

MANFRED WAKOLBINGER

was born on November 6, 1952 in Mitterkirchen in Upper Austria.

After training in metalworking and toolmaking, he turned to art. Initially jewelry design with wife Anna Heindl. Attends seminars with Bazon Brock at the University of Applied Arts. There follows a six-month stay in London.

From 1980 sculpture and photography. Numerous solo and group exhibitions in Europe and the USA. Among others Documenta 8 and Venice Biennale.

1993 Design of the exhibition collection for design and architecture at the MAK Vienna.

On the occasion of a personal exhibition in the 20iger Haus (Vienna) the catalog book "Sputnik" is published in 1997.

From 2000 onwards, underwater photography is increasingly produced during diving trips with Anna Heindl. The first book on this subject is published in 2003 on the occasion of an exhibition at the MAK Vienna and is called "Bottomtime".

During a visit to the Wittmann-Hofer family, a sofa developed for their own use is discovered by chance. The piece of furniture is now produced in various models by the Wittmann company.

In 2006 the publishing house "Museum Küppersmühle für moderne Kunst Duisburg" publishes the catalog book "Placements", which had been published on the occasion of the exhibition "Current".

Christop Ransmayr uses photos by Manfred Wakolbinger for the covers of his novels and audio books "Der fliegende Berg" and "Die letzten Welt". 2007 Christoph Ransmayr's book "Damen und Herren unter Wasser - Eine Bildergeschichte nach 7 Farbtafeln von Manfred Wakolbinger" is published.

2011 Participation in the "Salzburg Art Project - Modern Art on Old Squares". The approximately eleven meter long sculpture "Connection", which ends in two vessel-like openings, is installed at the Rudolfskai. Vito Zuraj composes the short opera "Insideout" for it, which is presented as part of "Beyond Recall" 2013 at the Festspielhaus in Salzburg as well as the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

In 2012, the large-format art book "Under the Surface" is published with underwater photography. Essays by Christoph Ransmayr and Wolf D. Prix complement the images.

On the occasion of the solo exhibition "Up from the Skies" a large catalog book is published with essays by Peter Sloterdijk, August Ruhs, Jasper Sharp and with a conversation by Alexandra Schantl with Manfred Wakolbinger.

Starting in 2012, a series of larger sculptures for public space will be launched. First example is the installation "Gate and Bench" with two sculptures at the forecourt of the HYPO in St. Pölten.

2014 Installation of "Cloud", a 10-meter sculpture on the outer wall of the Gymnasium Zehnergasse in Wiener Neustadt.

2015 follows the sculpture "Chat" in the Palais Rasumovsky.

In the same year, the sculpture group "Voyage" is installed in the entrance area of the Neunkirchen Regional Hospital.

Also in 2016, the sculpture "Circulations" from the new series of Dances is placed in the hospital Neunkirchen (courtyard area).

In 2016 follows the public installation "Inhale" and "Exhale" (image, sound and sculptures) in the ARTBOX in the Museumsquartier in Vienna. 2016 participation "Vienna for Arts Sake" with the installation "Relations and Contradictions" (sculpture: "High Rise" from the series of Forces; video: Galaxies 1-4; Soundscore Christian Fennes) at the Gold Cabinet Winter Palace Belvedere.

Participation in the scientific exhibition "How it all began - Of Galaxies, Quarks and Collisions" Natural History Museum Vienna.

2017 "Blickachsen 11 - Sculptures in Bad Homburg RheinMain". five-part sculpture group in the Kurpark Bad Homburg. "Circulations" in the sculpture garden of the Summer Days Vienna. At the same time, the photo exhibition "Monsters, Beauties and Galaxies" takes place in the photo room of the Traklhaus at the Hohensalzburg Fortress.

In August of the same year, an exhibition entitled "Other Worlds" in Jennersdorf. The photo exhibition around the themes of alien galaxies and images outside everyday perceptual spaces takes place in the Grenz-Kunsthalle in Burgenland and is organized together with Eva Schlegel. In addition to large-scale photographic transparencies, sculptures from the series of Travellers, Forces and Dances will be on display.

In 2018, as part of the Kunstparcours Millstatt, three sculptures from the Dances and Placements series will be exhibited on - and on a raft in - Lake Millstatt.

In the Schweizergarten of the Belvedere²¹ the sculpture "Eroberung" (originally Skulpturengarten Graz) will be permanently installed.

In 2019, various solo presentations will take place. Under the title "Tongues - Sculptures and Photographic Works 2018-2019" the current works of Manfred Wakolbinger will be exhibited at Galerie Smolka Contemporary in Vienna. In the same year solo presentation at Art Düsseldorf. In Leipzig, the year is concluded with a large personale "Inhale - Exhale" at MdbK - Museum der bildenden Künste.

2020