



Heidi Zednik - The filter material and the history of ACTA LIQUIDA

Heidi Zednik and the Trawöger family have been friends for a long time. Maggi Zednik brought Heidi the first piece of filter material to North Carolina, USA. The piece hung in the studio for years.

In 2012, Heidi moved back to Lake Traunsee and over the course of several conversations with Monika Trawöger began to collect details about the history of the hatchery, the endangered Reinanke whitefish, climate change and human changes on Lake Traunsee. The first drawings of the Reinanken spawning grounds were made in 2012. Heidi began to collect all the filter material from the hatchery.

A new small cycle was created every few years. At first, the filter material was used purely as a painting underground, but the theme of Reinanke and Lake Traunsee remained constant.

In 2015, the first purely abstract series was created with the filter material.

In 2017, a black light installation was designed with the filter material.

From 2021 on, more and more work was done with unchanged filter material.

As part of the bidding initiative for the European Capital of Culture 2024, ACTA LIQUIDA was created as a project on the subject of Lake Traunsee, climate change and the Reinanke.

Traunsee Sludge

In 2022, a large chunk of sludge was pulled up by Monika Trawöger and Herbert Gaigg on their anchor. This alkaline sludge is the result of decades of regional industrial waste. One sample was sent to the laboratory and Heidi Zednik received the majority.

The Traunsee sludge unexpectedly became a second main focus of Acta Liquida.

Originally conceived as a solo project, Heidi first invited Siegfried Holzbauer to be part of the project. Siegfried has been dealing with the topic of fish and Lake Traunsee for years through his analog, multi-exposure photos. Shortly afterwards, she invited Elza Grimm to make a video installation for the project, bringing in the contrast from digital to sediment. The artists worked independently of each other and each pursued their own artistic concepts. However, they remained in regular contact in order to keep an overall concept in mind. All three artists had to change and adapt their concepts for various reasons.

In the course of ACTA LIQUIDA, all filter rolls were dated, organized and provided with notes.

Between 2022 and 2024, several concepts were worked out and smaller chapters were developed for the overall narrative. Although a lot of filter material exists, an exhibition exclusively with filters would only be a fraction of the story. During the two years, many drawings, texts, sketches and Traunsee sludge works were created. For the exhibition in the Aurachmühle, it was important to show an overall narrative.

Heidi had originally intended to conclude the theme of the hatchery / Traunsee / Reinanke with this project, but the opposite happened. Many new themes and possibilities for collaborations have opened up. The project continues.

Part of the sludge was used in the Petri dish series: After the large-format drawing of a petri dish, a collaboration with by sahliia began. „let the dark rest“ is part of this collaboration.

Another part became the „chronology“ series: „chronology“ is the artistic transfer of data from the 2022 and 2023 Reinanken egg collections of commercial fisherwomen and men. This data comes from the containers in which the fish eggs initially spend their time in the hatchery.