

## gugging goes Venice.!

### Leopold Strobl invited to the 60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia curated by Adriano Pedrosa

The *museum gugging* is honoring the artist with two exhibitions

MARIA GUGGING, Austria — The *museum gugging* is overjoyed with a decision by [Curator Adriano Pedrosa](#): [Leopold Strobl](#), an artist with close ties to the [Art Brut Center](#), is invited from April 20 to November 24, 2024, to the [60th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia, entitled “Stranieri Ovunque – Foreigners Everywhere.”](#)

The [museum gugging](#) is devoting an entire room of the [exhibition “gugging.! classic & contemporary UPDATE”](#) showcased from February 3, 2024, to March 1, 2026, to a presentation of 45 works by [Leopold Strobl](#). The artist’s work can also be seen at the museum gugging [exhibition “fantastic places.! walla | strobl | vondal | fink,”](#) from September 12, 2024, to March 16, 2025.

The works in Gugging are from the main period of [Leopold Strobl’s](#) oeuvre, which began in 2014. In them, he uses colored pencils to rework photographs from newspapers. “Strobl uses black colored pencils to draw over the people, vehicles or also animals depicted in the pictures and to lay down his contour lines, which embed the image within a newly created landscape,” explains [Nina Ansperger](#), Artistic Director of the [museum gugging](#). “The sky occupies a special place in Strobl’s oeuvre: It is drawn over in green and all the other elements of the picture in yellow. The entire newspaper clipping becomes subjected to a completely new representation through this revision.” The artist likes to work with landscapes, such as Lower Austria’s wine-cellar lanes, but also with architectural creations like St. Stephen’s Cathedral in Vienna. His reworking of images of war zones invests his pictures with a topical political relevance unintended by the artist.

Born in Mistelbach (Lower Austria) in 1960, [Leopold Strobl](#) has been making art since he was a child. He began working at the [atelier gugging](#) in 2002, although he has been creating his art at home in Poysdorf and Kritzensdorf (Lower Austria) since 2019. The [galerie gugging](#) is representing the artist since 2016, and his work has been exhibited at the [museum gugging](#) since 2021. His artworks are to be found at [MoMA \(USA\)](#), [Treger/Saint Silvestre Art Brut Collection \(Portugal\)](#), [abcd ART BRUT Collection \(France\)](#) and the [State Collections of Lower Austria](#).

On **Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**, [Christian Reiner](#) and [Christian Weber](#) will introduce the new exhibition [“gugging.! classic & contemporary UPDATE”](#) with their **performance “alles vielzusehr umsonst”**, which features texts by [Ernst Herbeck](#) scored for voice and double bass. **At 4:00 p.m.**, exhibition curator [Nina Ansperger](#) will lead a tour through the adapted exhibition, which has been on display since 2021 and was originally curated by [Johann Feilacher](#). Her tour will place special emphasis on works by [Leopold Strobl](#).

For more details about our creative and our educational programs at the museum gugging, take a look at our website at <https://www.museumgugging.at>.

## **Exhibitions at the *museum gugging* in 2024:**

### **gugging.! classic & contemporary UPDATE**

February 3, 2024, to March 1, 2026

Curated by: [Johann Feilacher](#) and [Nina Ansperger](#)

The [exhibition gugging.! classic & contemporary](#), which has been on display since May 6, 2021, is being updated. Artistic Director [Nina Ansperger](#) is expanding the show by her predecessor [Johann Feilacher](#). In doing so, she is particularly focusing on the work of [Ernst Herbeck](#), [Heinrich Reisenbauer](#), [Oswald Tschirtner](#) and [Laila Bachtiar](#).

An entire room of the exhibition has been dedicated to the artist [Leopold Strobl](#), whose work will be a part of the 2024 Venice Biennale. The exhibition will continue to present a comprehensive image of more than five decades of [Gugging Art](#) with works by classic Gugging artists [August Walla](#), [Johann Hauser](#), [Oswald Tschirtner](#), [Rudolf Horacek](#), [Franz Kernbeis](#), [Fritz Koller](#), [Karoline Rosskopf](#), [Philipp Schöpke](#), [Johann Fischer](#) and [Ernst Herbeck](#). At the same time, a special emphasis will be placed on the current positions of [Heinrich Reisenbauer](#), [Karl Vondal](#), [Johann Garber](#), [Leonhard Fink](#), [Jürgen Tauscher](#), [Arnold Schmidt](#) and [Laila Bachtiar](#).

A publication on the art from Gugging will also appear in April 2024.

### **else blankenhorn.! a retrospective**

#### **the life of thought is real after all**

April 12 to August 18, 2024, opening: Thursday, April 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Curated by: Ingrid von Beyme

Previously presented at Heidelberg's [Prinzhorn Collection](#), this show is the first to provide an in-depth overview of the oeuvre of [Else Blankenhorn \(1873–1920\)](#), the best-known woman artist from the collection. With 135 works depicting various themes, the retrospective clearly demonstrates the expressive and boldly colorful diversity of [Else Blankenhorn's](#) visual worlds. The exhibition presents paintings and drawings as well as notebooks and sketchbooks containing poems and compositions.

One highlight of the much-praised exhibition are the banknotes she produced for her imaginary husband, Emperor Wilhelm II, who commissioned her to create them in order to finance the resurrection of couples. She believed she had been given this charitable task by Wilhelm II, her "spiritual husband."

### **fantastic places.! walla | strobl | vondal | fink**

September 12, 2024, to March 16, 2025, opening: Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Curated by: [Nina Ansperger](#)

Gugging, Klosterneuburg, Vienna, Austria, Greece, Hawaii and Eternity's-End-Land. The exhibition "fantastic places.!" unites works by four Gugging artists: In very different ways, they have turned their attention to places that are familiar or unfamiliar to us.

In [August Walla's](#) diverse visual oeuvre, we find real places as well as fictive ones, such as Eternity's-End-Land. These are paired with the small-format works of [Leopold Strobl](#), who invests his landscapes with a mysterious character by using a pencil to blot out any living beings found in the newspaper photos that provide the foundation for his images. [Leonhard Fink](#) uses pencils to draw his expansive maps, which feature countries, regions and cities. [Karl Vondal's](#) erotic drawings and collages carry viewers off into the sites of his dreams and desires.

## **Art from Gugging and the *museum gugging***

[Art from Gugging](#) encompasses seven decades of artistic creation. There are already multiple generations of [Gugging Artists](#): these include the well-known leading figures of the first generation, such as [Johann Hauser](#), [Oswald Tschirtner](#) and [August Walla](#), as well as current artists like [Laila Bachtiar](#), [Jürgen Tauscher](#) and [Arnold Schmidt](#). The history of the [Gugging Artists](#) begins in the 1950s with the discovery and, ultimately, the supportive development of artistic talent at what was then the “Mental Health and Care Facility at Gugging.” International public awareness of this art and [Jean Dubuffet’s](#) acknowledgement of it as a part of Art Brut were essential factors in the important transformation that occurred over the following decades, leading away from a psychiatric context and towards recognition as art. Then, in 2006, the [museum gugging](#) was opened as an art museum focused on [Gugging Art](#) and Art Brut. The French artist Dubuffet used the term Art Brut to refer to a primal art displaying a very personal formal idiom and often emerging spontaneously outside the framework of academic or art-theoretical training. The first half of the museum’s place present a permanent exhibition featuring a selection of works by [Gugging Artists](#). Regularly changing temporary exhibitions in the form of thematic or solo shows are held in the other half of galleries.

**If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact:**

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