

# Matthias Salewski

***“I want to bring science-comedy show ‘Die Physikanten’ to the Netherlands.”***

**Matthias Salewski (35) works as a project leader at Neways Advanced Microsystems developing chip packages for smart sensing and actuation applications. “All the physics takes place at small scales – our products are only millimeters in size. At ‘Die Physikanten’, I do quite the opposite, as I’m performing physics experiments on the big stage so that everybody can see and understand them.”**

“As an undergraduate physics student at the Technical University of Dortmund, I once saw a poster for the science-comedy show ‘Die Physikanten’. I was electrified and applied within hours to join the group. As a child, I already used to perform sketches and record them; when I was a teenager, I started with Latin American dancing; and as a young adult, I decided to study physics. Now, ‘Die Physikanten’ offered me the unique opportunity to combine my passions for comedy, performances and science on stage.”

### **Electrifying moments**

“I like how a show creates special moments in time and space. Everything comes together; the audience looks at you with their eyes wide open, and forgets everything they are doing or thinking about. It is like a new dimension is opening up and something magical happens. This enables me to ‘electrify’

***“I like to create special moments in time and space.”***

people about how nature works. Not by being super-substantive or theoretical, as in lectures, but through show and entertainment. Above all, it should be fun.”

### **Learning experiences**

“I’m learning a lot myself. I happen to be a physicist, but my colleagues are professional actors with real comedy experience. That was a great opportunity for me: to learn from people with completely different backgrounds and to bring that together on stage. They taught me exercises to regulate my breathing and voice, things I had never done before. It has allowed me to further grow the skills I need to perform on stage. And in return, I teach them about physics and nature.”

### **A different scale**

Semiconductor chips, essential for modern electronics, contain a stunning number of functionalities. This is only possible by miniaturization, but, at the same time, this makes them fragile and difficult to access. “Our role at Neways is to protect

these extremely complex devices from environmental harm while ensuring they can interact with their surroundings in necessary ways, such as through electrical connections. What’s quite remarkable, is that our entire assembly process takes place at our facilities on the Noviotech Campus. So, millions of chip packages are being produced here in Nijmegen.”

***“Millions of chip packages are being produced by us, here in our facilities in Nijmegen.”***

### **Next generation science-comedy show**

In 2023, Matthias performed his first physics show in Dutch on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Radboud University in Nijmegen. “The highlight was to have my little daughter in the audience – ever since, she keeps telling me: ‘Papa, I also visited your show once’. Looking ahead, it would be wonderful to have the next generation of Dutch children growing up with our unique science-comedy show!”