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[Eugène Delacroix](#) -
[Mephistopheles](#) ^[2]

Mephisto was a family of [dedicated chess computers](#), produced and traded by [Hegener & Glaser](#) since 1980, starting with [Mephisto I-III](#) by [Elmar Henne](#) and [Thomas Nitsche](#). In 1985 [Richard Lang](#) became primary Mephisto programmer. All his Mephisto programs were written in [68000 Assembly](#) ^[1]. They competed in various [World-](#) and [World Microcomputer Chess Championships](#) as well as [Computer Olympiad](#) and [ACM North American Computer Chess Championship](#) from 1985 until 1993, most often operated by Richard Lang himself and/or [opening book author](#) and chess advisor [Ossi Weiner](#).

It was in 1994 when [Eric Winkler](#), CEO of [Saitek Ltd.](#), acquired Hegener & Glaser to continue the Mephisto trademark, but no longer with programs of [Richard Lang](#), who had developed [Chess Genius](#) for the [PC](#) market to persist his long term collaboration with [Ossi Weiner](#) until 2003.

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Photos & Games

ACM 1988



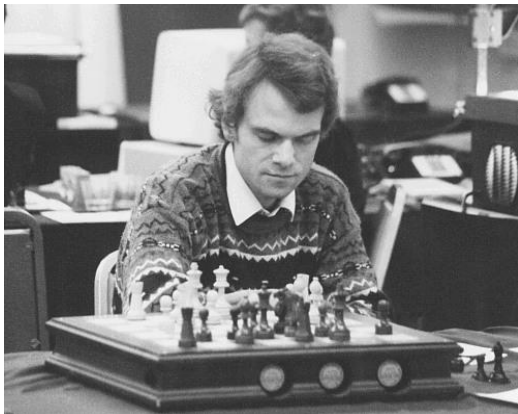
[Nelson, Hyatt](#) and [Weiner, Mephisto X](#) aka Almeria - [Cray Blitz](#), [ACM 1988](#) ^[3]

```
[Event "19th NACCC ACM"]  
[Site "Orlando USA"]  
[Date "1988.11.13"]  
[Round "2"]  
[White "Mephisto"]  
[Black "Cray Blitz"]
```

[Result "1/2-1/2"]

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Bf5 3.c4 e6 4.Qb3 b6 5.Nc3 dxc4 6.Qxc4 Nf6 7.Bg5 Be7 8.e3 Nbd7
9.Qc6 Bb4 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Rc1 a6 12.Be2 Ra7 13.Nh4 Bxc3+ 14.Rxc3 Bb1 15.Qa4 Be4
16.O-O Qb8 17.Rfc1 b5 18.Qa5 Nb6 19.f3 Bd5 20.b3 Ba8 21.Rc5 f5 22.g3 Nd5 23.e4
fxe4 24.fxe4 Ne7 25.Bf3 O-O 26.Rg5+ Ng6 27.Rcc5 Rd8 28.Qc3 Qb6 29.Rg4 Rd7 30.Bg2
Bb7 31.Nf3 Ra8 32.Ne5 Rd6 33.Qe3 Kf8 34.Nf3 Ke8 35.e5 Rd7 36.Ng5 Bxg2 37.Kxg2 h5
38.Re4 Qb7 39.Qf3 Rad8 40.Qf2 Re7 41.Kg1 Red7 42.Rc1 Re7 43.Rf1 a5 44.Qf6 Qb6
45.Rd1 Qc6 46.Re2 Qc3 47.Nxf7 Rxd4 48.Rf1 Qd3 49.Ref2 h4 50.Rf3 Qc2 51.R1f2 Qc1+
52.Kg2 hxg3 53.hxg3 Qb1 54.Nh8 Nxh8 55.Qxh8+ Kd7 56.Rf7 Qe4+ 57.Kh2 Rxf7 58.Rxf7+
Kc6 59.Qe8+ Kb6 60.Qb8+ Qb7 61.Qxb7+ Kxb7 62.Kg2 Rd5 63.g4 Rxe5 64.Kf3 Re1 65.Rf4
1/2-1/2

ACM 1989



[Richard Lang](#) operating [Mephisto Portorose](#) vs. [Deep Thought](#) at [ACM 1989](#) ^[4]

