

AUGUST 2017

INFORMAL



Acrylics 50 x 60 cm

The term 'Informal Art' developed in the forties of last century and meant a form of art that turned from copying nature to total abstraction. A picture with no objects in it, dominated only by form, colour and material and its message perceived not by the observer's intelligence and intellect but his emotions. The understanding of the picture is happening on the same psychological level as the perception of music. Accordingly the evaluation of a picture is an individual one, decisive in what the picture emotionally evokes in the observer, what 'inner movements' it stirs up.

But also 'Informal' is understood as counter reaction to geometric abstraction, to 'Concrete Art'. 'Informal' is lyrical abstraction, abstract Expressionism, but also movement and often a world of pictures only created by chance. Colours are getting squirted randomly onto the canvas (Tachism), shredded paper instead of colours (Collage) or the artist replaces colours with pieces of wood, textiles, sand, ect (arte povera). The rejection of figurative portrayal demands a psychic or even psychedelic perception. An objectless composition of colours can evoke kind of an intoxication in a sensitive mind, exactly like music that really goes through you.

As visionary fathers of the 'Informal' one has to name certainly amongst many others, Klee and Kandinsky. They crossed a border which enables us to a new mode of vision, a new way of enjoying art.

Whether mankind per se needs art at all is a crunch question which every one has to ask him or herself. To some music is just noise, others music helps to relax and makes them happy, to some Van Gogh's sunflowers are a revelation, to others a pure capital investment, some consider the products of the art of cooking as the highest cultural value on earth, others indulge fervently in the world's best wines (in which also many artificial things may swim) and most of us love the art which decorates our bank notes (or above all the bank notes themselves).

A piece of joie de vivre mirrors in the Informal Art, too. According to one's mood one can indulge in the variety of colours, one is allowed to enjoy oneself, to laugh or to be appalled, to question or to surrender to the intoxication of beauty.

Art of all kinds means life and wants to be lived.