

# SCHMELZER

i  
you cannot bore someone into loving art

ii  
conventional painting is outdated

iii  
art should not be self-centered

iv  
if you want to express your angst through your art,  
see your therapist

v  
choose the media that fits the purpose best –  
every single time

vi  
establishing yourself as a brand is artistic suicide

vii  
there are five steps to contentment:  
originality, distinctiveness, power, workmanship, emotion

viii  
the market is illiterate when it comes to integrity

ix  
lead! don't follow

x  
look closer



**den schritt wagen – subversiv ins wohnzimmer**

...

**taking the plunge – subversively into the living room**



**i ran or the five deadly sins**

newspaper (variable), university calendar (variable), wine/aperitif (variable), glass,  
gummi bears, bathing suit, pvc (currywurst), pp (stool), wood, paper, stainless steel  
approx. 45 x 60 x 50 cm (table)  
setting with stool: dimensions variable  
2022/23

"we don't want to live in a country that kills us for what we wear,  
what we eat, what we drink, what we think, what we read."

quote from: "you must hear our stories"; the protests in iran have been going on for weeks – seven women talk about their everyday life, their fears  
and the feeling of going to the streets without hijab; protocols by ann-kathrin eckardt & julia rothhaas; süddeutsche zeitung, october 7, 2022



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**milking biedermeier**

from the series: "been there. done that." – wood (milking stool), fabric, cotten batting  
approx. 46 x 43 x 36 cm  
2018/2024

**sweet dreams are made of this (II)**

from the series: biedermeier for advanced users  
oil on canvas mounted on wood, purified beeswax, tattoos: myriam black  
approx. 98 x 66 x 5 cm  
2023

**sweet dreams are made of this (I)**

from the series: biedermeier for advanced users  
oil on canvas, wood, wallpaper, pvc  
approx. 96 x 66 x 4 cm  
2013



**sweet dreams are made of this (II)**

from the series: biedermeier for advanced users/subjects/learners  
painting  
oil on canvas mounted on wood, purified beeswax, tattoos: myriam black  
approx. 92 x 60 x 2 cm (painting)  
approx. 98 x 66 x 5 cm (frame)  
2023

how to bring the vanitas message subversively into the living room.  
a younger, not art-savvy target group is sensitized for existential topics.  
topics that are often suppressed, but today are more topical than ever:  
life is short (vita brevis est). use it sensibly and mindfully (carpe diem).

