Mandy Köditz (DE), 20 years old
painter
First, she is going on a journey

To build a house from the ground up, entirely of clay, every part from the floor to the roof ridge - that is the dream of this 20 year old. Mandy Köditz has just completed her training as painter/varnisher at the „Berufliche Schulzentrum Leipziger Land“ in Böhlen near Leipzig. During her training she took advantage of the offer of a three-week foreign residence with the French partner Batipole en Limouxin, Centre national de formation du bâtiment, financed via the Leonardo da Vinci Mobility programme. The painter first came into contact with clay as a building material at their construction sites.

„It is so lovely working with clay, and also poses no health risk to hold it in your hands and model with it. The building material is good for the acclimatisation of rooms, and thus for the well-being of people.“ So says Mandy, who now would be happy to use this building material, e.g. for plastering walls. She wishes to find out more about clay architecture, rammed earth, adobe buildings. Before she starts her own business, she first wishes to go on a journey. She would like to travel - Europe-wide, worldwide. Perhaps she will join a guild. She has no desire to visit a succession of schools, but wishes to extend her knowledge and skills at private sites and in various different businesses. It is possible that she will find out even more about clay plasters and clay colour finishes in practice in the painting business of Sylvie Wheeler, whom she got to know as an instructor during her stay in France and whom she describes as the „top plasterer“. Subsequently, Mandy could take an examination at the LearnWithClay partners Le GABION and obtain the ECVET certificate “Interior design with clay plasters”.

In order to become her own boss, she needs to be able to do calculations and know how to successfully carry out discussions with customers. If she attends further courses with FAL e.V., she will be entitled to use the title “Designer for clay plasters”. She can also then register her business, with an emphasis on clay plasters.