

# **From University to first professional steps**

**1967 - 1979**

# From University to the first steps of a professional career

- The different grades at **Liège University** from 1967 to 1971: candidature in business management
- **Liège, the „capital“ of French speaking Belgium (Wallonia)** – the old town on the Meuse river, a clerical ....
- 1968 started the protests of the 1968-years: Civil rights movements (Black Panther), **Anti-Vietnam-War** demos and democratization of universities
- In Belgium 1968 was the start of the **federalization of the country** with the splitting of the oldest university in Leuven into a French and Flemish section
- That same year I paid my first **visit to the Soviet Union** with a student group from Germany – it was also the year of the „Spring of Prague“ (Alexander Dubcek)
- I finished successfully the 1st Candidature, the first degree of my studies in business management



# Our family home around 1970

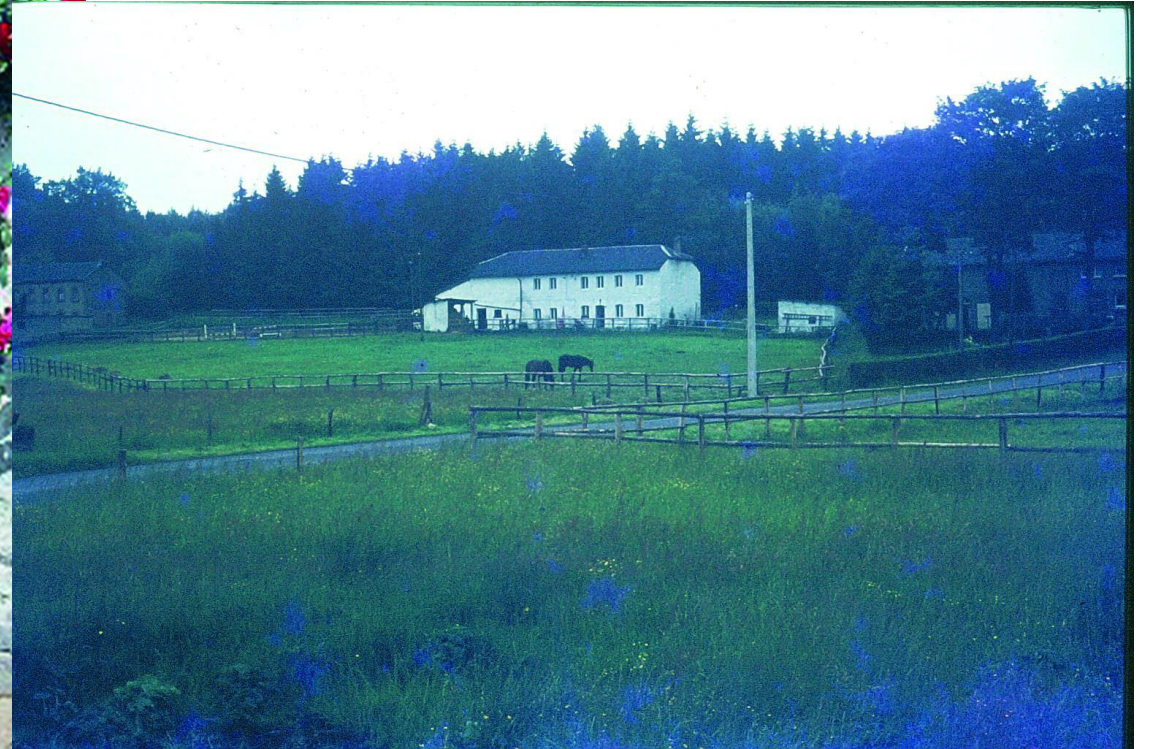


