

Violence of Images — Images of Violence / Gewalt der Bilder — Bilder der Gewalt

Ida Clay, Zarah Gutsch, Paul-Julien Robert,
Elisabeth Schäfer (eds.)

How should we deal with art and artworks that emerged within authoritarian structures and whose creation involved violence against people? Who curates, speaks, and writes about this art? And can art that originates from contexts of violence be re-contextualized? The contributors in this consistently bilingual volume gather central ideas on strategies for future exhibition practices, placing critical curating at the forefront. They present new strategies for recontextualization and open the field to contemporary discourses. At the same time, they establish connections to art and activism as well as to trauma research, offering practical guidance for museums.

Ida Clay (born 1980 in New Zealand) lived involuntarily in the Mühl sect at Friedrichshof from 1981 onward. She studied at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne and completed a Master's degree in Screenwriting at AUT Auckland. From 2020 to 2023, she worked as a project collaborator on the FWF PEEK project [AR 568], which focused on a critical reappraisal of the Mühl sect. She works across disciplines on exhibitions, symposia, and collective research methods, and is a founding member of the group MATHILDA. Ida Clay lives in Berlin and works as a marquetry artist.

Zarah Gutsch, born in 1983 at Friedrichshof / Burgenland, grew up in the Muehl sect until the age of seven. She studied cultural and theatre studies at the University of Leipzig, followed by photography in the field of fine arts at the Academy of Fine Arts and Book Design (HGB). She worked as an independent collaborator on the FWF PEEK project [AR 568] and is a co-founder of the group MATHILDA, for which she has been active in conceptual and curatorial work since 2019.

Paul-Julien Robert is an Austrian director and photographer. He was born on the Friedrichshof and lived there until the age of 12 in Otto Mühl's "commune." He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna and at the University of the Arts Berlin.

In 2012, his film *My Fathers, My Mothers and Me* received the Vienna Film Award in the category "Best Documentary." The film also won Best Documentary and Best Editing at the Austrian Film Awards in 2014, and received the Grierson Award at the 57th London Film Festival. From 2020 to 2023, Robert was the lead researcher of the FWF PEEK project [AR 568] at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

Elisabeth Schäfer is a philosopher. She researches and teaches on deconstruction, queer feminist philosophy, psychoanalytic theory, body, violence and trauma, écriture féminine, writing as artistic research and resistant practice, and on artistic positions on climate change. From 2023 to early 2025, Elisabeth Schäfer held a postdoc position at the Department for Psychotherapy Science and Studies at the Sigmund Freud Private University Linz, where she completed her habilitation cumulatively together with the framing essay *Sprachwunden: Deconstruction. Alterity. Trauma. Translations between Psychoanalysis, Philosophy, Gender Theory and Art*. Since then, she has been working as a private lecturer and deputy head of department at the SFU PTW LINZ. Website: <https://elisabethschaefer.com>

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VIOLENCE OF IMAGES *IMAGES* *OF VIOLENCE*

Challenges for the Curational Practice
— Herausforderungen für die kuratorische Praxis

GEWALT DER BILDER *BILDER* *DER GEWALT*

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