

KUNST MERAN

im Haus der Sparkasse

MERANO ARTE

edificio Cassa di Risparmio

Press release

THE POETRY OF TRANSLATION

13.11.2021 – 13.02.2022

Curated by Judith Waldmann

*„[...] what I consider to be one of the most important arts of the future:
the art of translation.“*

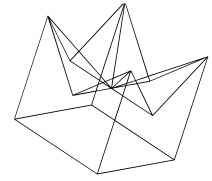
Édouard Glissant (1928-2011)

Writer, poet and philosopher

This autumn Kunst Meran Merano Arte will be investigating the compelling world of translation. The group exhibition, presenting over 70 works by over 30 major national and international artists, sheds light on the process of translation from various novel perspectives. Works by the following participants will be appearing together for the first time: **Annika Kahrs, Anri Sala, Babi Badalov, Ben Vautier, Carla Accardi, Cerith Wyn Evans, Christine Sun Kim & Thomas Mader, Ettore Favini, Elisabetta Gut, Franz Pichler, Irma Blank, Jorinde Voigt, Kader Attia, Katja Aufleger, Ketty La Rocca, Kinkaleri, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Lawrence Weiner, Leander Schwazer, Maria Stockner, Mirella Bentivoglio, Saggi Hofer, Slavs and Tatars, Tomaso Binga** and many others.

Inspired by the living multilingual environment of South Tyrol and its eventful history of interethnic cohabitation, Kunst Meran Merano Arte offers the ideal context for an exhibition dedicated to translation and questions surrounding identity, multiculturalism and diversity.

THE POETRY OF TRANSLATION sheds light on the complex process of translation: not only as a source of participation, international understanding, creativity, genius and poetry, but also as a cause of misunderstanding and exclusion. Translation is understood as a creative process through which something new is always created.



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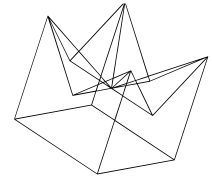
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Starting from the translation from one language into another, the exhibition opens out into the transfer of other (artistic) sign systems, such as music, song, dance, light, digital codes or painting. For example, works will be shown where Morse codes are translated into light signals (Cerith Wyn Evans, *Goodnight Eileen*, 1982) or music into drawing (Jorinde Voigt, *Ludwig van Beethoven – Sonatas 1 to 32*, 2012). The questions that arise here are: What happens when one system is transposed onto another? What if viewers are unable to decipher the code of a sign system and are confronted with abstract patterns?

The presentation of contemporary art is complemented by two historical digressions. One room is dedicated to “planned” languages: both *Esperanto* (developed in 1887 by Ludwik Zamenhof) and the international pictorial language *Isotype* (developed in 1925 by Otto Neurath) reflect a desire for an anti-national world where translation is not required. Another room deals with the visual and concrete poetry of the 1960s and 1970s, bringing together a selection of female artists gathered by Mirella Bentivoglio in *Materializzazione del linguaggio* at the Venice Biennale in 1978, a groundbreaking exhibition that provided a forum for the female view of language and the translation of language into visual forms.

The exhibition is accompanied by an educational and supporting programme, including artist talks (Francesca Grilli), concerts (Alessandro Bosetti in collaboration with the Ensemble Conductus) and performances (Kinkaleri).

Mousse Publishing, Milan aims to publish a reader on the exhibition in December 2021.



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THE POETRY OF TRANSLATION is the inaugural exhibition curated by Judith Waldmann, artistic director of Kunst Meran Merano Arte. Before taking up her new assignment in South Tyrol in December 2020, she worked as assistant director at the Adrian Piper Research Archive Foundation in Berlin and as a freelance curator for institutions such as the Kasseler Kunstverein and the OGR Torino.

External exhibition site: Meran Hospital (Lawrence Weiner, Heinz Gappmayr).

In collaboration with Ensemble Conductus, Art Verona / Level 0 (The Gallery Apart) and ÓPLA – Archive for Books by Artists for Children.

The exhibition is generously supported by:

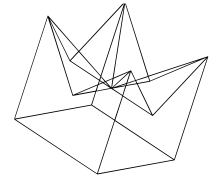
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GALERIE POGGI, Paris

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THE POETRY OF TRANSLATION

Curated by:	Judith Waldmann
Artists:	Amelia Etlinger, Anna Esposito, Annika Kahrs, Anri Sala, Augusto De Campos, Babi Badalov, Ben Vautier, Carla Accardi, Cerith Wyn Evans, Christine Sun Kim & Thomas Mader, Elisabetta Gut, Ettore Favini, Franco Marini, Franz Pichler, Freundeskreis, Jorel Heid & Alexandra Griess, Heinz Gappmayr, Irma Blank, Johann Georg Hettlinger, Jorinde Voigt, Kader Attia, Katja Aufleger, Ketty La Rocca, Kinkaleri, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Lawrence Weiner, Leander Schwazer, Lena Iglisonis, Lenora De Barros, Lucia Marcucci, Maria Stockner, Michele Galluzzo & Franziska Weitgruber, Marilla Battilana, Mirella Bentivoglio, Otto Neurath, Sigi Hofer, Slavs and Tatars, Tomaso Binga.
Curatorial assistant:	Anna Zinelli
Duration:	13.11.2021 – 13.02.2022
Partner:	Ensemble Conductus, Art Verona Level 0 (The Gallery Apart) and ÓPLA – Archive for Books by Artists for Children.
Where:	Kunst Meran Merano Arte Via Portici 163, 39012 Merano External exhibition site: Meran Hospital (Lawrence Weiner, Heinz Gappmayr).
Opening Hours:	Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday: from 11 a.m to 6 p.m
About:	info@kunstmeranoarte.org www.kunstmeranoarte.org
Press Contacts:	Irene Guzman press@kunstmeranoarte.org Tel. + 39 349 1250956 Anna Zinelli zinelli@kunstmeranoarte.org Tel. + 39 0473 212643

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Gallery Lauben / Portici 163
Office Lauben / Portici 128
39012 Meran/o, Italy

T +39 0473 212643
info@kunstmeranoarte.org
www.kunstmeranoarte.org

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