# University of Liège and Belgian federalisation 1868





# My mother Martha 1985



# Vistiting Moscow in 1968





# At Kreml in 1967

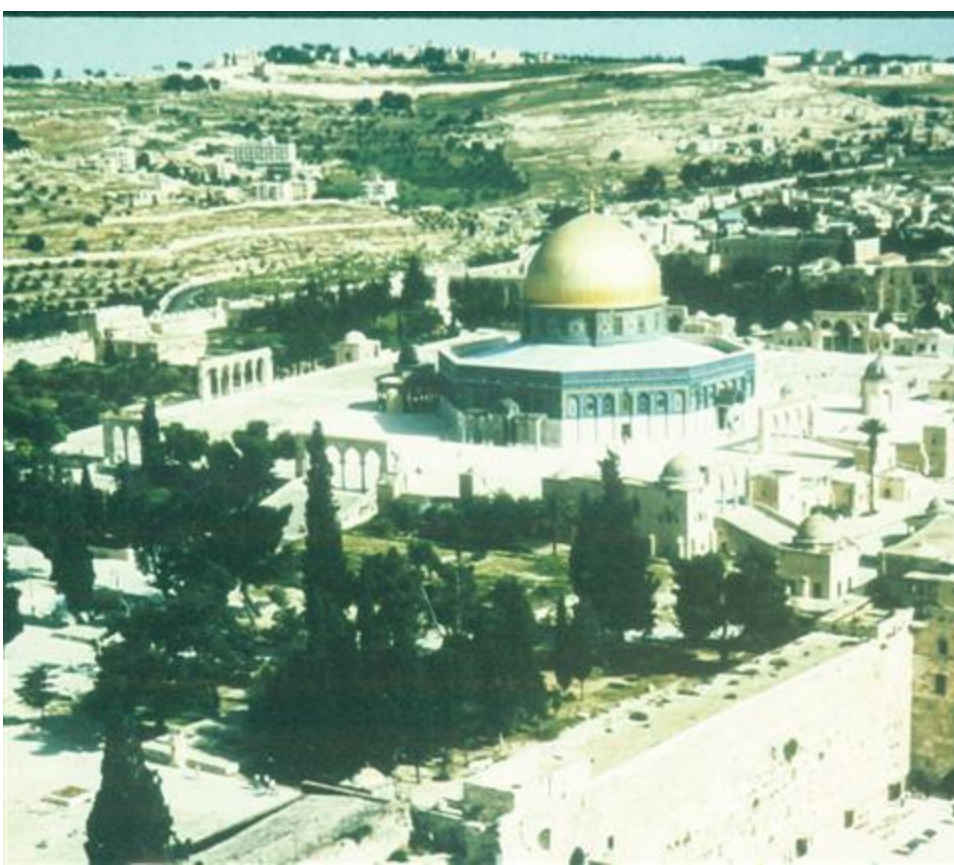


## University of Liège: Business Management

- In 1969 I travelled to the state of **Israel**, which in 1968 had occupied after the Six-days-War the territories of Cis-Jordania, the Golan Heights and Sinai
- While visiting the whole country, including the occupied territories, I watched in Jerusalem on TV Neil Armstrong`s first step on the moon
- At University, reforms went on, and we all watched carefully what happened in Germany, where **anti-Vietnam demos** and **anti-Shah demos** went on as well
- Walther successfully terminated his second degree at university, the 2nd candidature
- In 1970, I decided to join the **municipal council of my village Hauset**, and was successfully elected for six years.
- At the same time **started the regionalization of Belgium**. Its German community around the cities Eupen and St. Vith received cultural autonomy in Belgium



