, Ricochet, RJ Brewer, Rob Lynch, Rocky Romero, Ryuichi Kawakami, Sami Callihan, Scotty 2 Hotty, Sha Samuels, Shane Strickland, Shanna, Shinobu, Silas Young, Soichiro Sugihara, Sonjay Dutt, Steve Corino, Super Crazy, Timothy Thatcher, Tom Prichard, Tommaso Ciampa, Tommy End, Toni Storm, Trevor Lee, Tristan Archer, Tyler Bate, Uhaa Nation, Ultimo Dragon, Will Ospreay, X-Pac, Yoshihiro Takayama, Yuji Okabayashi, Yuko Miyamoto and Zack Sabre Jr.



We will put up our **full range of "best of" collections** for some of the **biggest names in independent wrestling** and even **current WWE stars**:

- Tommy End (will be released on DVD on 8/13 as well)
- Zack Sabre Jr.
- "Bad Bones" John Klinger
- Bryan Danielson (Daniel Bryan)
- El Generico (Sami Zayn)
- Chris Hero (who trained a lot of the first generation of wXw)
- Jon Moxley (Dean Ambrose)
- Matt Sydal
- Doug Williams
- Mike Quackenbush
- Ares (of CHIKARA fame, Cesaro's old tag team partner)
- Baron von Hagen

We will also put up our **past documentaries**, such as **"The Making of 16 Carat Gold 2015"** (which we premiered at a cinema in Oberhausen last year and which is just tremendous from a storytelling point of view) and **"Inside the Triangle"**, a documentary of our tour in Japan.

We also will put up the **full range of the Conversations series**, our take on **shoot interviews** as mentioned above.

# WXW NOW

**13. AUGUST 2016**  
**9,99 EURO**

**TECHNISCHE DETAILS: [wxwnow.de](http://wxwnow.de)**

wXw NOW will be available **starting on 8/13** at **€9.99 a month** (which currently equals **about \$11.10**) through **Vimeo**, the video hosting provider we have been working with since 2013 and have a very good business relationship with. **Vimeo provides the technical infrastructure** and as mentioned, **will also handle subscriptions and payment**. The membership, much like the WWE network and New Japan World is on a **month-to-month basis** and can be **cancelled at any time**. Vimeo accepts **credit cards and PayPal** (which is important for the German market, as credit cards are not as common as in the U.S.). Paypal can also be linked to a traditional bank account which is the most common payment method in Germany. Creating a Paypal account is free-of-charge. All transaction fees for Paypal and credit card payments are covered by wXw.

We have **developed our own unique user interface** and the service will be available through the [www.wxwnow.de](http://www.wxwnow.de) address, so users will not have to go through Vimeo each time. We have **optimized the interface for desktop and mobile web browsers** and at this time will **not provide an app** for various video gaming consoles, streaming devices or mobile operating systems. We have **tested it with the browsers of most of these devices**. **The page is accessible without any hassles through the web browser included in video gaming consoles and smart televisions**. Using **Chromecast should work as well**, especially since Google finally added native Chromecast support to their Chrome browser with the latest version.

We will **not offer a free month** like WWE does, but will **put up the full archives** of our regular **weekly free YouTube shows "Shotgun" and "ask.cmj"** (where General Manager Christian Jakobi answers fan questions) on wXwNOW, so people can **test stability and compatibility** of the platform with their devices of choice.

Christian also hinted at how there are **currently talks with various people** and we do not only want to become the first German wrestling network but **THE German wrestling network**.

## Conclusion by Markus Gronemann

If you are an (independent) wrestling fan who **enjoys NXT, PWG, EVOLVE, Lucha Underground, PROGRESS or Rev Pro**, I'd recommend **just trying out wXw NOW** for a month once the service launches in August and see how you like the product. While most of the content will be in German, **they do have English commentary** for their "marquee events" (starting with 16 Carat 2015, if I remember correctly) and of course **a lot of major indy stars from the UK, U.S. and Japan** have wrestled for them over the past few years.

Their own **roster is very solid to really great** as well. In 2015 **they ran more shows (65) than either TNA (37), ROH (45), Lucha Underground (20), PWG (10), EVOLVE (17)** or their World Triangle partner **CZW (52)** - with all that experience, most of their guys are more than solid. Plus, I would consider guys like **Zack Sabre Jr., Marty Scurll and Tommy End** some of "their guys" too, so just watching matches of "Euro Trash" should get you your money's worth. You may also want to check out **Axel Tischer (NXT's Alexander Wolfe)** to find out what an amazing worker this man actually is.

Some other great workers: **Bad Bones, Big Daddy Walter** (one of the best big men in the business right now, check out anything with him and **Daisuke Sekimoto** and you'll be in love with both), **Axel Dieter Jr., Karsten Beck, Jurn Simmons, Absolute Andy, Ilja Dragunov, Robert Dreissker, WWE Cruiserweight Classic** participant **Da Mack** and a whole bunch more. Their **angles usually make sense**, their **storylines are well thought out** and usually **have a satisfying resolution**, so they are just a **fun promotion to follow**, even for people not speaking German.

The current euro/dollar exchange rate of course puts international customers at a slight disadvantage opposed to the \$9.99 price tag of most other services but with all the content they announced, I'm sure **everybody will get more than their money's worth**.

- Credit for the text goes to Markus Gronemann from DarkMat.eu
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- Questions regarding wXwNOW are answered by our head of media and talent relations Tassilo Jung (tassilo.jung@wXw-wrestling.com)