



SCULPTURES IN THE PARK



SCULPTURES IN THE PARK

links the inimitable atmosphere of the baroque castle with contemporary object art and extends an invitation to the visitor to embark on an artistic tour through the gardens of the castle, where art and nature complement each other in a very special way.

The history of sculpture in Burgenland Halbtturn Castle is embedded in the art history of the federal state after 1945 – a history in which sculpture played a very special and important role. Karl Prantl and Rudolf Kedl, two artists born in Burgenland, ventured into nature as early as in the 1950s and began working in the orangery as well as the castle park of Eisenstadt – an ideal way of liberating their sculptures from the sterile environment of the museum.

The creative process leading to a sculpture and the reception of sculptures were both redefined. Together with a group of like-minded artists, Karl Prantl founded the "Symposion Europäischer Bildhauer in St. Margarethen" in 1959. The idea was received enthusiastically the world over and spawned other initiatives in Austria and on an international level.

By and by, other artists discovered Burgenland for themselves. Neumarkt an der Raab in southern Burgenland, in particular, became a popular place for artists.

One of the most outstanding artists from the Neumarkt group was the sculptor Walter Pichler. Pichler, born in Deutschnofen in South Tyrol, was already a globally renowned artist when he came to Neustadt an der Raab. He settled in the neighbouring village of St. Martin, where he would create the main body of his work. He often spent several years on the creation of his works, for which he built their own rooms or buildings.

Another unique artistic event initiated by Franz Gyolcs should be not ignored in this context: "The Bridge of Andau" in close proximity to Halbtturn.

About 10 kilometres away from Andau, a narrow wooden bridge spanned the Einser Canal. Between the wars and after World War Two, the people of Andau used it to get to Hungary. In the months after the uprising in Hungary in 1956, Hungarians crossed the border the other way.

In 1992, the "Gesellschaft für internationale Verständigung – die Brücke von Andau" association was founded. From 1992 to 1996, the association organised international symposiums for artists in Andau. The sculptures emerging from these workshops were placed along the one-time escape route from Andau to the Einser Canal. The road, 10 kilometres long, became a unique sculpture gallery people could walk and drive upon – a visible sign that stands for the "rejection of violence, intolerance and inhumanity, hatred and racism".

The exhibition **SCULPTURES IN THE PARK** organised by Dr. Silvie Aigner and Mag. Astrid Zinniel takes up the special history of sculpture in Burgenland after 1945 and carries it forward. "Sculptures in the Park" presents a synopsis of established forms and more contemporary positions. New tendencies in sculpture are presented.

Visitors can experience the sculptures while taking a walk through the expansively laid-out park. In combination with contemporary art, the baroque castle and its history can be viewed in a fresh way, from a different angle.

"Sculptures in the Park" adds another intriguing programme item to the comprehensive and exciting events at Halbtturn: from exhibitions and concerts to Lipizzaner horse shows.

SCHLOSS HALBTURN



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Information:

Current sculptures and artists in the park of castle halbturn

Daniel Bucur, Johann Feilacher, Thomas Gänzler, Franz Gyolcs, Julie Hayward, Talos Kedl, Max M. Seibald, Kurt Spitaler, Siegfried Charoux

Idea of the project and curated by

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