[Event "ACM 1989"]
[Site "Reno USA"]
[Date "1989.11.14"]
[Round "5"]
[White "Mephisto"]

[Black "Deep Thought"]
[Result "1-0"]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bg4 5.Bxc4 e6 6.h3 Bh5 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.g4 Bg6 9.Nh4 Be4
10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Nf3 Nd6 12.Bb3 Qe7 13.Bd2 h5 14.Rg1 hxg4 15.hxg4 O-O-O 16.Ba5 b6
17.Bb4 a5 18.Bxd6 Qxd6 19.Qc2 Be7 20.O-O-O Rh3 21.Nd2 c6 22.Rh1 Rdh8 23.Rxh3 Rxh3
24.Ne4 Qc7 25.Kb1 g5 26.Rc1 Kb7 27.Ba4 Nb8 28.Nd2 Qd7 29.Bb3 Na6 30.Qe4 Nb4 31.a3 Nd5
32.Qg2 Rh8 33.Ne4 f6 34.Qg3 Rg8 35.Rh1 f5 36.gxf5 exf5 37.Qh3 Rf8 38.Nd2 Bf6 39.Qh7 Rf7
40.Qh6 Qe6 41.Qg6 Rg7 42.Rh7 Rxh7 43.Qxh7+ Be7 44.Kc1 Kc7 45.Nf3 Kd8 46.Ne5 g4 47.Qh8+
Kc7 48.Kd2 Kb7 49.Nxc6 Qxc6 50.Qe5 Nc7 51.Qxe7 Qg2 52.Qh4 f4 53.exf4 Qe4 54.Qxg4 Qxd4+
55.Kc1 Qxf2 56.Qf5 Qf3 57.Kc2 Kc6 58.Qe5 Nd5 59.Qe6+ Kc5 60.Bxd5 Qxd5 61.Qxd5+ Kxd5
62.Kd3 a4 63.Kc3 Kc5 64.f5 1-0

WMCCC 1993

At the [WMCCC 1993](#) the [Mephisto Wundermaschine](#) (Miracle Machine) ^[5] ^[6], running [Genius](#) on an internal [80486 PC](#), won the Manufacturers Group and the playoff versus Software Champion [Hiarcs](#) for the title of the World Micro Absolute Champion.



Playoff Wundermaschine vs. [Hiarcs](#), [Richard Lang](#), [David Levy](#), Mark's father and [Mark Uniacke](#) ^[7]

Achievements

[Richard Lang](#) won ten times the [World Microcomputer Chess Championship](#) in a row, eight times with Mephisto, 1984 and 1987 with [Psion](#), 1995 with [Chess Genius](#).

| Event | Origin | Program / Computer ^[8] |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| WMCCC 1984 | Glasgow | Psion (shared) |
| WMCCC 1985 | Amsterdam | Mephisto Amsterdam |
| WMCCC 1986 | Dallas | Mephisto Dallas |
| WMCCC 1987 | Rome | Mephisto Roma , Psion |
| WMCCC 1988 | Almeria | Mephisto Almeria |
| WMCCC 1989 | Portorož | Mephisto Portorose |
| WMCCC 1990 | Lyon | Mephisto Lyon |
| WMCCC 1991 | Vancouver | Mephisto Vancouver (by default) |
| WMCCC 1993 | Munich | Mephisto Wundermaschine Mephisto Genius 68030 |
| WMCCC 1995 | Paderborn | Chess Genius (shared) |

Mephisto People

Programmers

Chess programmers associated with Mephisto computers ^[9] :

| Author | List of computers ^[10] |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Craig Barnes | Barnes, Craig |
| Kaare Danielsen | Danielsen, Kaare |
| Elmar Henne | Nitsche, Thomas & Henne, Elmar |
| Julio Kaplan | Kaplan, Julio |
| Johan de Koning | De Koning, Johan |
| Richard Lang | Lang, Richard |

[Frans Morsch](#)

[Morsch, Frans](#)

[Thomas Nitsche](#)

[Nitsche, Thomas & Henne, Elmar](#)

[Ulf Rathsmann](#)

[Rathsmann, Ulf](#)

[Eric Van Riet Paap](#)

[Van Riet Paap, Eric](#)

[Ed Schröder](#)

[Schröder, Ed](#)

Business People

- [Florian Glaser](#)
- [Manfred Hegener](#)
- [Ossi Weiner](#), [Opening Book](#) author and operator
- [Eric Winkler](#)