theme: neo-biedermeier, cocooning, homing, arcadia, displacement activity

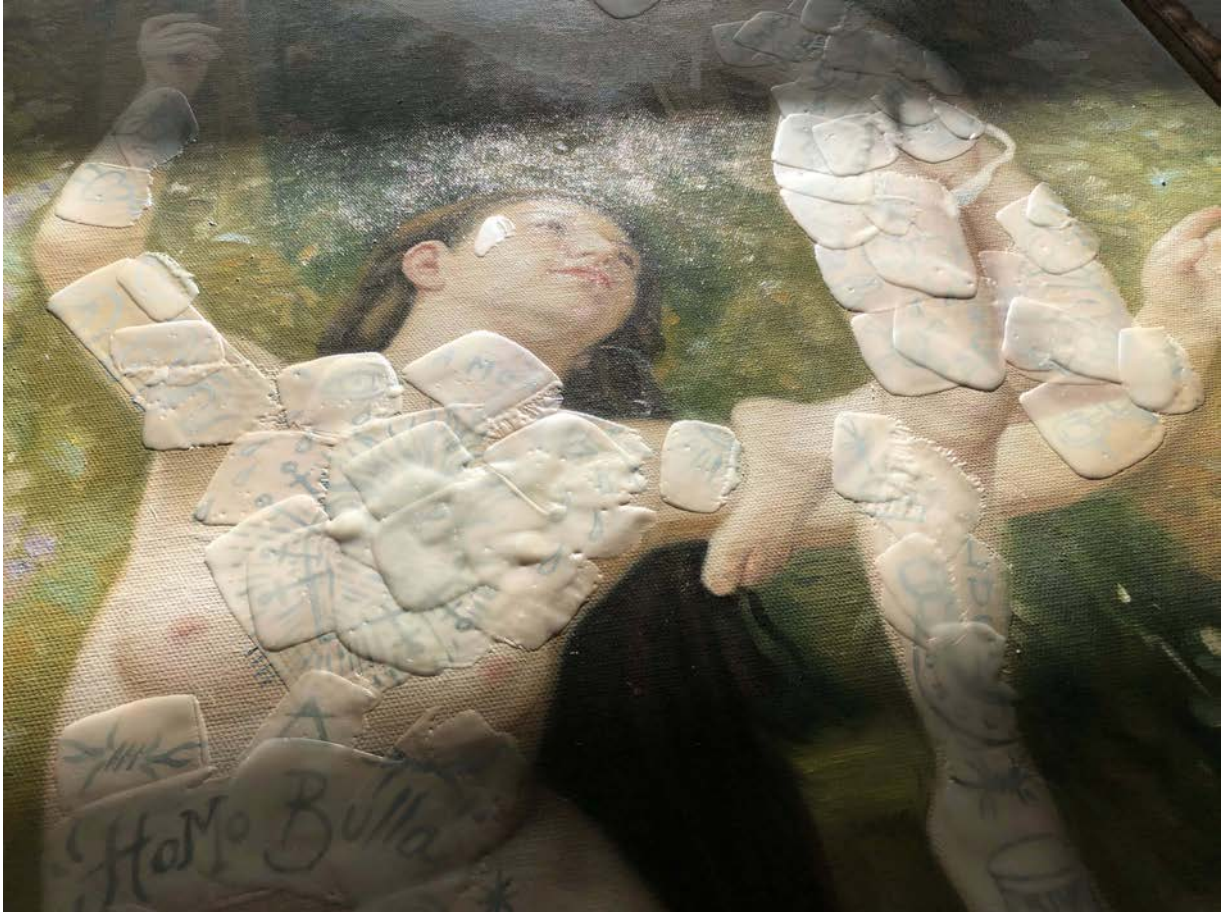


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**it doesn't take much or the crown of creation**

installation: cumulative sars-cov-2 virus amount in germany from 27.1.20 to 26.1.22 (confirmed cases)  
custom-made sandblasted glass (rettberg), steel, silicon, teflon, nickel,  
overhead stirrer (motor), distilled water, coloring  
approx. 228 x 60 x 60 cm  
2023

how big was the amount of sars-cov-2 virus that crippled germany in the first two years of the pandemic?  
did it fill a bucket of water? a bathtub? a swimming pool? a lake?

it amounted to 425 ml.\* less than half a liter of viruses led germany into a political, economic, cultural and  
psycho-social crisis and brought the anthropocentric age in this country to a virtual standstill.  
so much for the crown of creation.

\* calculation formula:  $66,666,666$  virus particles/person  $\times$   $0.00000000000000523$  ml volume of virus particle  $\times$   $9,040,000$  confirmed cases in germany (27.1.20-26.1.22 = 2 years)  $\times$  1.35 for maximum packing density  $\approx$  425 ml; in collaboration with dr. christian yates, university of bath, senior lecturer and co-director of the centre for mathematical biology in the department of mathematical sciences.



