On 18 March, two exhibitions will open at the museum gugging

navratil's ARTISTS' GUESTBOOK!

julius klingebiel. zelle.!

navratil's ARTISTS' GUESTBOOK!
Opening: Wed 18 March 2015 at 7 p.m.
Running from 19 March - 23 August 2015

Fig. Navratil's Artists' Guestbook, 1990, © Guggling Artists' Private Foundation

Fig. Navratil's Artists' Guestbook, Franz Gabl, Modedame (Fashion Lady), 1970, Rudolf Limberger, Überzeichnung (Over-Drawing), undated, © Gugging Artists' Private Foundation

From March, all pages of Leo Navratil's ARTISTS' GUESTBOOK will be on display at the museum gugging for the first time, along with a catalogue containing a facsimile of this historical art book.

DDr Leo Navratil worked as a psychiatrist from the mid 1950s at the “Regional Mental Asylum Gugging”; in the 1960s, he introduced the draw-a-person test he had come across in England. It had been developed by Florence Goodenough in 1926 for
assessment and diagnosis purposes; patients were to make a pencil drawing of a person on a postcard-sized piece of paper. Navratil soon recognized outstanding artistic talents in some of his patients and began to divert his efforts into an artistic direction. In 1965, he published the book *Schizophrenia and Art* (DTV publishing company), which caused a stir in the avant-garde art world. Young artists considered it artistically enriching and visited Gugging to see the originals of the works printed in the book. Thus, Arnulf Rainer became one of the great collectors of Gugging Art; the sculptor Alfred Hrdlicka, the painters Eduard Angeli, Peter Pongratz, Franz Ringel and Loys Egg all came to Gugging to meet the originators of those works. In 1970, the first exhibition was held at the *Galerie nächst St. Stephan* and became a great success. Many enthusiast attended, pictures were sold and Navratil hence viewed his patients as “patient-artists”, supporting them untiringly.

**Navratil’s ARTISTS’ GUESTBOOK is conceived**

Navratil got an art book as a freebee from Bayer, the pharmaceutical company; at first, he used it to stick in colour images as references for Gugging Artists such as Johann Hauser or Oswald Tschirtner. But he soon removed the reproductions, as the artists took to drawing on the empty pages. Navratil also encouraged visiting artists to leave drawings, texts or inscriptions in this book. Thus, a unique authentic document was created and filled up with original drawings over a decade. This collection is remarkable not only due to the multitude of contributing artists, but also in the chronology of the artworks and the way they mutually influence one another. Johann Hauser, for example, created several drawings on one page, at different times, on and the same theme. Gugging Artists overdrew lithographs and etchings by Arnulf Rainer and he did the same with their works.

In this mediating way, Navratil mustered many friends, fans and collectors of the later “Gugging Artists” and laid the groundwork for today’s *galerie gugging* and *museum gugging*.

Navratil later donated the ARTISTS’ GUESTBOOK to his son Walter, an artist himself. When Walter died in 2003, the book returned to the father. Navratil then sold it to a German collector, whom we thank for lending us this unique work for our presentation.
Navratil’s personal investment in the Gugging Artists contributed greatly to their art being presented internationally in many museums, and reaching millions of people through exhibitions and publications. To this day, Gugging and its Artists have been a Mecca for aficionados of genuine drawings, paintings, and objects uninfluenced by “art” - irrespective of whether they are called Art Brut, Outsider Art or art by autodidacts.

**Exhibition running 19 March - 23 August 2015**

**Curator:** Johann Feilacher

**PICTURE DOWNLOAD:** Navratil


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**julius.klingebiel.cell.!**

Opening Wed 18 March 2015 at 7 p.m.

Running 19 March - 11 October 2015

Abb.: Julius Klingebiel, cell wall to the right ©Hans Starosta

On 18 March the museum gugging also presents the exhibition julius.klingebiel.cell.!

Its highlight is a walk-in reproduction of the cell, in which Julius Klingebiel (1904-1965) spent many years of his life as a psychiatric patient at the Göttingen detention centre. Between 1951 and 1963, Klingebiel painted the walls of his cell with colourful...
landscapes, animals, human figures, coats of arms and symbols, which he tried to structure with linear elements. Again and again, he completed and over-painted certain parts of the approximately 100ft² sized room, not least in an attempt to redefine its spatial boundaries. The paintings refer to biographical details and historic events, suggestive of what the artist experienced and what was going though his head.

Interestingly, some of his images of women are reminiscent of Max Beckmann’s later works in their contours and extensiveness; and some motives, such as the figures of saints near the window, stylistically appear to have Byzantine references. Klingebiel possibly chose models he found suitable and adapted them to the walls inside his cell. This affords the artistic decoration a stylistic diversity, which fascinates to this day and can be experienced in a special way by entering the photographic space installation of his “cell”.

The exhibition runs from 19 March until 11 October 2015
Project manager: Prof. Dr. Andreas Spengler
at the museum gugging’s Novomatic Salon

Guided tour of Künstlerräume! (Artists’ Rooms)
As part of its guided tours, the museum gugging offers a visit to the uniquely decorated rooms of the artists Johann Garber, Julius Klingebiel and August Walla at the House of Artists.

Dates: Sun 22 March, 26 April, 12 July, 11 October / at 3 p.m.

PICTURE DOWNLOAD: Klingebiel
https://celum.noeku.at/pindownload/login.do?pin=NM1RL PIN-Code: NM1RL