# Visting Israel and occupied territories 1969





**... like Sinai and Golan 1969**





## First professional step: Lindt & Sprüngli and Nixdorf Computer

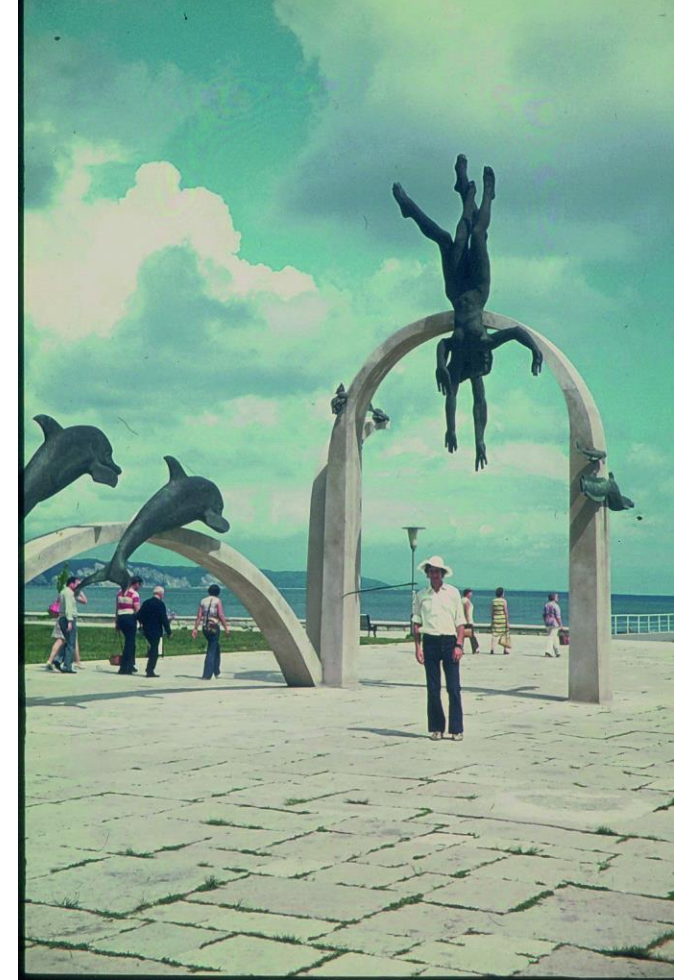


## University and the first steps of a professional career

- In 1970 the next grade, the 1st licence in Business Management was successfully terminated – in parallel I started a **holiday job at Lindt & Sprüngli**
- Finally, in **June 1971**, Walther terminated his university studies successfully with „Distinction“
- He travelled for the second time to the **Soviet Union** in particular to Moscow, Georgia (Tbilisi) and Abkhasia (Suchumi)
- His first job was with **Lindt & Sprüngli** in Aachen, the premium chocolate and praliné manufacturer who had a factory in this city.
- After one year Walther joined however the German computer manufacturer **Nixdorf Computer**, at that time a market leader.
- In 1972 another travel experience brought Walther to visit the **Lebanon** (Beirut) and **Syria** (Damascus). This was long before the civil war there.



# Visiting Georgiua: Tbilisi and Suchumi (Abkhazia) 1971





**... and meeting Nik Bulgakow in Moscow 1971**





# History of Georgia 1971



# University and the first steps of a professional career

- The time at **Nixdorf Computer** helped Walther to experience many different companies in Cologne, Antwerp, Paris and Eindhoven. He stayed till 1976
- With his friends he also visited European cities such as Prague, Amsterdam, Leipzig (DDR), **New York and Washington** (1973) and Dubrovnik (1974)
- In 1974 Walther met **his future life time partner Elka** in Aachen. Together they spend a wonderful holiday in Greece and visited in 1975 all antique sites
- Walther and Elka married in Hauset and Aachen, he was catholic, she was protestant, on April 30th 1976 and lived in Hauset in a rented farm house
- Walther took a new job in **the export and design department of Parfums Loris Azzaro** in Stolberg (near Aachen) in Summer 1976
- Together they spend 1977 another wonderful **holiday in Turkey**, where they visited Istanbul, Cesme, Ephesus, Pamukkale and the Greek islands, Chios, Samos