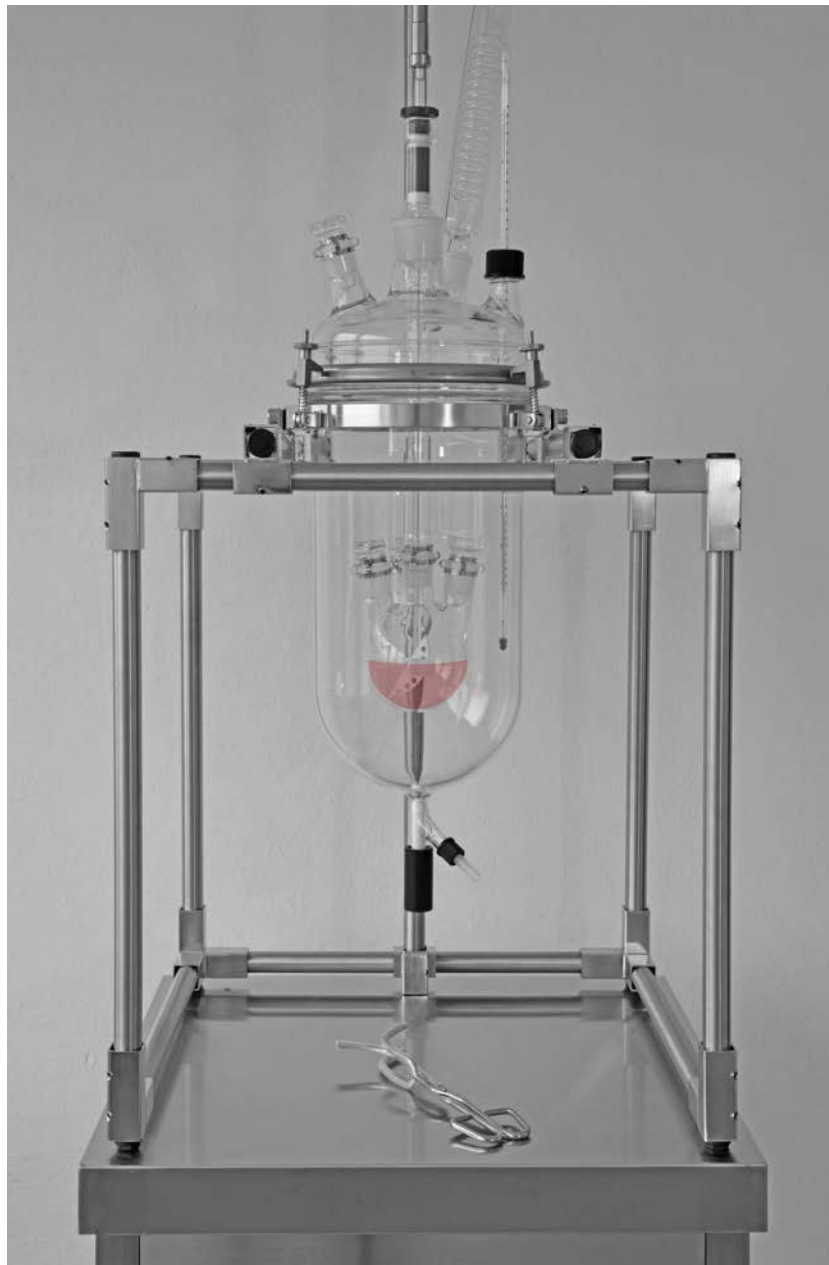
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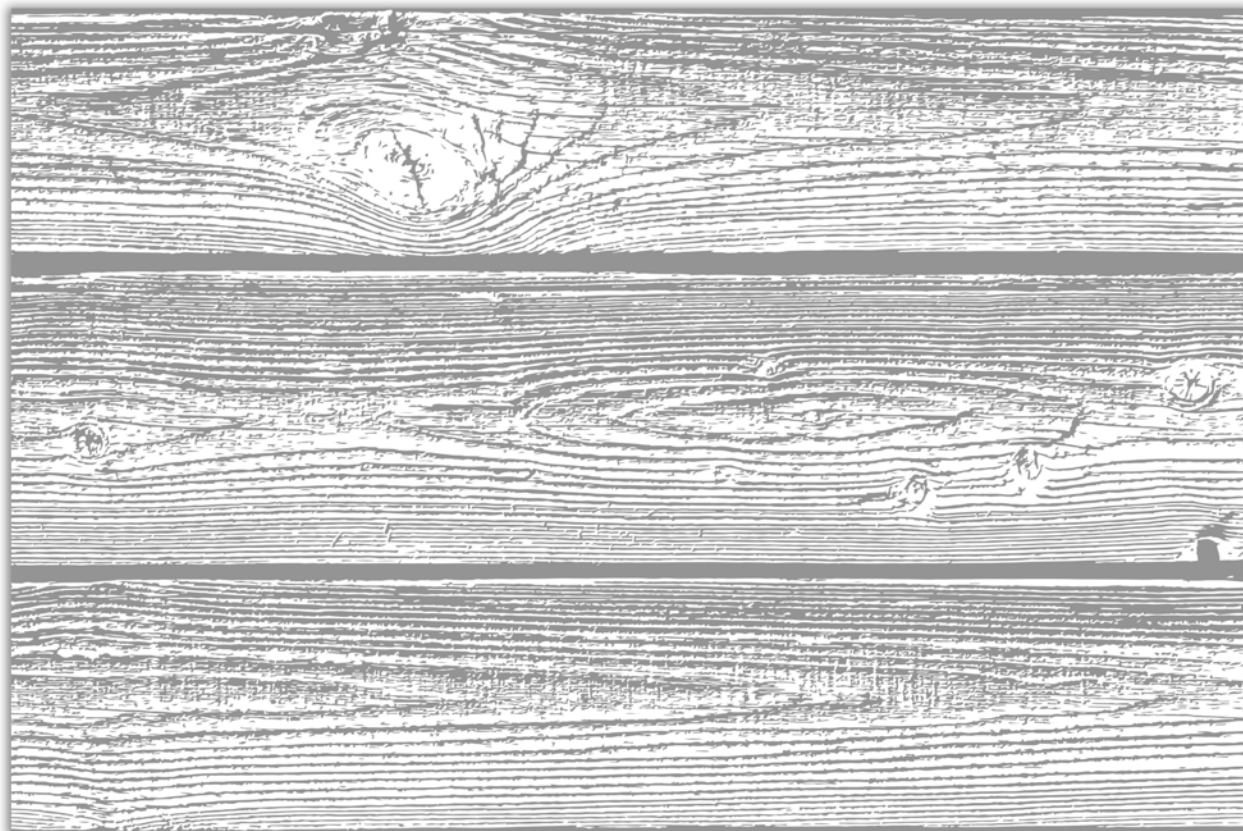
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**not seeing the wood for the trees**

