

# **VANCOUVER whale**

a whale of cubes  
diving up  
into  
a lake of cloud

Jan Schmiedel

## In Mid-December, 6 °C

Bus 51

inside of it

I see him

outside of it

AS USUAL:

plaid shirt

'half-long' jeans

sandals and no socks

Passing by the railway construction site

direction *Saxony-Avenue*

Twelve Days to go and still no Snow

White Christmas will remain a Dream

For some it is still 'summer' anyway . . .

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## Poetry of Our Metropolis

*Chemnitz –  
A metropolis?*

If so, it would be  
The Metropolis of Modernity

Digital bus stop displays  
At least three rooms with twenty computers in each  
in every university building

Historically the German Manchester  
A leader in the Industrial Age  
But today – only the third-most popular city in Saxony

Bigger in size and more populated  
than a Czech city who is this year's Capital of Culture  
But still lagging behind Pilsen – Chemnitz

Still, the two cities have a lot in common  
Most notably the *Plzen Plaza*  
and Chemnitz's twin – not the *Chemnitz Plaza*  
but the *Galerie Roter Turm*

A multiplex cinema and lots of shops and cafés  
– isn't this sufficient for a Metropolis?  
It probably is for Modernity.

Historically Karl-Marx-Stadt  
and a part of the GDR  
An image probably not quite fitting to the town

Marx never was here  
and Chemnitz never was declared  
The City of Marxism

Or maybe  
The Metropolis of Marxism?

*Karl-Marx-Stadt –  
A metropolis?*

*Modern 'Marxtown' – the Metropolis of Marxism?!*

Jan Schmiedel