

STEPHAN UND VERENA



PAINTINGS



EVENTS



OBJECTS



VIDEO INSTALLATIONS

MONOTYPES

THE ARTISTS:



STEPHAN und VERENA were both born in 1970 and grew up at the Countryside near to Karlsruhe in South Germany.

Until 1993 they studied at the ped. Hochschule Karlsruhe Arts and Didactics.

Since 1994 they have been traveling through Europe in the name of the art as freelance artists and turned out of old, unused houses well organised, modern art exhibitions with didactic background. Their creations encompass a varied range going from multimedia installations with video, audio and light effects to paintings and art prints, going through sculptures and objects.

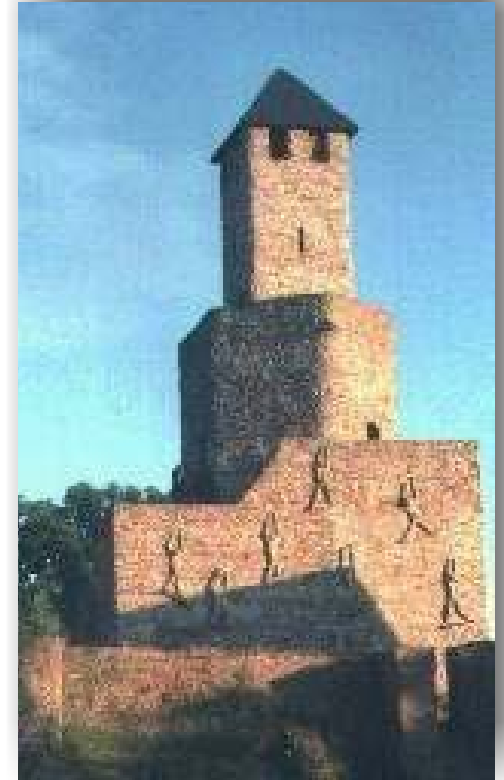


THE LOCATIONS:

STEPHANundVERENA work in interesting buildings which stand empty. Exhibitions of modern art are prepared with reference to the history of the buildings and their relation to the people. This brings attraction to the building and adds value to the community, the village or the town from a cultural, economic and touristic point of view.

A lot of exhibitions were made in castles and historical buildings also using historical themes like witchhunts and the plague with reflections and projections from the past to the present or even the future.

But they also work on current themes like politics, with an exhibition in the house of parliament, or the functioning of a huge running hospital.



THE PRINTS:



STEPHANundVERENA are working together on one picture. The paintings are on the one hand monotypes which are artprints made with a special technique on thick paper which produces unique originals mostly in the size 50x70cm or 70x100cm and on the other hand in oils on canvas.

The artists always convert the subject of the special exhibition into paintings. So the paintings do always correspond to the overall theme of a project.



THE PAINTINGS:



THE WORK:



The artists move in the chosen buildings with their working materials such as: Tools, video and photo equipment, Computers.

They try to collect most of the working materials locally, either from residents or the firms or shops of the town. So they do to get informations and storys about the history of the buildings and actual and historical incidents of the respective town. In this phase of the project they get deeply involved with the local residents, because the artists try to get to the bottom of their living conditions. Also they need to ask for advice and the inhabitants always like to help with words and deeds.

The artists don't destroy, they try to reinforce the charisma of the buildings and their history with colour, sound, light and by obscuring ugly parts.



The techniques are on the one hand oil or a mixture on canvas or wood painted with all kind of tools like wipes, rollers, spatulas, bushes or even fingers.

The main technique is a special kind of printing, made with oil printing colours which is spread with rubber or leather rollers on a thin aluminium sheet, then printed with the manual art printing press.



THE INSTALLATIONS:



The rooms of the buildings are filled up with art installations built on-site. Modern media (video, audio, lights, computer) are combined with found materials at the place, telling together the story of the buildings.

Videos, special light effects or wellknown sounds like heartbeat or breathing enhance the feeling of the spectator.

Objects, pictures and installations are integrated and presented in both the interior and exterior of the building. They try together to transport the deeper sense of the exhibition.



THE EVENTS:

During the exhibitions STEPHANundVERENA organise and carry out events which fit the subject of the exhibition in the special surrounding: theatre, concerts, performances...

Empty buildings become alive again, become socially acceptable and turn into a cultural meeting point.





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