wallpiece large

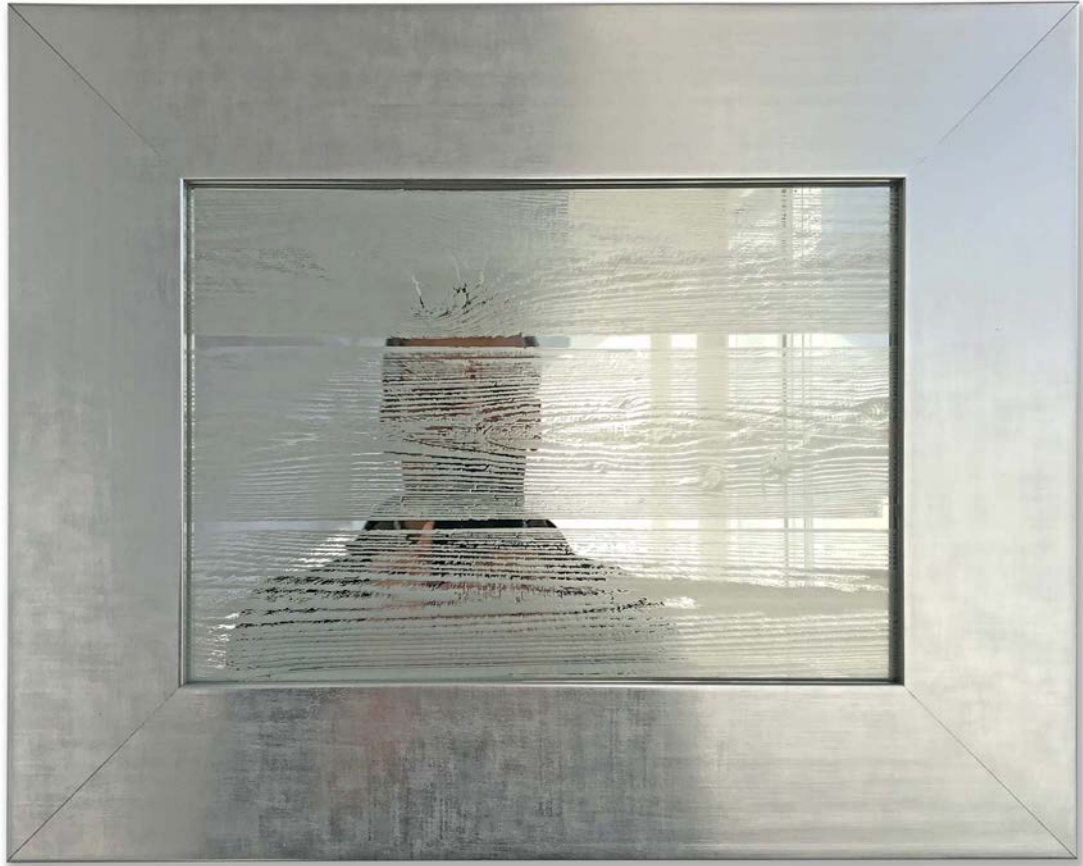
lasered mirror

approx. 70 x 49 x 2 cm

2023

memento te hominem esse = remember that you are a human being.  
memento mori = remember that you will die.





**not seeing the wood for the trees**

wallpiece small

lasered mirror, wood

approx. 43 x 34 x 3 cm

2023

memento te hominem esse = remember that you are a human being.  
memento mori = remember that you will die.



**time is the coffin nail of life**

wallpiece

laminated paper, ink, pencil (frottage), shellac, wood

approx. 35 x 26 x 4 cm

2023



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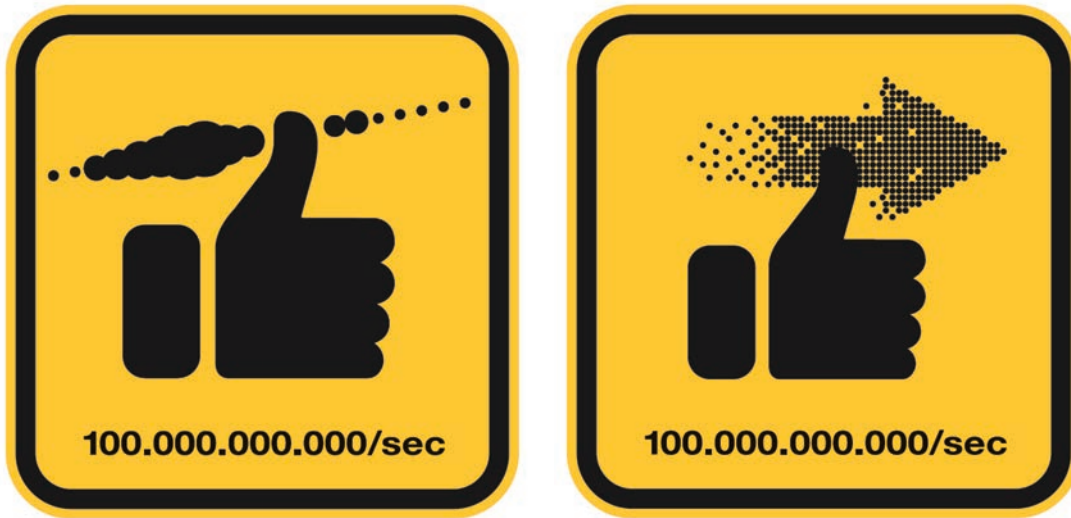


