

# Theme 1. Artistic Practices

## Abstract: Stadtgang (*City walk*)

I would like to present a photo project that I have realised in Summer 2019 during an artist-in-residency of the Hanseatic City of Stendal. At that time I was facing those questions, like how to continue photography in a world of the abundance of photos and I was critically questioning what makes a photography important to me to watch it for longer? What makes it to a photography that opens up for interpretations and for more than one meaning?

For my artistic research PhD at the University of Art and Design Linz I created a research upon an artistic method of an 'other seeing' and 'participative photography' to construct, deconstruct and reconstruct "models of time" through the medium of photography in an essayistic photo book. In the artistic investigation, a connection was developed between the two aspects, artistic-aesthetic and reflective-essayistic considerations and undertaken in a circular investigatory procedure.. I personally think that this way of experimenting through artistic research opens up the image from just a product of an artist to what I would call to look at all perspectives that were included in the process of creating art and to document exactly this process.

Therefore I focused on this method of emphasizing and visualizing the artistic and creative process in my project 'Stadtgang' (*city walk*). I would like to show in a presentation of the project and artistic work the process of realizing the project. A very crucial point to me is in this artistic process to include the spectator in his and her reception of the artwork.



Stadtgang, 2019

During the artist scholarship of the Hanseatic City of Stendal I realised light paintings in this way and in the tradition of the experimental methods of the art movement of the Situationists. As in Surrealism, I tried to get involved with intuitive automatic writing with light through the camera.

As described in the accompanying catalogue 'Stadtgang', I followed the 'Stadtwallpromenade' (city walk around the wall) and the city's four bus lines to capture the late summer light in photographic paintings. I used an analog Dignette camera of my father, which was probably built in the 50s. I cranked the photo film forwards, backwards, exposed it so several times, illuminated it too much, too little, completely left to chance and my playful intuition:



Stadtgang, 2019



If I roam through a city unknown to me, a fresh look at the new environment and own pictures are forming my first impression. The longer I live there, the more I may develop my own paths through the city through my everyday life. If I then stroll through the town, once more with the camera in my hand, I see and experience my city walk in new perspectives through the camera and the frame of the camera that surrounds the picture.



Stadtgang, 2019

In my presentation I would like to introduce this kind of methods in the realization of photography as a kind of artistic research that focuses on the process of the visualization and artistic process. For me, it is one of many methods in the flood of the imagery world that allows the space of interpretation and the multiplicity of meanings, that is included in photography. Thereby it is involving the viewer in the emergence of photography and the reception is so variably designed. The focus of my presentation lies in the artistic practice and this alternation between the process of the creation of art and inviting the spectator to take part in it.

### **Form of presentation**

Both is fine to me.

Individual paper/presentation (Max. 20 min.)

Other (film projections: 15 min. Video - projector + laptop)