



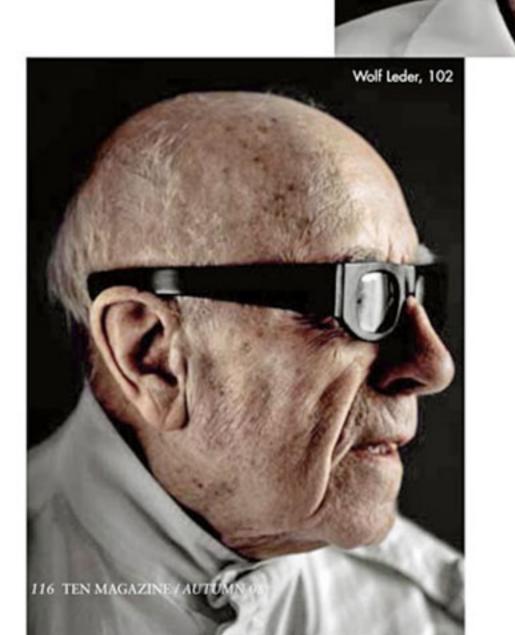


ALL OF THESE HANDSOME FOLK ARE 100 YEARS OLD OR MORE. THERE ARE SOME NICE GREAT-GRANDMAS AND LOVELY GREAT-GRANDPAS. WITH AGE COMES WISDOM, SAYS THE PHOTOGRAPHER KARSTEN THORMAEHLEN, AND A KEEN SENSE OF HUMOUR, TOO.

"Since I can walk again, I'd like to become 110 years old," says one and, "I've read an advertisement of an optician who gave 1% off for a new pair of glasses for each year of age... " adds another. But getting old is a problem for many. These days, old age is feared and loathed, and people see it as a bloody and scalpel-wielding battle; but it can be a tremendous and enjoyable thing, too. In his new book, Jahrhundertmensch, Karsten notes that there are more shots of women than men, because women generally live longer. Old age is topical: Europe is currently in the midst of a passionate debate about the heavy financial burden placed on member states from the rising costs of pensions. Old age is something up for discussion.

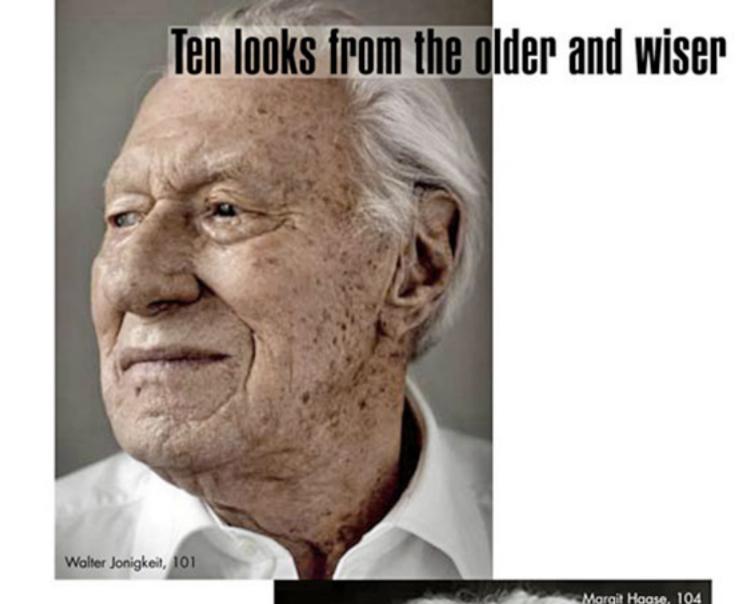
> Photographer KARSTEN THORMAEHLEN www.karstenthormaehlen.com

Jahrhundertmensch (Century Men)
Until Aug 30; 4th World Ageing & Generations Congress,
University of St Gallen, Switzerland.
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