

Susanne Rikus



Susanne Rikus is a Berlin artist who captures spirituality, expressive art and the collective primal memory of humanity in a unique way in aura-strong images.

The artist uses her own specially developed technique of transfer art, a mixture of photographic techniques, installation, collage and painting.

Susanne Rikus has lived and experienced various cultures, such as Hawaii, Mexico, Canada, Sardinia and South Africa.

The most important thing for her is always to sense and make visible the interwoven layers of different times and ages of cultures.

Susanne Rikus processes her direct experiences of nature, culture and spirituality, which she was allowed to experience in special places all over the world, in her works of art, to bring her experience to the outside world.

Her current series is dedicated to selected power places in South Africa, which she has visited regularly since 2015.



There she visited ancient sites and holy places. In the Drakensberg mountain, Giant's castle KwaZulu-Natal.

She was particularly fascinated by the thousands of years old rock paintings.

Rikus felt the incredible charisma of these drawings by the rock painters of that time, the first artists.

She felt the soul and the mysticism that radiated from the past still into the present and wants to transport this to us in her transfer art works.

For Rikus, the transfer art works are a possibility to transport the mystic that she experienced at the power places in South Africa, even detached from the place to other places, through her paintings.

Her primary concern is to be able to experience the origin and the cradle of humanity through the different levels of time and to reflect on it.

Rikus speaks here of the "Cradle of Humankind" the home of all human.



"Mother Africa", 1 x 1.5 m, transfer on acrylic glass, 2016

Transfer of time and art genres

In her art of transfer, Rikus works with a layering of different techniques as well as the transfer of the originally experienced mystical experience and magic of the past of the power places into our present.

Rikus takes photographs of the magical places she visits, such as the rock paintings in Giant's castle KwaZulu-Natal or roots in the Tsitsikamma National Park ...

After enlarging the prints, the artist removes the pigments from the prints to capture only the essential, the core of the photograph and transfers these pigments on acrylic glass.

The pigments of the photographs are removed using a special technique: Only the pure pigments remain.

The artist leaves the real message untouched. She then layers painting on the transferred photographic print to add another layer.



"Entering the Temple", 1 x 2 m, transfer on acrylic glass, 2012

Recently, the artist has also started transferring the photographic pigments to Plexiglas. Thanks to the transparent material, the work of art can be extended here to include the component light.

Light sources placed behind the Plexiglas object create a shimmering effect and the object is illuminated.

The multi-dimensionality of the world is also metaphorically emphasized in this way. For Rikus, the essence of the work of art is also further intensified here: by bringing light into the past, the future also appears different.

In the colouring of her paintings, Rikus concentrates on three essential colours: red, black and also gold, as in "Entering the Temple", for example.

Red is essential for the artist, as it stands for life, wonder and the creative part of creation. Black is an important contrasting colour: it visualises the concept of light and shadow, conscious and unconscious.

What makes Rikus special is its special use of the colour Gold.

Gold has always been a carrier of light. Even in ancient cultures it symbolized the power of the sun and its value like in the pyramids.

Symbols are generally important for the artist in her transfer art.

However, she often uses symbols outside of the meaning first associated with them. Thus, in her work an accumulation of skulls can be seen directly in the foreground. Here, however, they do not symbolize vanitas, as is often the case, nor death.

Rather, they should be associated with origin, with our ancestors-we all come from there.



"The Cradle of Humankind Visitor Centre Maropeng", 1 x 1.5 m, transfer on acrylic glass



"Spirits "1 x 1.5m, transfer on acrylic glass, 1 x 1.5m, 2016

In the picture "Spirits" , the picture is supplemented with roots, the focus is on figurative objects whose shapes remind of roots.

Here Rikus intentionally leaves room for the viewer's own associations. They often see figures, people or other associations in the root drawings.

This is what the artist intended. She wants to show that everyone is the creator of his own reality.



Creation, 1 x 1.5m, transfer on acrylic glass, 1 x 1.5m, 2016

Creation is a motive monkey and branches, looking like a web or matrix, the monkey is a gibbon and shows an early line of humanity...what do you want to create in your life...?

Another important concern of Susanne Rikus with her art is the building of bridges: By transporting objects and pictures from ancient places, the awareness of the viewer for the original, old, and our common ancestors should be strengthened.

As a plea for more tolerance and understanding among people.