**pop culture**  
media work

3D-animation in ultra slow-motion (approx. 30,000 FPS)  
13.3" screen (ipad 2020, 16:9), mp4 HD  
size variable  
2021

edition of 9 + 1 a/p

[www.tomschmelzer.com](http://www.tomschmelzer.com)



**cosmic kiss I & II**  
 graphic design | infographic  
 adhesive labels  
 approx. 20 x 20 cm  
 2022

the neutrino was invented to save the law of conservation of energy:  
 the energy of a closed system must remain constant. however, 100 years ago,  
 physics was faced with a considerable problem: in nuclear reactions energy was missing.

pauli therefore postulated in 1930 as a "desperate way out": smallest, practically neutral particles,  
 which carry away a part of the energy. fermi named them neutrinos (small neutron) and  
 cowan & reines detected them almost 30 years later. nobel prize-winning.

but why are they so important? without them there would be no life on earth. neutrinos are responsible  
 for stars exploding rather than imploding, distributing the chemical elements necessary for life throughout  
 the universe. we are > 90% star dust. up to 50% of the atoms of your body, your cat or your latte macchiato  
 have come to us via the intergalactic route; from alien galaxies. which makes us all immigrants.

a good reason to give these 'ghost particles' the recognition they deserve. neutrinos are the most common  
 particles in the universe – yet only a few geeks know about them. let's end this ignorance and celebrate  
 neutrinos ubiquitously, with two reference signs. both **free for everyone to use**.

what's the story behind the design? one almost unimaginable property of neutrinos is that they interact  
 with virtually nothing. that means, per second 100,000,000,000 solar neutrinos fly through your thumbnail.  
 and you notice nothing. absolutely nothing.

on a rational level the signs originate from the memento mori notion: *respice post te, hominem te  
 esse memento* (Look around and consider that you are also only a human being). the signs stand  
 for the arrogance of mankind and our lack of wisdom. and yet clever people have always been aware  
 of this nescience. socrates formulated nearly 2,500 years ago: "i know that i do not know."  
 he knew that even he lacked knowledge beyond doubt.

hence the two signs are also warning signs.  
 they exemplify the knowledge about the limits of our knowledge.



**for the root of all**  
sculpture

steel, chrome, aluminum, sandblasted mirror, two postcards  
approx. 16 x 23 cm (mirror surface)  
approx. 23 x 10 x 27-35 cm (adjustable tilt angle and height)  
2022

edition of 9 + 3 a/p

on the mirror's surface one sees a sandblasted skull, which is composed of the five letters g-r-e-e-d.  
looking into the mirror, you see yourself through the eye sockets of the skull, which itself is  
superimposed on one's face. the underlying idea: the inconspicuous monster greed lives in each of us  
and acts according to its character boundless and excessive. one should look into this mirror every day  
to be aware of this fact and to act more humbly.

"for the root of all evil is greed."  
thomas aquinas, *de malo*

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### **heliocopris**

illusionary object

bronze (dead-mold casting; off-cast), semitransparent metallized glass vessel,  
2100K titanium LED filament lamp, aluminum spotlight,  
aluminum/stainless steel tripod, stand, power cord  
tripod approx.  $\varnothing$  52 x 80 cm  
bronze approx. 8,5 x 5 x 3 cm  
2021



