

## Bibliions

'Bibliions' are meditative installations. They are based on statements from the bible, one of the foundations of our occidental cultural values.

During Holy Week and Easter the artist Vera Staub will work in the Church St. Josef, Lucerne, Switzerland on her art project 'Bibliions'. The church will become her studio. The visitors can follow the making of the various installations. The installations will be subject of meditative contemplations and integrated in the religious festivities taking place during Holy Week and Easter.

Palm Sunday: 'Schwangerkeit'/ 'Pregnance'. Church Service and opening.  
Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10 h

Tuesday: 'And he gave me a stone'  
Introduction to her work: Vera Staub. Narrator: Christiane Moreno. Music: Pius Strassmann.  
Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 19 h

Holy Thursday: 'Through the mirror'. Church service. Art installation.  
Thursday, April 21<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 19 h

Good Friday: 'GrabLICHTung/ TombCLEARing'. Good Friday liturgy. Triptych installation.  
Friday, April 22<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 15 h

Easter: 'Good bye, shroud'. Church services. Illuminated object.  
Saturday, April 23<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 20:30 h  
Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10 h

Pentecost: 'Verwoben/ Interwoven'. Church service and finissage.  
Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 10 h

The Church is open to the public daily from 9:30 h to 18 h.

The artist Vera Staub explores in her artistic projects transitions and makes seeming opposites like birth and death the subjects of her investigations. While doing so, the sculptor, drawer and performer asks the viewers to become part of her work.

It may be a circus trailer where she invites passersby to come in to experience her work (as in the traveling project 'Romperemos un pilar', 2008), or it may be a church.

During Holy Week and Easter 2011 Vera Staub moves her studio into the church St. Josef in Lucerne. The visitors can follow in the silence of the church the genesis of her installations, the so-called BIBLIIONS.

The various installations will be subject of meditative contemplations, which will be integral part of the church services.

Similar to the other works by the artist, the installations Vera Staub is creating in St. Josef invite us on a meditative journey – to the transitions within ourselves.

### **And he gave me a stone**

In the traveling project titled *And he gave me a stone* Vera Staub invited passersby into her circus trailer where a sculpture in form of a tomb shroud awaited them and confronted them at this place of 'enchantment' with the topic of death. The aesthetic of the installation created the sensations of attraction and shudder at the same time.

Vera Staub documented her art action in form of empathetic photographs.

The author and journalist Brigitte Schmid-Gugler gets herself into these images.

Her short essays, analyses of the images, personal references and associative and sometimes humorous texts make the topic 'The volatility of being' approachable and are easy to read.

She describes the encounter of the artist and the public, makes art historical and historico-cultural observations; she describes the reservations she had at first, her awe of the topic, and reveals at the same time her fascination with it. The latter becomes notably perceptible in the correspondence with the 91-year-old writer, poet, nun and mystic Silja Walter from the monastery of Fahr. In addition to the letters, Silja Walter also contributed a poem to the book.

Magdalena Bernath, Die Zeile, 2010

## **Schwangerkeit (pregnance)**

Installation, 2006

Turbine Giswil/Switzerland

Once a man found in a state of dreaming – in a daydream it was – that he got pregnant from nothingness. This quotation from Meister Eckhart, the mystic, relates to one of Vera Staub's recent figures. Staub is a tireless creator of pacific signs and strong gestures as well. Thus her twofold approach to apperception, of abundance on the one side, emptiness or nothingness on the other side. Nothingness is the womb from which abundance grows. Vera Staub calls this condition 'pregnance'. Using gold and silver, sun and moon, and the colors of the earth, Staub is revealing what the pregnant harbors in her womb. On beholding of these figures we are invited and allowed to empty ourselves... and what a man found in a state of dreaming seven hundred years ago is awakening again and rising to substantial forms. Abundance and emptiness at once.

-text: Pius Strassmann, January 06 / translation: Stephan E. Hauser, June 06

7 objects – bellies of pregnant women made from plaster of Paris and synthetic resin – hanging from invisible 'strings' attached to the ceiling of the exhibition hall. Suspended like this, the bellies dangle, along with the current of air, incredibly slowly, suggesting all indolence.