Vita Susanne Rikus

Study

1968 born in Hoexter, Germany

1988-1992 Studies of architecture, University of Applied Sciences (FH) Holzminden-Hildesheim, Germany

1992 Diploma in Architecture (FH)

1997 guest studies in nude drawing, architecture, HBK Kassel

1997 Guest student, Emily Carr University, Vancouver

1999-2002 Studies in dance, Ursula Wagner, Hannover

1999-2002 Study of Hawaiian Bodywork, Kauai, Hawaii

2003-2005 Studies in Geomancy

1998 -2020 Shamanic work, based on the Hawaiian culture as well as on the culture of the Canadian natives, Sardinia and South Africa

Since 1994 working as a freelance artist in painting, photography, writing, singing and dance

Exhibitions and art stays (selection)

1992 first exhibition at Neuhaus in Solling, Germany (results of a painting project in Venice)

1994 Winner of the "Kreis Höxter Culture Prize" in Höxter, Germany

1995 Exhibition, Schloss Corvey, Höxter, Germany

1996 Winner of the photography prize in Diepholz, Germany, art competition on the theme: "Women see Europe" and presentation of the accompanying catalogue

1997 Presentation of two paintings at PGM Kunstwelt with the titles "Unfolding" and "Wealth"
1998 Studies in drawing and painting, Mexico
1999 Exhibitions, painting of nature and architecture, Amelunxen, Germany
2000 Expo 2000, Hannover, "Monastery Project", calendar of a district in Höxter
2002 Exhibition, paintings and drawings of Hawaii, hula dance and singing performance on the theme of "Paradise", Basket maker museum, Dahlhausen, Germany
2002 Exhibition, "Dialogue of Cultures" Schloss Haemelschenburg, Hameln, Germany
2002 New York Studies
2002 Exhibition of paintings, German Embassy in Lima, Peru
2002 Exhibition & Interview (TV), Pleinair symposium, Tyrol, Austria
2002 Exhibition, Höxter Stadthalle, Germany
2003 Exhibition, Aloha Gallery on the island Kauai, Hawaii
2005 Exhibition, Time and Space Gallery, Kauai, Hawaii
2008 Exhibition "The kiss of the muse" (watercolor painting 1992-2004, Italy & Provence), Laurus, Gräfelfing, Germany
2009 Exhibition, Pasinger Kulturfabrik, Germany
2009 Exhibition "In Search of Paradise", Tax Office Munich, Munich, Germany
2010 Exhibition "Embracing Love" Gallery, Kauai, Hawaii
2011 Mercedes meets Susanne Rikus, art and technology ...a dialogue. Mercedes Gallery Berlin Mitte, Germany
2012 Transfer Technology & Performance at Kunsthaus 17, Potsdam Babelsberg, Germany
2014 "worlds of colour", Hawaii & Sardinia, Art Gallery Susanne Rikus at the Werkhaus, Heckmann Höfe, Berlin-Mitte, Germany
2015 Exhibition Gallery Steve Lyons, Cape Cod, USA
2014-2016 various exhibitions in the Art Gallery Susanne Rikus, Heckmann Höfe, Berlin-Mitte, Germany
2017 Art Gallery Susanne Rikus in Haderslebener Str.21d, 12163 Berlin
2018 - 2020 various exhibitions in the Art Gallery Susanne Rikus, Heckmann Höfe, Berlin-Mitte, Germany



„Establishing resonance with different cultures that is my goal“

Teaching activities

1997-1998 Guest lecturer for colour studies at the University of Applied Sciences Holzminden-Hildesheim, Germany

1997-2000 Lecturer for watercolor painting at the "Summer Academy" in Hoexter, Germany

2006 Lecturer for photography, Venice, Italy

2006 Lecturer for painting, Provence, France

2007/2008 Hawaii, Kauai, workshops on Hawaiian culture and architecture of thought (Huna)

2009 Lecturer at the Forum for Geomancy on belief systems in architecture and on the architecture of belief systems, Dingolfing, Bavaria, Germany

2010 Lecturer at the Forum for Geomancy, on "Trance and Presence of Mind and Body", Dingolfing, Bavaria, Germany

2013 Lecturer at the Forum for Geomancy, on "the geometry of our relations", Dingolfing, Bavaria, Germany

2006 to 2020 Teacher in her Alohana Institute

The works of Susanne Rikus are owned by private collectors and public institutions such as:

Prince Viktor of Ratibor and Corvey

Baron von Klenke, Hämelschenburg Castle

Alexander von Köckritz

District of Höxter

District of Hamelin

Dr. Himmelreich

Dr. Joachim Köhrich

Youtube links:

<https://youtu.be/WvzeJPsm2yU>

https://youtu.be/6wnht_dg8C8

<https://youtu.be/ID9Yoi5MEs>

<https://youtu.be/mPkOQlp2pwE>

<https://youtu.be/aMm1qFhBefY>