See also

- [Demonology](#)
- [Hegener & Glaser](#)
- [Mephisto Europa](#)
- [Mephisto \(H\)](#)
- [Mephisto MM II](#)
- [Mephisto MM IV](#)
- [Mephisto MM V](#)
- [Mephisto Module Systems](#)
- [Mephisto Mondial](#)
- [Mephisto Montreux](#)
- [Mephisto Polgar](#)
- [Mephisto Rebell](#)
- [Mephisto RISC](#)
- [Saitek](#)
- [The Mephisto Best-Publication Award](#)

Forum Posts

- [Mephisto Modules Architecture and Interoperability](#) by braeburn, [CCC](#), May 03, 2007
- [Tournoi Mephisto 1985](#) by [Eric Belot](#), [Hiarcs Forum](#), June 08, 2009 » [Mephisto MM II](#), [Mephisto Amsterdam](#)

External Links

Chess Computer

- [Mephisto \(chess computer\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Mephisto's ICGA Tournaments](#)
- [About the company Hegener & Glaser \(Mephisto\) from Schachcomputer.info - Wiki](#)
- [Hegener & Glaser \(Mephisto\) from ChessComputers.org](#)
- [Chess Computers - The UK Story from Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
- [Mephisto | Photo collection](#) by [Chewbanta](#)
- [Mephisto](#) from [Saitek](#)
- [Mephisto Electronic Chess Computers](#) from [The Spacious Mind](#)
- [Back to the 80's with UCI](#) by [Ed Schröder](#) » [UCI](#)

Misc

- [Mephisto \(automaton\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Mephistopheles from Wikipedia](#)

References

1. [^ Richard Lang - Question & Answer Interview given to a German magazine in 2003](#) (pdf) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
2. [^ Mephistopheles flying over Wittenberg](#), in a lithograph by [Eugène Delacroix](#), [Mephistopheles from Wikipedia](#), source [Dr. Faustus](#) by [Christopher Marlowe](#)
3. [^ Photo](#) from [The Computer History Museum](#) (wrong text)
4. [^ Lang playing Mephisto at the 20th ACM North American Computer Chess Championship in Reno, 1989](#), Gift of [Monroe Newborn](#) from [The Computer History Museum](#)
5. [^ Mephisto Wundermaschine](#) from [Schachcomputer.info Wiki](#) (German)
6. [^ Mephisto Wundermaschine](#) from [Kurt's Schachcomputer Homepage](#) by [Kurt Kispert](#)
7. [^ Hiarcs Fan Page](#) by [Thorsten Czub](#)
8. [^ Mephisto computers](#) from [Schachcomputer.info Wiki](#)
9. [^ Interview mit Manfred Hegener](#) (pdf), Erwerbsquelle: 10-1985, Zeitschrift Schachcomputer (Herausgeber Florian Piel), Edition 20, S. 6-8, [Gerhard Piel](#): Neue Programme von neuen Programmierern.(German) hosted by [Hein Veldhuis](#)
10. [^ Schachcomputer.info Wiki](#)

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| ACM 1990 | Jun 7, 2016 |
| ACM 1991 | Nov 25, 2017 |

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| Aegon 1992 | Jan 22, 2017 |
| Aegon 1993 | Mar 26, 2017 |
| Aegon 1994 | Mar 26, 2017 |
| Aegon 1995 | Apr 6, 2017 |
| Aegon 1996 | Jan 22, 2017 |
| Aegon 1997 | Apr 7, 2017 |
| Aegon Tournaments | Jan 22, 2017 |
| Bobby | Jan 7, 2016 |
| Chess Genius | Feb 26, 2018 |
| Chess Monster | Jun 21, 2017 |
| Computer Olympiad | Mar 6, 2018 |
| CXG Sphinx | Jun 23, 2017 |
| Cyrus 68K | Jan 7, 2016 |
| Dedicated Chess Computers | Feb 20, 2018 |
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| Elektronika IM | Nov 30, 2017 |
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| Eric Winkler | Dec 16, 2012 |
| First International Chess-Computer Tournament in the USSR 1989 | Apr 22, 2018 |
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| Mephisto Genius 68030 | Sep 2, 2017 |
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| Mephisto MM IV | Sep 1, 2017 |
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