# Having fun – birth of Oliver





# Carneval 1972 at Lindt & Sprüngli





# At Nixdorf Computer Training School 1972 and 1973 Köln



# Visiting Karlstein, Leipzig, Ostberlin





# Visiting Prague with friends and student girls in 1974





## Party at students home in Aachen – first (girl) friends





# Lebanon. Baalbek. 1973





# Damascus. Syria. 1973





# New York. Washington. 1973



# On Empire State before Statue of Liberty 1973





# Senior sports at home – Dubrovnik (Dalmatia) 1974

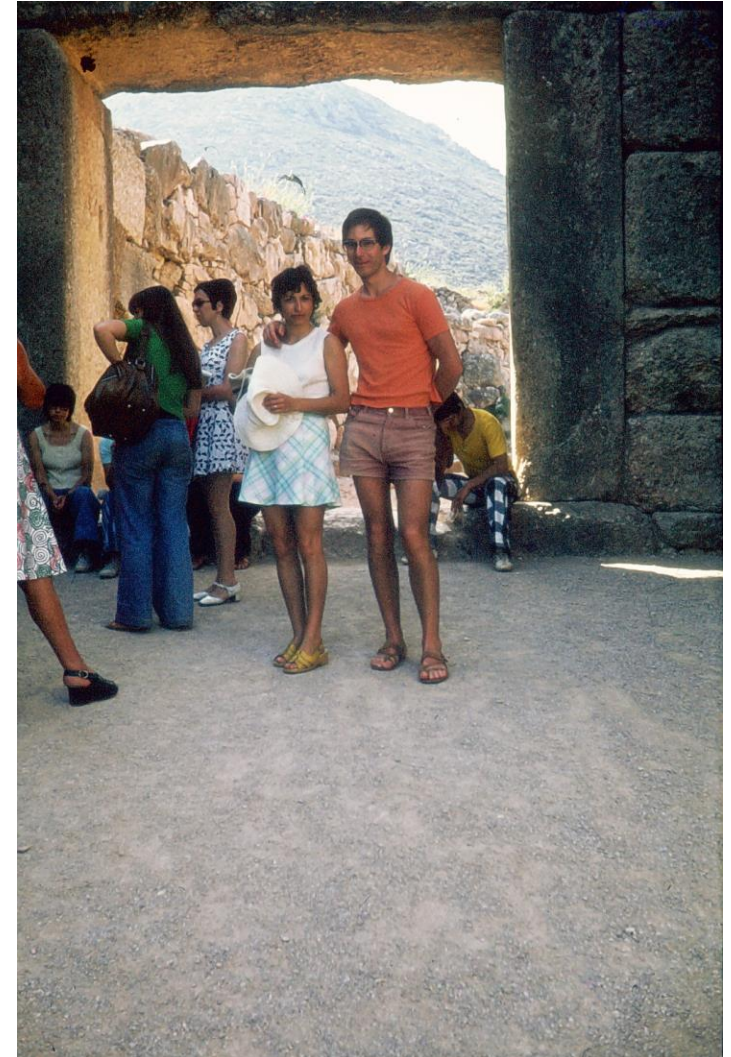


**Elka came into my life in 1974**





# Akropolis. Delphi. 1975





# Piräus. Delphi 1975





## With Mum's before wedding – Bachelor party with friends





# Meetingh Elka for pick up





# Happy wedding 1976





# Our first home the wedding night 1976





**Next winter 1977**





# Honeymoon in Tunisia 1976

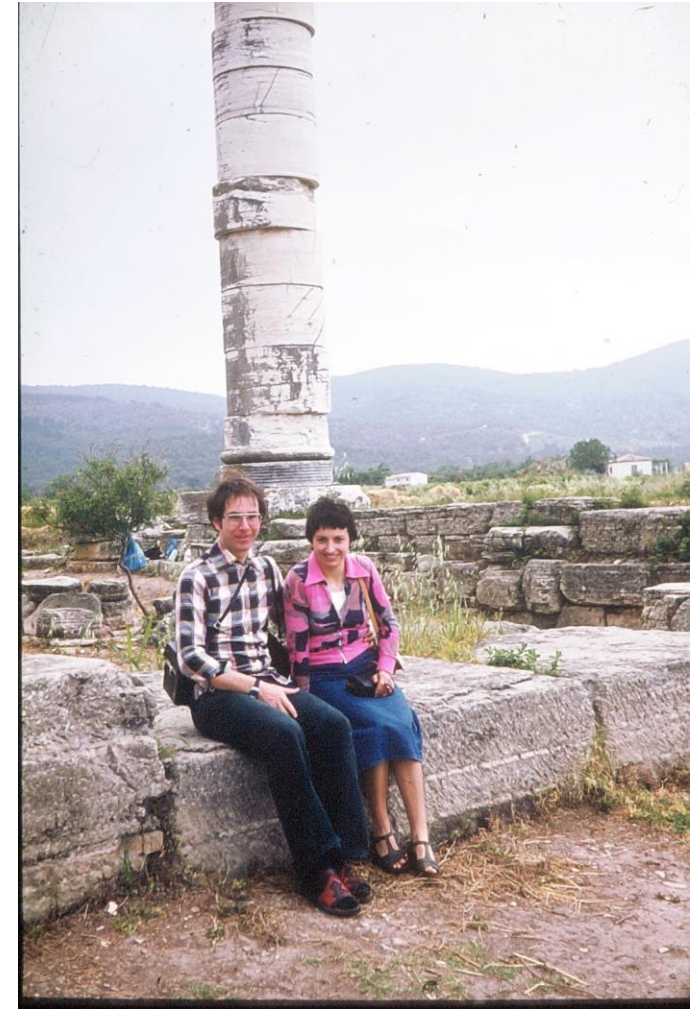




# Visiting Turkey and Greek islands 1977



# Istanbul. Ephesus. 1977





## The Janssen family with Ulrich and Reinhard

- In 1978 Walther and Elka announced the happy birth of their first son **Ulrich**, and Walther prepared in 1979 again to change his job
- Walther became **export manager for Babor Cosmetics in Aachen**, where he stayed for more than ten years, for six years as General Manager till 1989
- The time at Babor was a great experience for Walther; he travelled around the world from Europa to the USA and the Far East, this was about skincare
- Walther`s profession gave him the opportunity to visit also Leningrad, Tallinn and Ostberlin, beside such world places like New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Beijing,...

