

In his work **MOD:GRA:JOHNS:1969 MORATORIUM:NEW YORK,NY: MUS.MOD.ART (EXB): 22 1/2 X 28 3/4“ SANDAK 4337 0252/90 046474 HOLY CROSS, 2019**, analogue c print, 28,4 × 35,7 cm, edition of 4 Huth bought a reproduction of the artwork of Jasper Johns as a color slide and further processed it. The title of Huth's art piece derives from the inventory number of the slide. In 1969 Jasper Johns painted an American flag in the complementary colors (orange-green) for a demonstration against the participation of the USA in the Vietnam War. Huth transfers the work back into the "original" colorfulness by means of the analog enlargement process C41.

Furthermore the photograph **Rock on Top of Another Rock on Top of Another Rock** testifies to a long-term engagement with an artwork. In 2010 the artistic duo Peter Fischli and David Weiss had two massive rocks placed on top of each other in a national park in Norway. Since 2013 Florian Huth has returned there several times. He measured and documented the stones in the immediate vicinity. Finally he produced one of them as a full-size model. In 2020 he transported the model to Norway, where he lifted it on top of the stone sculpture and photographed this short-lived intervention.

Text by Florian Huth and Katharina Ritter

# FLORIAN HUTH KUNST DES 20. JAHRHUNDERTS

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**Florian Huth** (\*1980 in Saarbrücken) examines artistic ability and success. He interrogates the interaction of the mechanisms of doing and showing. The artist adopts the works of others, then copies and extends them. The lengthy hand-crafted processes needed for his work are rather hidden, bizarre riddles open up.

The trees look like roughly rendered images of themselves. They are made of wood and their shrunken size reverses the natural size ratio: They allow views of the tree tops from above, contrary to nature where we look at them from below. On the basis of Google Earth data, Florian Huth had the trees carved from solid wood blocks. For a couple of years now Google has been creating three-dimensional maps of the earth's surface from satellite images and aerial photographs, with the help of algorithms. The trees are from the work of Joseph Beuys „7000 Eichen – Stadtverwaltung statt Stadtverwaltung“ in Kassel. For his 100th birthday the Stadtgalerie will display **7 Oaks**, made from oak, maple, chestnut and tilia wood.

In his most recent work Florian Huth tries to copy the "**KUNST des 20. Jahrhunderts**" (art of the 20th century), in 840 drawings. The two volumes, which include 82 female artists and 769 artists in total, promise to make art from 1900 to 2000 tangible. The last chapter of the second Volume, of the "Künstlerlexikon" with its 160 drawings, is presented on the wall. Both volumes, one red and one pink, perfectly adapted to the original piece in color and format, are presented in the display cabinet. Florian Huth drew all of the images of this book with the help of a pantograph. A mechanical tool which helps to transfer drawings. This tool consists of four wooden strips that are interconnected with each other. One point is moved over the template and on the other side of the strip the template is converted into a drawing.

How does one get into such a compendium? What makes one successful? Attitude, originality, innovation? In his diploma "**With the Fear to Fail I Start to Fake for the Fame (2019)**" Huth copied selected works of artists that were placed ahead of him in the Artfacts-Ranking. The templates were taken from the internet. He photographed his artisanal reproductions and published them on the internet, which means that now every piece of work exists twice. A catalogue accompanies the artwork.

Florian Huth adopted the neon sign **Ne Travaillez Jamais** from the artist Pascual Sisto, who on the other hand adopted it in the year 2010 from Guy Debord. In the 1950s Guy Debord wrote the words „Ne Travaillez Jamais“ ( „Never Work!“) on a wall. For him and the situationists the exclamation was not only an expression of their life attitude but also of a revolt against the misery of labor, against alienation in the capitalist world.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> cf. <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2001/aug/25/biography.highereducation1>, retrieved on at 17.02.2021