



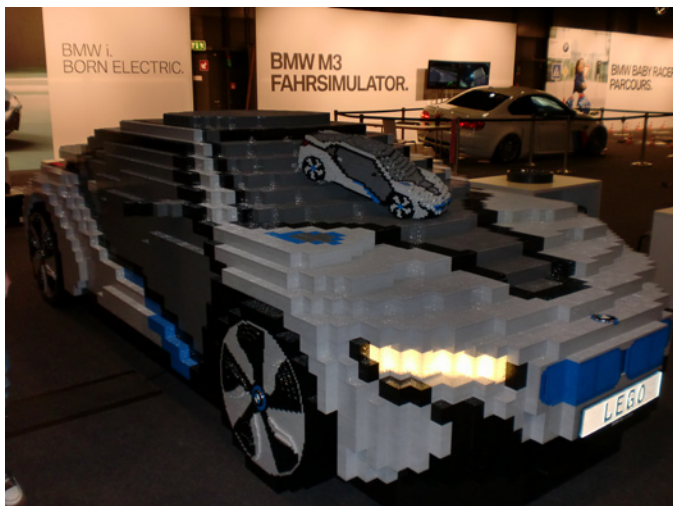
Bricking Bavaria 2012

By Iluisgib

Participating LUGs: 5
AFOLs: 100
Visitors: 20,000
Total area: 10.000m²
Area AFOL Exhibition: 1.200m²

From April 12 to 15 the 2012 edition of Bricking Bavaria was celebrated in Event Arena located in the Olympiapark in Munich. The event was organised by the Bavarian LUG Bricking Bavaria. As usual, due to work issues I couldn't attend until the Saturday morning, but even though it was only for 2 days, HispaBrick Magazine® was represented at the event with two small MOCs, together with another 4 LUGs: Bricking Bavaria, 1000steine, SwissLUG and LGOe.

In this edition, and for the first time in Europe, the AFOL event was celebrated together with a KIDSFEST, an event that is organised by LEGO® and imported from the USA, geared towards kids. The KIDFEST is a combination of activities for children to play and learn. In addition to areas for different LEGO themes, like NINJAGO, STAR WARS™, LEGO GAMES or FRIENDS, several sponsors had their own spaces and had activities that were a mix of their brand and LEGO bricks. For example, BMW gave road safety lessons to the kids, while a BMW i8 Concept car was built in bricks at 1:1 scale. LUFTHANSA was also represented and they had a map of the world for which visitors were asked to build models representing different countries and that were placed on the map to complete it. In the STAR WARS area there was a curious pianola with a drum that could be rotated with a handle which made the piano play the Star Wars theme. The drum was covered with LEGO models and it was those that made the keys of the piano move.



KIDS FEST

The combination of both events was interesting, but the timetable was a bit "heavy" for our Central-European friends. The event opened from 9:30 to 14:00. Then there was a 1,5 hour break after which it opened again from 15:30 to 20:00. Eight in the evening was hard on them, since in Central-European countries that is after dinner. They looked really tired, especially if you keep in mind that the day I arrived was in fact the third day for them. In each turn there was a limited number of visitors (3,000), which had a to get ticket that was moderately priced (4.50€). On Saturday and Sunday the "Tickets Sold Out" sign had to be put up for both turns. Quite a success.



The KIDS FEST was on the lower floor of the Event Arena and the AFOL exhibition as well as the LEGO FRIENDS and LUFTHANSA areas were on the first floor. There were escalators to get to the exhibition. We were welcomed by the organisers' table, where in addition to solving any problem exhibitors might have, some LEGO models designed by Bavarian LUG members were sold to pay for expenses. The exhibition started right in front of the escalators.

As always it is hard to put into words each and every one of the exhibits, so I'll concentrate on those items that I was most attracted by, and those were quite a few.

I'll start with a fully functional cable car. It wasn't the first time I saw one, as I could see a similar model at the 2009 Ballabio event, but I appreciate designing and engineering effort it takes to build a model of this magnitude. Next to it there was a fantastic Star Wars diorama. One representing the battle of Hoth and the other of a hanger on the planet Naboo. Both dioramas were very detailed and of considerable size.

Continuing on my visit I was pleasantly surprised by an enormous modular Space display. It has been developed over



Another diorama worth mentioning was about the Lord of the Rings, reproducing different scenes from the trilogy. I don't know much about the Lord of the Rings, so I can't identify the different scenes, but as a whole it was spectacular and very elaborate.

Evidently there had to be a CITY display. There were several, some larger than others, but all with a notable level of detail that must have taken a lot of work. I was especially surprised by a reproduction of the main street of Neustadt, an impressive diorama of over 200,000 pieces, with dozens of buildings, vehicles and minifigs and over 40 metres long.

As for singular models, I really liked a large scale reproduction of a building of the historical centre of Munich that was very detailed. There was also a reproduction of Mount Rushmore with Star Wars™ characters in stead of American presidents. This model was integrated in a Western diorama.



One of the models displayed by the Swiss community was a hercules air plane that was a combination of MODEL TEAM and TECHNIC. This model was built by Beat Felber from SwissLUG. On the other hand, the Austrian community (LGOe) showed a model of Scrooge McDuck's money bin (Walt Disney™) with all the characters represented in the same scale. I could also see the effect the collectible minifigs have had in a scene with troops from the Roman empire by Verena and Thomas, also from Austria. I was impressed by a model of a plastic moulding factory that faithfully represented all the

several years by a number of German AFOLs and contained a complete space station with interstellar cruisers and even a futuristic amusement park. I talked to the designers who told me about the details of the modular set-up which allows for infinite configurations of the station. I also saw the level of detail on the inside of the cruisers that were all minifig size. I was surprised to see that the models incorporated everything necessary to make a trip across the universe.





details of a factory, from the production area to the offices and the rest area.

HispaBrick Magazine® was also represented with the already well-known Castellers and also a model of the Sagrada Familia by Gaudi at Architecture scale. Hand luggage doesn't allow for carrying too many LEGO® models, but I couldn't imagine attending an event without showing any models, small as they might be, if the rules of the event made it possible.

It is a pity I can't talk about all the models exhibited, but it would make the article very long. What I have told you is just a small part of what could be seen, and it proves once again that the best thing to do is just visit an event, a highly recommendable experience.

The organisation was perfect and there were many and varied activities. I liked the MOC-Tour. Each day there were two tours in which the creators of different MOCs explained the characteristics and peculiarities of their models to other AFOLs and visitors. Unfortunately, my complete lack of German skills didn't allow me to enjoy this activity, although the concept is great.

I would like to thank Jürgen, Thomas and the other members of Bricking Bavaria (many of whom also are part of 1000steine) for the excellent way they treated me during the event, making sure I lacked nothing. Also a special thank you to Marco



Tagliaferri, responsible for the Space display and the group of exhibitors I was part of. Thanks to him everything was very easy.

Next year Bricking Bavaria changes location as the event is held in a different location in Bavaria each year. I recommend you visit it. You will find fantastic models and even better people. Vielen Dank!!!

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