## At Loris Azzaro Party – Expecting Ulrich 1978





# My mum Martha and her siblings at her 70th in 1978





## Political career – Council and Autonomy 1976



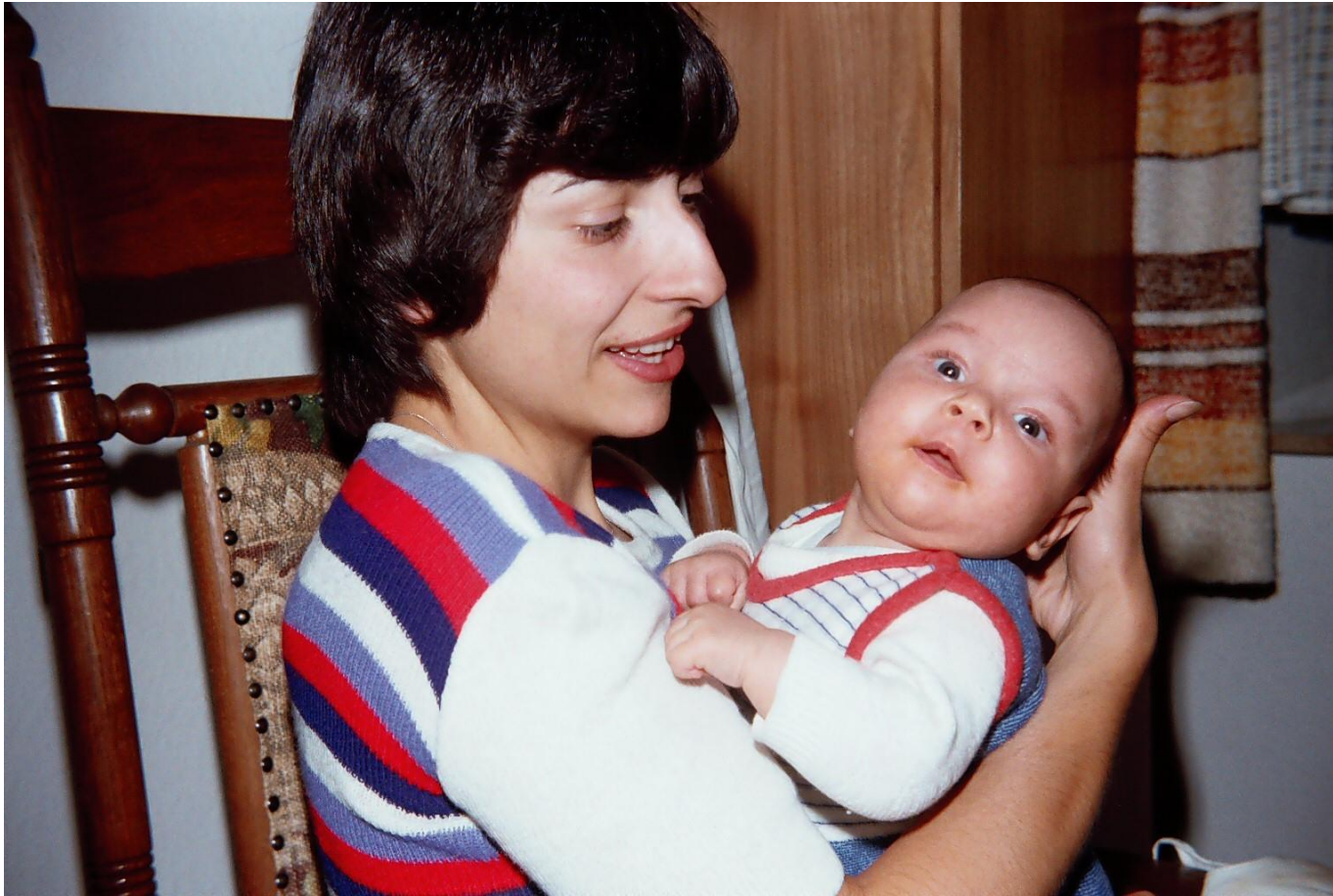


## Little Ulrich 1978





## Ulrich in 1976





# Copenhagen 