



M. Christmann

## Mathias Christmann

<b>Date of birth:</b>	October 17, 1972
<b>Position:</b>	Professor (W2) of Organic Chemistry, Technische Universität Dortmund
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<b>Education:</b>	1998 Diploma in Chemistry, Technische Universität Braunschweig 2001 PhD with Markus Kalesse, University of Hannover 2001 Postdoc with Craig J. Forsyth, University of Minnesota 2007 Habilitation with Dieter Enders, RWTH Aachen
<b>Awards:</b>	2012 DECHEMA Young Scientist Award for Natural Products Research
<b>Current research:</b>	Natural products chemistry, organocatalysis, sustainable chemistry
<b>Hobbies:</b>	Asian cooking, photography, chess

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** in *Angewandte Chemie* in the last 10 years:

“ $\beta$ -Lactones through Catalytic Asymmetric Heterodimerization of Ketenes”: E. Marqués-López, M. Christmann, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 8826–8828; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 8696–8698.

**Chemistry is fun because ...** it creates its own object (Berthelot).

**My favorite way to spend a holiday is ...** with a rental car, lots of time, and no itinerary.

**My favorite quote is ...** “The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity” (William Butler Yeats).

**My biggest inspiration is ...** listening to radioparadise.com.

**My favorite time of day is ...** the quiet hour at home (with a cup of coffee) before everyone else wakes up.

**My favorite author (science) is ...** Nassim Nicholas Taleb.

**What I appreciate most about my friends is ...** that time does not matter.

**My favorite band is ...** Tool.

**My favorite book is ...** “The Moon Is Down” by John Steinbeck.

**The natural talent I would like to be gifted with is ...** to be able to write quicker.

**The biggest challenge facing scientists is ...** to ask the right questions.

**Last time I went to the pub ...** I missed a laudation.

**My favorite dish is ...** Bún bò Huế (a Vietnamese soup).

### My 5 top papers:

1. “Total Synthesis and Absolute Configuration of the Guaiane Sesquiterpene Englerin A”: M. Willot, L. Radtke, D. Könnig, R. Fröhlich, V. H. Gessner, C. Strohm, M. Christmann, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 9269–9272; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 9105–9108. (The first reported synthesis of a highly selective inhibitor of renal cancer cell lines.)
2. “Access to Skipped Polyene Macrolides by Ring-Closing Metathesis: Total Synthesis of the RNA Polymerase Inhibitor Ripostatin B”: P. Winter, W. Hiller, M. Christmann, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 3452–3456; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 3396–3400. (This paper resulted from the simple idea to convert monoterpenes into larger portions of polyketides by (organo)catalytic functionalizations.)
3. “Efficient Synthesis and Resolution of Pyrrolizidines”: R. M. de Figueiredo, R. Fröhlich, M. Christmann, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, *119*, 2941–2944; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, *46*, 2883–2886. (My first *Angewandte* publication as an independent researcher is thanks to the valuable advice of a good friend.)
4. “Crossed Intramolecular Rauhut–Currier-Type Reactions via Dienamine Activation”: E. Marqués-López, R. P. Herrera, T. Marks, W. C. Jacobs, D. Könnig, R. M. de Figueiredo, M. Christmann, *Org. Lett.* **2009**, *11*, 4116–4119. (A new mechanistic course of an old name reaction.)
5. “Bidirectional, Organocatalytic Synthesis of Lepidopteran Sex Pheromones”: R. M. de Figueiredo, R. Berner, J. Julis, T. Liu, D. Tülp, M. Christmann, *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 640–642. (This made it onto local TV.)

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