

Traces of the redoubt

From the article ***Traces of the Schanze in Münster***

by Jasmin Ahmad

Seen historically, the period of 100 years is infinitesimally short - and at the same time: what can happen in a century? World wars and the subsequent reconstruction were experienced by the Schanze as an artists' group, influences, currents, developments ... during this period, one has seen several artists' associations come into being, take effect and break up again. So it makes sense, on the occasion of such an unusually long existence of 100 years, to undertake a search for traces, to go on a hike and >scavenger hunt<.

Founded in 1919, the Schanze has had and continues to have numerous members in 100 years and has also outlived quite a few of these members, but they too are still present through works and are represented in the cityscape of Münster and in Münsterlang. They have left their traces, you just have to be a little attentive to discover them. Many works fit naturally and almost casually into everyday life, creeping alongside the viewer without making themselves obtrusively noticeable and yet quietly ever present. The artists listed below are, of course, only a fragmentary excerpt of the entire work of this community of artists, whose members are as numerous as they are diverse, so the focus will be limited mainly to Münster's inner city and the surrounding villages. This performance does not claim to be complete, but would like to show examples, would like to be an incentive - or perhaps rather an invitation - to take a closer look at the considerable Œuvre of the Schanze.

(...)

In Robert-Koch-Straße 27a in Münster, in the courtyard of the Institute of Physiology, a fountain splashes. It seems like a small magical world, like an escape from everyday life in the midst of otherwise unadorned surroundings. During the golden season, colourful autumn leaves gather in it, adding to the impression of a wishing well from a fairy tale. The filigree figures have something of underwater creatures about them, but most of them are above the water level and seem to dance on the water, reaching up to the sky like feelers. Bernahd Gewers (1927 - 2012) created this plant-inspired fountain in 1962; he was a master wood and stone sculptor and a graduate engineer. He not infrequently devoted himself to the design of public squares. Several lines are dedicated to him on the homepage of the Hagens local history society, as he was a member of the community for 50 years of his life until his death.

member of the community. His work included both representational and abstract works, a large part of his oeuvre was devoted to the decoration of churches, and religious representations were always given an important place among his works.

(...)

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