

ARTIST STATEMENT

by Helga Palasser

My artistic work deals with the subject of interculturality. For one thing this is manifested in my book series “Stone Diary” where my artistic cooperations with other countries are documented. For another thing intercultural issues affect my artworks directly. The experiences with other cultures influence the outcome in so far that I try to tell stories about another place, another time and other lives in my art language. This very personal perception overlays the real depiction and finds its expression in three-dimensional works and installations as well as in prints, drawings, paintings and videos.

So I may call my artwork translations or more precisely superimpositions.

The reason why I developed the “Stone Diary” was not only to make my art meetings public but to make people think about other cultures to learn about them and to counteract preconceived opinions and stereotypes.

The process of globalisation reinforces the tendency to level up cultural differences, but at the same time there is a countermovement growing that shows how important it is to keep up cultural diversity in all parts of the world. How we deal with these two dynamics is one of the greatest challenges of our time. The migration movements in present times boost the whole situation.

I firmly believe that learning about another culture can help facilitate a mutual understanding which is essential for peaceful social coexistence.