1979



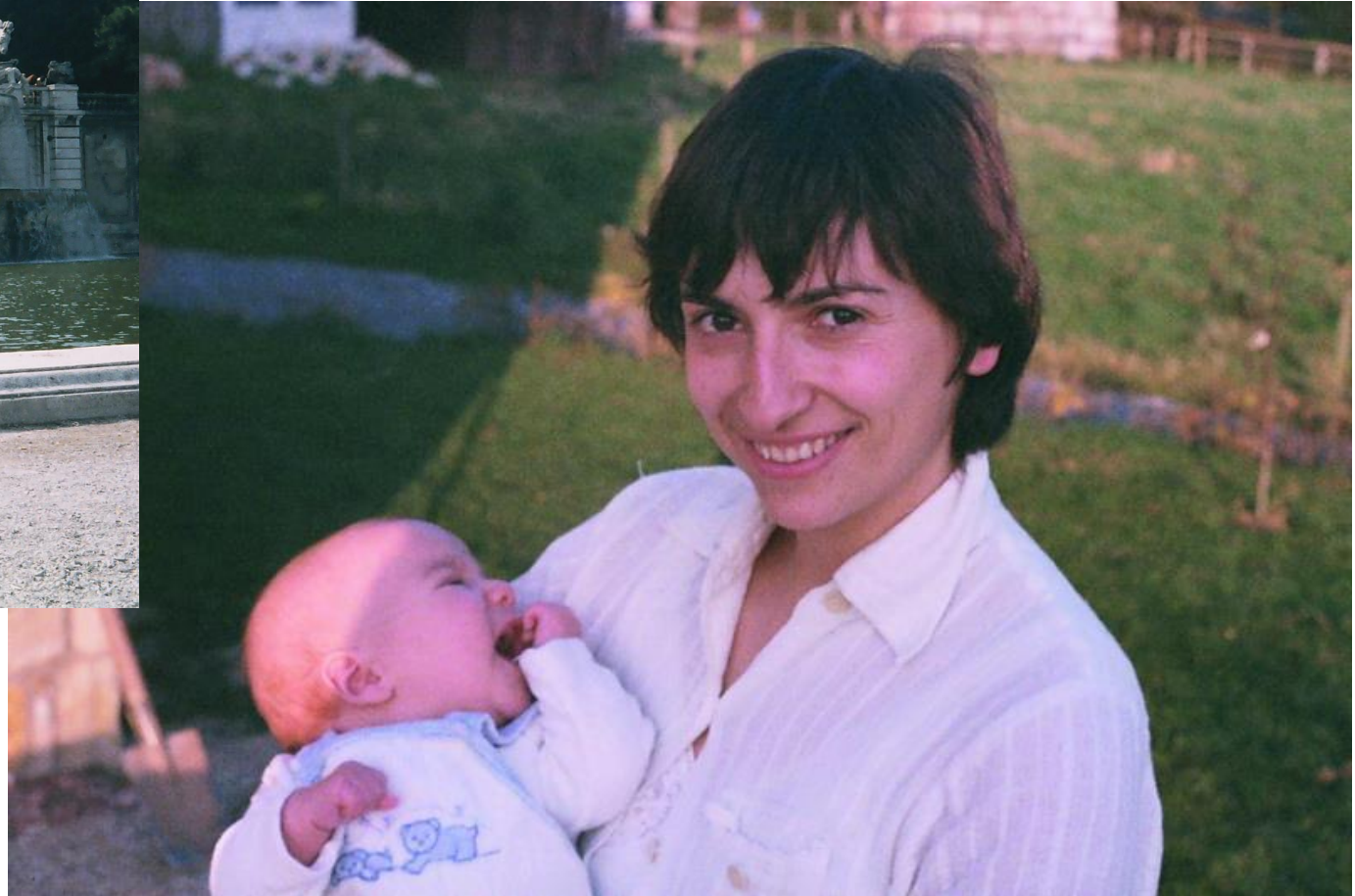


# Moving in our new house in 1980





# Ulrich at Schönbrunn - Reinhard is here 1980



**The first step a professional career**

From University  
to the first steps  
of a professional career

Walther Janssen ©