

**„... chaotic!“**

**alfred neumayr & arnold schmidt**

**Opening: Wednesday, 21 February 2018, 7 pm**

**Duration: 22 February until 4 May 2018**

*“chaotic: tortuous, jumbled; unwilling or not capable of keeping order.”*

Duden

Opposites attract. With this in mind, we are pleased to present “...chaotic!” - **alfred neumayr & arnold schmidt** at the beginning of the year. Works by the dynamic, vigorous Arnold Schmidt are facing the art of a very deliberate, meticulously working Alfred Neumayr. Both artists could not be more different in their approach, in their way of working as well as in their completion.

*„In all chaos there is a cosmos, in all disorder a secret order“*

C.C.Jung

*“I’m asking myself: What is order? Chaotic order? I’m quite chaotically confused!!”*

Alfred Neumayr

The main thing for **Alfred Neumayr**, who is a daily visitor to the open studio programme in Gugging since 2011, is occupation, as he says himself. Encouraged by a friend, the trained offset printer began his artistic activity in 2005. In the open studio in Gugging in 2011, the native Lower Austrian soon started to experiment with various pens and Indian ink. Gradually his interest for drawing increased, the lines got more delicate, the format bigger and bigger and the time exposure longer and longer. Especially the material plays an important part. As a base frame he uses different canvases or cardboards, rather rare, paper is used. Over time, Neumayr developed his own unique technique. He applies, scratches out, works with coloured Indian ink or pencil, thins down or mixes. The resulting images resemble geographical formations, fantasy worlds or mythical

creatures and are emphasized by imaginative titles. The diffuse representations leave ample room for association and interpretation. Whether at the Drawing Now in Paris, the Collection de l'Art Brut in Lausanne or the premises of the *gallery gugging*, his work enjoys great attention.

*"Chaotic: Confused, imagination, setting, island, bear, water, Tuesday!"*

Arnold Schmidt

Contrary to Neumayr's detailed pieces, the works by **Arnold Schmidt** are full of pure energy. His stroke seems fast, almost impatient. Since 1986, "Andi" has lived in the House of Artists in Gugging. The arriving employees and visitors are always welcomed by a fresh "Good Morning" and with the question, if he could be helpful. Schmidt's works are striking in their expressiveness. The cheerful nature starts with a simple circle and from that all sorts of figures, birds, bicycles and aeroplanes of all sizes develop. With the assistance of oil crayon, pencil or acrylic, a dense structure of lines on canvas or paper evolves, that exerts a big pulling effect on the beholder. With his fast, dynamic stroke, he first illustrates the motif with oil crayon and subsequently paints over it with aquarelle. Sometimes it can even happen that a work perforates through the firmly usage of colours. Also "Andi" is a regular visitor of the open studio programme in Gugging and works in close vicinity to Alfred Neumayr. His pictures can be found in many private and public collections, such as the Collection Hannah Rieger or the Lower Austrian Regional Collection, St. Pölten.

This exhibition gives insights in the versatile oeuvre of the two artists from the beginnings till now and gives visitors the opportunity to get to know never seen works.

During this exhibition, we are happy to celebrate Alfred Neumayr's 60th birthday in March. From October 30 until November 25, 2018 also a solo exhibition will be dedicated to him in the Minorite monastery in his hometown Tulln.

**galerie gugging**

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