

Press release

Alfred Czerny and Petra Schweifer Exhibitions

January 21 to February 20, 2016

Rhythmus der Formen

Alfred Czerny, sculpture and sketches



Alfred Czerny, Formation I (Liegende mit Zunge), 1993
Bronze 1/7, 11 x 27 x 12,5 cm
© Bildrecht Wien, 2016; Photo Martin Seidenschwann

Alfred Czerny

Born on March 26, 1934 in Vienna.

1954 Diploma from the Technological Trade Museum in Mechanical Engineering in Vienna

1954-1959 Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna under Hans Andre and Fritz Wotruba

Member of the Vienna Secession

Died on September 7, 2013.

Prizes and Awards:

1957 School of Masters Award

1961 Advancement Grant by the City of Vienna and the Vienna Art Fund of the Central Savings Bank

2004 Austrian Cross of Honour for Science and Art, 1st Class

Alfred Czerny belonged to the great generation of Wotruba pupils. Accepted into Wotruba's master class in 1954, the great variability of Czerny's work stands out, both in terms of content and form. It can be seen in his figurative works as well as in his small abstract sculptures that the opposition and unity of different shapes, the rhythms of the dead and living and of nearness to nature and abstraction were very important to the artist.

This high level of rhythmic sensitivity becomes particularly apparent in the small sculptures of his later years, when he was no longer able to work on large stones.

This is where he gave free rein to the richness of his fantasy.

The sculptural exhibits are complemented by the sculptor's sketches, which are not drafts for his sculptures but renewed attempts at grasping the plasticity of the human body. He shapes his nudes with great power, then sets them in contrast to indifferent geometric forms - here, too, can the incomparable rhythm of form be felt.

As part of the KUNST IM KABINETT exhibition series, we present

Geheimes, Dunkles

Petra Schweifer, painting



Petra Schweifer, oben schaut man am Tag nie genau hin, 2015
Mixed media on paper, canvas, 150 x 140 cm
© Petra Schweifer, Photo Martin Seidenschwann

Petra Schweifer

born 1981 in Eisenstadt, Austria
2001 - 2006 Studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna
(Walter Obholzer, Erwin Bohatsch)
Lives and works in Vienna.

2016 City of Vienna Study Abroad Scholarship, Budapest
2012 Artist in Residence, Bucharest AiR, Bucharest
2011 Sojourn in Paris (drawing project "cartes postales à Graz-Reykjavik-Warsawa")
2009 Styrian Study Abroad Scholarship, Iceland
2008 Burgenland Study Abroad Scholarship, Paliano-Rom

Petra Schweifer paints carefully and copiously. Her eyes collect impressions; quotes and phrases stick in her mind, whether read or heard. And this collection of thoughts and images must be processed through painting.

What we see opens a broad spectrum of possible interpretations for the viewer: mountains, hills, water, mythical creatures, figures, wounds, covered windows, or...? However, what is essential is that everything we see is not what we think we see.

Schweifer gives us clues through the titles: one never really looks up during the day or diving under and back up again or this is a façade, all of it.

And nevertheless, we still can't name what we see.

Schweifer isn't trying to actually transpose a landscape or an object onto the canvas. She draws from memory, allowing things she's read to mingle in, distorting, mocking, pointing, masking, exaggerating, and blending what is being portrayed.

Paintings emerge that we see as delicate and fine, or as rough and cruel. And these things lie very close together.

A Special Exhibition

Franz Fischer The Forgotten Wotruba Pupil



Franz Fischer
Photo Martin Seidenschwann

Franz Fischer

Born 1920 in Moravian Neustadt, today Unicov, Czech Republic.
Studied at the Vereinigte Staatsschule in Berlin for two semesters.
1946 – 1953 Studied at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts under Fritz Wotruba
1949 Master School Award
Died on October 27, 1976 in Vienna.

Forty years after his death and 30 years after the last exhibition of his sculptures at Lockenhaus Castle, we are once again putting his sculptures and drawings on exhibit. Fischer's formal language was that of a loner, hard to comprehend. Paul Meissner compared Fischer to Schönberg in 1971. His method of applying plaster to an underlying frame that usually remains visible at the ends imbues his figures with a skeletal feel. Fragments and pieces were just as important to him as the whole, allowing him to join archaic severity with fragile poetry. The guiding theme of his work could be: Incomplete completeness.

Exhibition Opening: Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Silvie Aigner will speak on the exhibition.

Location: Grünangergasse 8, 1010 Vienna

Opening hours: Tues – Fri from 12 to 6 p.m., Sat from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Exhibition duration: Jan. 21 to Feb. 20, 2016

We are looking forward to your visit and kindly request an R.S.V.P. or article!

For more information: Roswitha Straihammer, straihammer@galerie-sunds.at

Press photos: www.galerie-sunds.at/ available for free use ONLY in direct connection to reporting on the exhibitions.