

# simply... art

**Franz Kamlander | Franz Kernbeis | Heinrich Reisenbauer**

**OPENING: Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 7:00 pm**

**Exhibition duration: September 28, 2023, until February 11, 2024**

**Three great *Gugging Artists* await you in our autumn exhibition “simply... art” at the *galerie gugging*. Immerse yourself in the unique worlds of Franz Kamlander, Franz Kernbeis & Heinrich Reisenbauer, and let yourself be enchanted by the simple beauty and expressiveness of their artworks.**

“**simply... art**” – the title of our new exhibition at the *galerie gugging* basically says it all. The oeuvre of **Franz Kamlander**, **Franz Kernbeis**, and **Heinrich Reisenbauer** has received too little recognition up to now, and therefore we are even more pleased to focus on these three *Gugging Artists* in our fall exhibition. All three creative fine spirits reflect personal experiences as well as preferences in a simple, clear, unmistakable formal language in their works, were distinguished with the coveted **Oskar Kokoschka Prize** in 1990, and are categorized under Art Brut – the style of raw, autodidact, unadulterated art defined by **Jean Dubuffet** in the 1950s. Curator **Nina Katschnig** goes into raptures when talking about the three artists’ working methods: *“What touches me is that, despite their differences, they complement each other so well. Both **Kamlander**, **Kernbeis**, and **Reisenbauer** draw completely from their innermost being – there is no left & no right. None of our three protagonists could do anything else in any way.”*

**Franz Kamlander** was born in 1920 in Hainburg, Austria, and grew up on a farm. The *Gugging Artist* lived in the *House of Artists* in Gugging from 1981 until his death in 1999. Among other things, he let his origins flow into numerous depictions of cows. Yellow, red, or blue cows sprang quickly and fluently from his pen. He had the talent to draw animals of all kinds. By heart, he thus created not only lifelike illustrations, but also animal visions that carry away the viewer’s inner cinema into a unique world.

**Franz Kernbeis** was born in 1935 in Priggglitz, Austria, and, like **Kamlander**, grew up on a farm. He lived in the *House of Artists* in Gugging from 1981 until his death in 2019 and mainly processed impressions from everyday life in his art. The artist knew how to capture the essence of what he wanted to depict with simple means and few lines, and was subsequently able to let it emerge layer by layer in a touching three-dimensionality. Thus Kernbeis depicted, among other things, things from his surroundings and his past such as tractors, plants,

buildings, bicycles, airplanes, or animals. He mainly used pencil & colored pencils on small & large formats.

**Heinrich Reisenbauer** is the third of the bunch and closes the circle of artists exhibited in “**simply... art**”. He was born in 1938 in Kirchau, Austria, and has lived in the *House of Artists* in Gugging since 1986. **Reisenbauer** already enjoys a worldwide reputation during his lifetime and is now one of the superstars of Art Brut, inspiring London fashion designer **Christopher Kane** with his serigraphic works for his Pre-Fall Collection 2017 for example. “*Here at the galerie gugging, we are fortunate to welcome **Heinrich Reisenbauer** to our studio office every day. It is a joy to watch the now 85-year-old artist create his works and marvel at how he accurately positions objects or other simple motifs next to and below each other with pencil & colored pencil on paper, or acrylic & Edding marker on canvas*”, says **Nina Katschnig**. One of his most popular and well-known motifs, the suns, also adorn the house facade of the gallery in Gugging.

The works of **Kamlander**, **Kernbeis**, and **Reisenbauer** are today represented in numerous renowned international and national private as well as museum collections. At this point we do not want to withhold our exhibition publication “**simply... art**”, edited by **Nina Katschnig**, in which the authors **Elsy Lahner**, curator of Vienna’s Albertina, **Miroslav Hal’ák**, curator of the Belvedere Vienna, and **Irina Katnik**, curator & exhibition organizer of the *galerie gugging*, pay tribute to our three artists in a very personal way. The texts complement each other ideally and are as different as the oeuvre of our three *Gugging Artists* themselves.

It only remains to cordially invite you to our autumn exhibition “**simply... art**” in Maria Gugging. Immerse yourself in the extraordinary worlds of **Franz Kamlander**, **Franz Kernbeis**, and **Heinrich Reisenbauer**, who could not be more different, both as people and in their creative way of working. We look forward to welcoming you in the presence of **Heinrich Reisenbauer** at our opening on **September 27, 2023**, at **7:00 pm** in **Maria Gugging**.

**Yours Nina Katschnig & the *galerie gugging* team**