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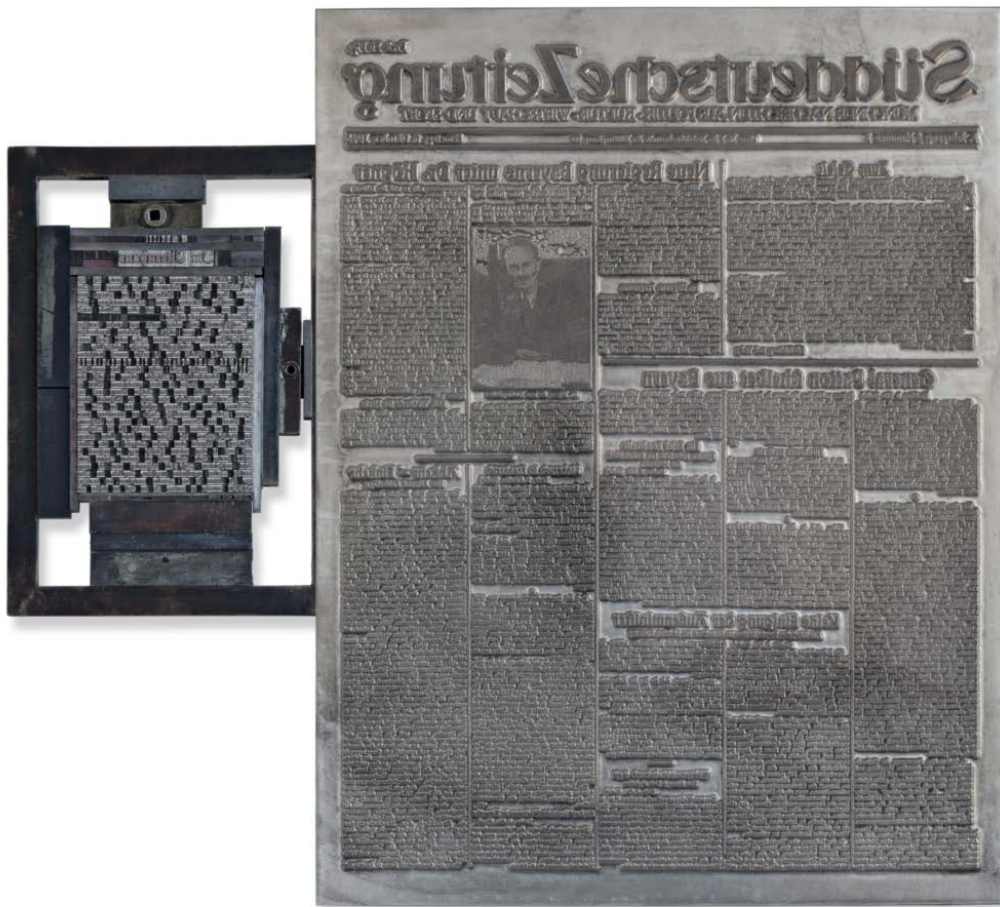
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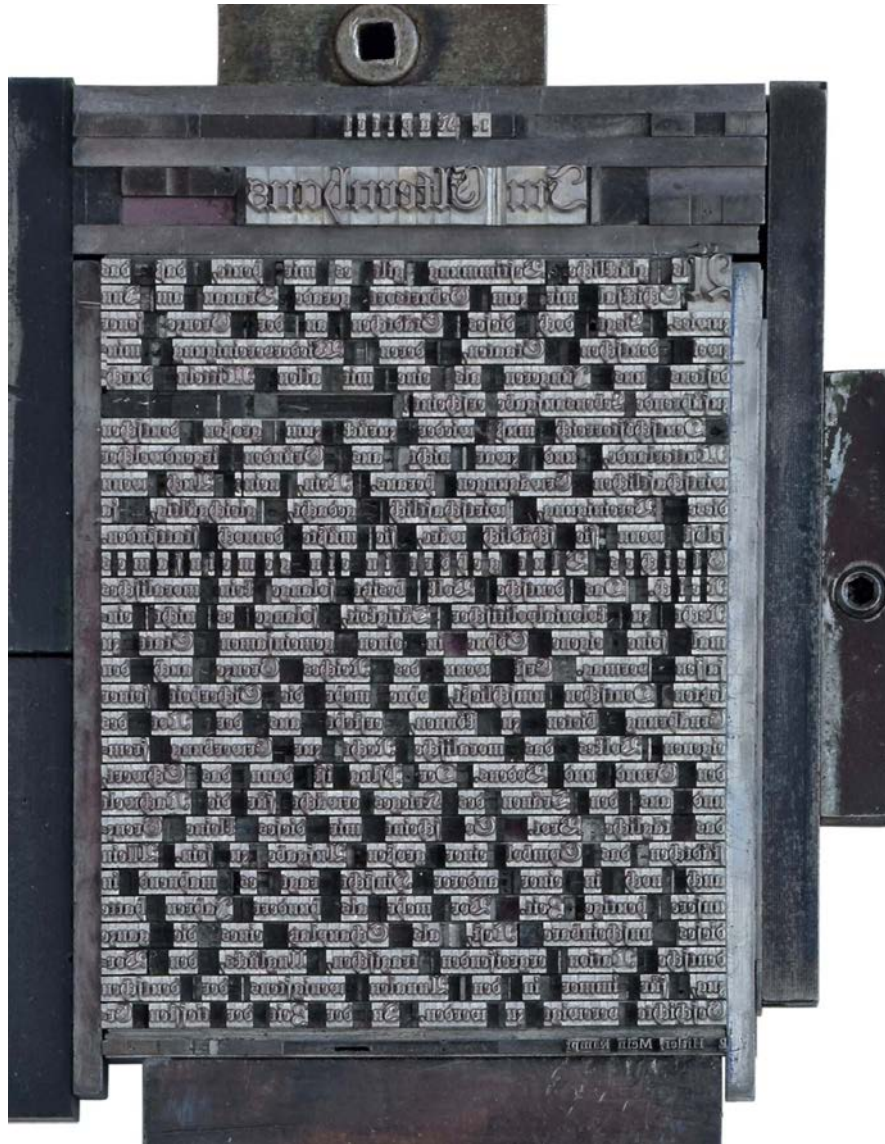


