

2009 BARBARA BACHMANN

Bachmann, social worker

Text on Art in the Psychiatric Clinic Zugersee

Already discovered?

Artfully lined up on the wall - below in the entrance area of level 3 - the 16-piece work by the Schwyz painter Alfons Bürgler receives us carefully hung up. He gave it the title: Stories that have gone astray over the course of the year.

Inspired by his characteristic body writings, painted with oil paints and ashes on wood, I tried to approach his series of pictures poetically:

„Es ist Winter,
wenn der Frühling uns erwartet –
der Sommer
Hoffnung verspricht,
der Herbst uns mit seinem
laubigen Kleid empfängt
und wieder ein Jahr
unseres Lebens
Geschichte geworden ist.“

Alfons Bürgler triggers a sense of time in me with his body writings. His characters contain no secrets, like the Egyptian hieroglyphics. Rather this stringing together of the picture objects, i.e. the body writings conveys a feeling of something ancient and at the same time contemporary. Just as Alfons Bürgler's figures meet, standing alone, in twos, in threes - hooking, embracing each other or walking their way - man, woman - women and men on the way to their story, so they tell of moments in life as we know them.

This work of art accompanies us employees of the Psychiatric Clinic Zugersee into the everyday working life - or out again. Not far from here, the clock is sensibly attached to the wall. But it was there before and counts our time: day after day, week after week... and year after year. She cannot tell - about all the liveliness and the many moments in working life - the encounters with the patients and colleagues who interweave to our own work history.

In 2009, Alfons Bürgler worked as an art project supervisor with the patients to create small and large picture worlds as part of an art project. They can then be seen in the series following his works. Alfons Bürgler deliberately wanted his pictures hung next to those of the patients. How typical for him, who in his encounter with the individual touches through his power of perception, kindness and solidarity.

I am very pleased that we have the meaningful, 16-part work of this talented and great artist from Innerschwyz in the clinic - to be able to enjoy these journeys through the year.