

TO THE EXHIBITION

HEAD-VARIATIONS

Walter Angerer-Niketa, Wilhelm Drach, Denise Rudolf Frank, Roland Goeschl, Alex Klein, Markus Lüpertz, Josef Pillhofer, Ingeborg G. Pluhar, Drago Prelog, Robert Staudinger, Emil Toman, Heliane Wiesauer-Reiterer



exhibition: Jan 23th – March 12th, 2019

This exhibition explores the question of whether semi-abstract depictions of the human head inherently seek a personality within this “human being” or tend to strive for a de-individualising in the sense of Brâncuși.

Markus Lüpertz enjoys dealing with motifs from classical mythology or German history in his figurations. Expressively and dramatically transfigured, they certainly remain intelligible.

Wilhelm Drach’s heads are expressive abstractions. An atmospheric sense of the underlying motif can be gained from them.

The loosely nimble paintings of heads by **Denise Rudolf Frank** call to mind particularly dense abstract-expressive graffiti. Her heads embody the demands she makes on an anarchic freedom.

Roland Goeschl’s “Selbstportrait ohne Haut” (Self-portrait without skin) uses the example of the human organism to thematise the complex interconnection of all existence.

In her photo-collages, **Ingeborg G. Pluhar’s** presents her approach to sculpture by using the topology of the facial landscape as a dividing line: space through fragmentation.

With his cubic vocabulary of forms, **Josef Pillhofer’s** drawings and sculptures reduce the head to a logo, thus underscoring the importance, power and dignity of this centre of cognition.

Alex Klein’s delicate head-architecture drawings go a step further and equate human beings with their urban culture.

Emil Toman symbolises expression through form and colour in expressive studies – or even abbreviations – of heads.

In two-dimensional profiles, **Drago Prelog** compares the seat of thought with a page from a book. The sketchy hieroglyphs symbolise subject matter, thoughts, the joy of creation.

Heliane Wiesauer-Reiterer utilises found pieces of wood, which she reworks into geometrically simplified interpretations of heads.

For **Walter Angerer-Niketa** intersecting axes, lines, angles and planes form the quintessence of his architectonically reductive constructions of heads.

The photographer **Robert Staudinger** explores the "genuine Viennese": 16 to 225 portraits of residents of Vienna – men and women, young and old – are superimposed on top of each other as equivalents, and they astound us with their congruous results.

Art-loving visitors will find a dialogue between these vantage points, which often even merge within a single position. This diverse exhibition presents the complexity of an inexhaustible theme.

Fotocredits (left to right):

Wilhelm Drach, Verschmitzt, 2017, acrylic on canvas, 120 x 96 cm

Roland Goeschl, Selbstportrait ohne Haut, 2009, isolated copper wire, 52 x 23 x 12 cm

Josef Pillhofer, Schwarzer Kopf, 2001, 8 mm curved iron, black painted, edges polished, edition: 4

WALTER ANGERER-NIKETA

1940 born in Wels / A
1958–1963 Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts
1963–1966 Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna; main course: sculpting class of Josef Pillhofer, Fritz Wotruba
From 1967 advertising artist and sculptor
1979–1980 diploma course by Bruno Gironcoli
1983–2003 graphic design teacher at the Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts
Lives and works in Lower-Austria / A

WILHELM DRACH

1952 born in Vienna
1968–1972 Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts
1972–1977 Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna
Lives and works in Mödling / A

DENISE RUDOLF FRANK

1993 born in Vienna
2008–2013 Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts
2013–2014 Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts; master class, diploma
since 2015 Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna - Prof. K. Mikkola
since 2019 Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London
Lives and works in Vienna and London.

ROLAND GOESCHL

1932–2016 born in Salzburg, died in Vienna
1956–60 Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, sculpting class Prof. Fritz Wotruba
1962 Royal College of Art, London
1963–66 Assistance Prof. Fritz Wotruba
1964 documenta III, Kassel / D
1968 34. Biennale in Venedig / I
1968 documenta IV, Kassel
1972–2000 Professorship University of Technology Vienna

ALEX KLEIN

1960 born in Vienna / A
1976–1980 Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts
1980–1988 Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, Prof. Wolfgang Hollegha
Lives and works in Vienna

MARKUS LÜPERTZ

1941 born in Liberec, Northern Bohemia / CZE
1956 studies at the "Werkkunstschule Krefeld", further studies at Federal Academy of Fine Arts Düsseldorf; residence in Paris
since 1961 freelance artist
1988–2009 Rector of the Federal Academy of Fine Arts Düsseldorf
Lives and works in Berlin, Düsseldorf und Karlsruhe.

JOSEF PILLHOFER

1921 – 2010 born and died in Vienna
1938–1941 School for arts and crafts in Graz, sculpting-class - Prof. Wilhelm Gösser
1946–1950 study at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, Prof. Fritz Wotruba
1950 study at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière, Ossip Zadkine
1970–1981 professor for sculpting at the School for arts and crafts in Graz

INGEBORG G. PLUHAR

1944 born in Vienna
1962–1966 sculptural training at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, master class of Prof. Fritz Wotruba.
In the summer holidays during studies twice visited the Salzburg Summer Academy (painting class under Oskar Kokoschka and sculpture class under Joannis Avramidis) and participation in the Karl Prantls sculpture symposium in St. Margareten, Burgenland / A.
1966/67 Paris-scholarship at the École des Beaux Arts / F
1969/70 Residence in Berlin
1979 Begins work as assistant, from 1980 till 1992 also as tutor in the subject area „Photography and graphics“, and from 1990 till 2003 assistant professor at the Institut for Artistic Design at Technical University in Vienna.
Lives and works in Vienna.

DRAGO PRELOG

1939 born in Celje / SVN
1944 moved to Upper Styria
Four years School for arts and crafts in Graz (Decorative Painting)
1958–1962 Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Prof. A.P. Gütersloh), without diploma; early drop-out
1959 start exhibition activities
1969–1979 lectureships for painting at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna
1974–1997 lectures in typeface design at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna
1986 Development of PRELOGRAPHY.
Lives and works in Vienna.

ROBERT STAUDINGER

1964 born in Salzburg

College for Graphic Arts in Vienna

Austrian and international photography in the fields of advertising, fashion, film and theatre

Since the mid-1980s artistic photography

Robert Staudinger lives and works in Vienna and Perchtoldsdorf / A

EMIL TOMAN

1923–2007

Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, class of R. C. Andersen

since 1950 working as a painter

1953–1954 Study trips to Egypt and Sudan

1960 – 1983 teacher at the Vienna Federal Training and Research Institute of Graphic Arts

He lived and worked in Brunn/Gebirge, Lower Austria.

HELIANE WIESAUER-REITERER

1948 born in Salzburg

1948–1957 childhood and school in Buenos Aires / Argentina

1957–1965 Marne, Holstein / D

1965–1966 photo training in Vienna

1967 advertising school WIFI/Vienna; art school Vienna

1968–1972 studies at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna - Prof. Gustav Hensing, diploma

since 1970 participation in [kunstwerk] krystal; construction of "Werkstätte Krystal"

1982–1991 administration and exhibitions of the estate of Otto Eder

2004 Foundation of the association FOCUS kunst frei raum, Neulengbach / A

Lives and works in Vienna and Lower Austria.