**our lives are most true when we create them**  
wallpiece  
lead, steel, magnesium  
approx. 26 x 19 cm (foundry type with chase)  
approx. 51 x 39 cm (printing plate)  
2021

the lead typesetting of adolf hitler's "mein kampf" was melted down for the printing plates of the first issue of the *süddeutsche zeitung* on october 6, 1945.

the following text appeared in the second issue of the sz on october 9, 1945:

"from the melted lead of this "brown catechism," which had once presumptuously boasted of having surpassed the german circulation of the bible, is cast the printing plate of the first issue of the *süddeutsche zeitung*, the first free, democratic paper to appear in munich in twelve years."

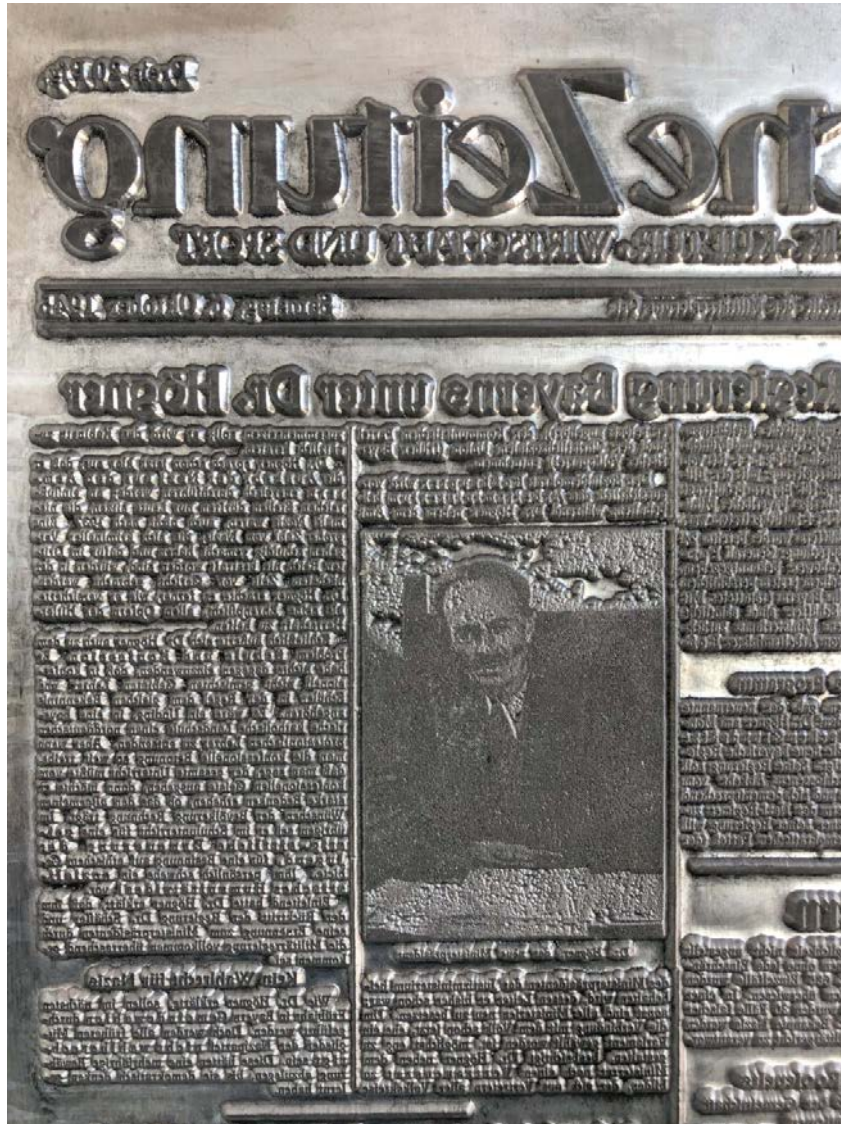


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# Süddeutsche Zeitung

MÜNCHNER NACHRICHTEN AUS POLITIK · KULTUR · WIRTSCHAFT UND SPORT  
1. Jahrgang / Nummer 1  
Lissa Nr. 1 der Nachrichtenkontrolle der Militärregierung Ost  
Samstag, 6. Oktober 1945

Preis 20 Pfg.

