



Josef Bachler.

4. 11. 1976.

Dr Navratil's patient analysis card: Josef Bachler, *Human Figure*, 1972
pencil on card, 739 x 5.9 ins., 20 x 15 cm



Dr Navratil's patient analysis card: Max (Rudolf Limberger), *Human Figure*, n.d.
pencil on card, 739 x 5.9 ins., 20 x 15 cm

including Johann Garber (b. 1947), Johann Hauser (1926–1996), Franz Kernbeis (b. 1935), Johann Korec (1937–2008), Edmund Mach (1929–1996), Philipp Schöpke (1921–1998) and Oswald Tschirtner (1920–2007). The exclusively male occupancy of the centre was due to the fact that Navratil had spent 40 years working on men's wards, which is why no works by women came into being at that time. Johann Hauser's blue star became the symbol of the centre and its artists.

In 1983, the psychiatrist and artist Johann Feilacher (born 1954) became Navratil's assistant; on his initiative, the Gugging artists began painting the outside façade of the building. In the same year, August Walla (1936–2001) moved into the centre and painted motifs on the walls of his room that expressed his own polytheistic philosophy.

In 1986, Johann Feilacher became Leo Navratil's successor. He transformed the still clinically-oriented Centre for Art and Psychotherapy into a residential community for artists, establishing the House of Artists, Haus der Kunstler. The new name was intended to emphasise the changed perspective: the focus was now on the artistic talent of the inhabitants, rather than their illness. The label "patient" had been erased: the person and the artist now took centre stage. The House of Artists

thus stood for sociotherapeutic content – an approach which differed markedly from Navratil's art psychotherapy orientation.

In 1990, the Artists of Gugging received the Oskar Kokoschka Prize, a prestigious Austrian award, as a group for their services to contemporary art.

In 1994, Galerie Gugging was founded by Feilacher as a Joint-stock company with communal acquisition of property, as a result of which it is now owned by the Artists of Gugging. The presentation rooms in the House of Artists for showing works by the Artists of Gugging were enlarged and, in addition, the gallery established the legal basis that enabled these to be sold within the framework of a classic artist-gallery agreement.

In 1997, Galerie Gugging moved into a neighbouring vacant building, the former children's section of the hospital, which was built in 1896 and today houses the museum, gallery and studio.

In 2000, the House of Artists made itself independent from the hospital administration and was turned into a private social welfare facility. It is run as a fully assisted accommodation facility, where people with special needs and artistic talent live and work.

In the spring of 2001, Atelier Gugging was set up as an open studio that offered not only the Artists of