

Press release of 5 September 2012**Charly Iten «Traces»**

As an artist, doctor of East Asian Art and Master of Arts in Japanese Studies, Charly Iten has been keenly interested in Japan for many years. His work combines the artistic techniques of the West with the concepts, composition and aesthetics of Japan, whose very focus upon substance and the beauty of the imperfect and the transient fascinate. Iten's work has been shown in various exhibitions since 2004.

At first sight Charly Iten's paintings are reminiscent of weathered metal sheets. Their complexity and depth first become apparent upon closer inspection. The artist is not seeking to display what is visible on the surface, but rather to capture the inner meaning of things and express this through his art. Using mixed media, he creates abstract fragments that change unpredictably during the painting process. These states of transformation make Charly Iten's works highly expressive and inspiring symbols of constant change.

Career

- 1980–1988 Studies painting in his grandfather's studio.
- 1993–2003 Studies History of East Asian Art, Japanese Studies and Ethnology.
- 2004 PhD in Japanese Art with Prof. Dr. Helmut Brinker on «Der Teeweg und die Welt der japanischen Teeschalen – Zur Töpferkunst der von Sen no Rikyū und Furuta Oribe geschätzten Brennöfen».
- 2004–2007 Academic assistant, Department of East Asian Art, University of Zurich.
- Since 2004 Works as a professional artist.
- Since 2007 Establishes and manages Charly Iten Art Affairs GmbH.

Exhibitions

- 2004 «Impressions», an exhibition held in conjunction with the young artists' funding competition of the Department of Culture, Canton Zug
- 2005–2006 «Showcase 03 – 05», Park Hotel Weggis.
- 2007 «Patterns of metal- & earthenware», Gallery Jewels of Asia, Zurich
«Patterns of metalware series 2», Parkhotel Zug.
- 2008 Group exhibition, Art van der Brugge, Focus Business Center Zug.
Group exhibition, Art van der Brugge, Regus Business Center Zurich.
- 2009 Group exhibition, Art van der Brugge, Altstadtthalle Zug.
«Asian Art in Zug – Japanese Impressions», Sonya Ferrari/Charly Iten/Suishū T. Klopfenstein-Arii/Regina Maekawa-Altherr/Shun'ichi Maekawa, Altstadtthalle Zug
- 2010 Art Show Zurich 2010, International Artists' Fair, Puls 5.
«Revealing Metals – Creative Fire», Charly Iten & Christiane Tureczek, Gallery Erika Wittenwiler Steinhausen

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- 2011 «Artists for Japan», Andreas Helbling/Charly Iten/Suishū T. Klopfenstein-Arii/Sonja Knapp/Jürgen Krusche/Sabine Matthys-Krümmel/Georges Wenger/Teruko Yokoi, charity exhibition, Sotheby's Zurich
 «Art at Work», group exhibition, Art van der Brugge, D4 Business Center Lucerne.
 «Tracing Japanese aesthetics – An artistic dialogue between Japan and Switzerland», Jürg Bächtold/Bettina Baumann/Sonya Ferrari/Charly Iten/Suishū T. Klopfenstein-Arii/Regina Maekawa-Altherr/Shun'ichi Maekawa/Yuka Tomura, Gallery Kulturschiene, Herrliberg-Feldmeilen.
 Art International Zurich 2011, «Fragments of the Unpredictable», International Art Fair, Kongresshaus Zurich.
 «Asian Art in Zug», Angela Burkhardt-Guallini/Charly Iten/Kei Kawai/Sonja Knapp/Sylvan Müller/Renata Schalcher, Altstadthalle Zug.
 «Contemporary Art», group exhibition, Art van der Brugge & Art Loft Fine Art, Altstadthalle Zug
- 2012 Charity Auction for Children in Fukushima, Group Exhibition, Gallery Kunst im West, Zurich
 «Kunst isst mit», Charly Iten/Sylvan Müller, Restaurant Braui Werner Tobler, Hochdorf.

Selection of works

1. Charly Iten, *Equilibrium*, Mixed media on canvas, triptych, 120 x 240 cm.
2. Charly Iten, *Always and Forever*, Mixed media on canvas, 120 x 80 cm.
3. Charly Iten, *Fragment of the Unpredictable #5*, Mixed media on wood, 130 x 15 cm.
4. Charly Iten, *Nucleus*, Mixed media on canvas, 80 x 80 cm.
5. Charly Iten, *Traces*, Mixed media on canvas, 80 x 80 cm.

The exhibition «Traces» in the Gallery Claudia Geiser runs from 22 September to 8 December 2012 (closing event 13.00 – 15.00).

Opening times: Wednesday to Friday 12.00 – 18.00, Saturday 11.00 – 15.00, or by appointment.