## Zum Geleit

Zum ersten Male seit dem Zusammenbruch der bayerischen Erbköniglichen Monarchie ist die Geschichte der bayerischen Politik, die in den politischen Verhältnissen der Gegenwart beginnt, durch diese Zeitung geleitet, durch diesen Gewissensträger geleitet.

Die „Süddeutsche Zeitung“ ist nicht das Organ einer Regierung oder eines bestimmten Partei, sondern ein Sprecher für alle Deutschen, die sich um die politische Zukunft des Reiches kümmern, die sich um die Zukunft des bayerischen Volkes kümmern, die sich um die Zukunft der deutschen Nation kümmern. Die „Süddeutsche Zeitung“ ist nicht das Organ einer Regierung oder eines bestimmten Partei, sondern ein Sprecher für alle Deutschen, die sich um die politische Zukunft des Reiches kümmern, die sich um die Zukunft des bayerischen Volkes kümmern, die sich um die Zukunft der deutschen Nation kümmern.

## Neue Regierung Bayerns unter Dr. Högner

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Dr. Högner, der neue Ministerpräsident

## General Patton scheidet aus Bayern

General Patton hat sich aus Bayern entfernt. General Patton hat sich aus Bayern entfernt. General Patton hat sich aus Bayern entfernt.

## Ein Brief Roosevelt

Ein Brief von Roosevelt. Ein Brief von Roosevelt. Ein Brief von Roosevelt.

## Kein Wahre für Paris

Kein Wahre für Paris. Kein Wahre für Paris. Kein Wahre für Paris.

## Keine Einigung der Außenminister

Keine Einigung der Außenminister. Keine Einigung der Außenminister. Keine Einigung der Außenminister.

## Wegerechtsabund raste

Wegerechtsabund raste. Wegerechtsabund raste. Wegerechtsabund raste.

## Linien in Frankreich

Linien in Frankreich. Linien in Frankreich. Linien in Frankreich.

## Abkehr - Einkehr

Abkehr - Einkehr. Abkehr - Einkehr. Abkehr - Einkehr.

our lives are most true when we create them hand printing vintage paper (170 g/m2), printing ink (black, caput mortuum) approx. 51 x 39 cm 2021 edition of 100 + 10 a/p

the lead typesetting of adolf hitler's "mein kampf" was melted down for the printing plates of the first issue of the süddeutsche zeitung on october 6, 1945.

to be seen is the 1st page of the 1st chapter of adolf hitler's "mein kampf" (172.-173. edition, 1936): small, upside down, pushed to the margin, merged into the sz text, pigmented in caput mortuum.





**VOC\* or trying to find visual solutions to indigestible stories**

object

flour, abrasive cloth, expanded metal, cardboard, wire, wood, museum glass

approx. 52 x 47 x 5 cm

2022

everything else has failed! don't you think it's time for love?

*sharon hayes, american multimedia artist, 2007*

\*variant of concern

[www.tomschmelzer.com](http://www.tomschmelzer.com)



**VOC\* or trying to find visual solutions to indigestible stories**

object

flour, abrasive cloth, expanded metal, cardboard, wire, wood, museum glass

approx. 52 x 47 x 5 cm

2022

everything else has failed! don't you think it's time for love?

*sharon hayes, american multimedia artist, 2007*

\*variant of concern

**tom schmelzer**

lives and works in munich and berlin

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**education**

fine arts  
medicine  
philosophy

**grants, prizes, scholarships**

german national academic foundation  
dr. arthur pfungst-foundation  
semifinalist search for art  
city of ebersberg art award  
silverfish art award

**exhibitions**

haus der kunst, munich  
german historic museum, berlin  
german museum, munich  
dechiara/stewart, new york  
jozsa gallery, brussels  
white trash contemporary, hamburg  
gallery friday 18.30, aachen  
feinkunst krüger, hamburg  
art claims impulse, berlin  
hunchentoot gallery, berlin  
galerie jaspers, munich

various galleries and art institutions

**gallery representations**

berlin  
munich  
aachen  
miami

**art fairs**

miami  
new york  
new delhi  
berlin  
cologne  
hamburg  
st. moritz

**collections**

collection debbie august, new york, usa  
collection galila barzilai-hollander, brussels, belgium  
collection edward cella, california, usa  
collection luc freché, bruxelles, belgium  
collection jean-marie gille, bruxelles, belgium  
pabst collection, munich, germany  
collection egon fruhstorfer, zwiesel, germany  
private collection, munich, germany  
private collection, berlin, germany  
collection klaus moeller, los angeles, usa



**SCHOEN  
ES NICHT  
DAS MASS**