

Andreas Petzold 2022

The new view of the sea - Through the eye of art

It not only has many faces and facets. It leads, if one opens the creative door a crack, to the visualisation of the world through and with one's own eyes and the eyes of new friends who are willing to go in search of it. The search for art. And it leads to amazement at what I see every day. And in relation to the surroundings, nature, the landscape and the sea, I have new experiences every day. It is actually a drawing from the full. And the amazement at that in itself. Astonishment is the "lost attitude to life of our time. From an early age, we move curiously through the world. When suddenly something extraordinary demands our full attention, we can become astonished. To marvel is to stop time, to linger and enjoy, to surrender to the suddenly revelatory power of the moment or of a thing." (Paolo Bianchi in: Kunstforum International, 259 Staunen - Plädoyer für eine existenzielle Erlebform).

But amazement, especially in the visual arts, presupposes seeing - or to put it more precisely - looking. And anyone who lives by the sea (North Sea), as I do, is confronted daily with water, wind, sand and movement. And the sea reacts daily. It unites, overcomes, bridges, separates and connects at the same time. Almost weekly, we see the powerful and natural change on our walks along the coastline and in the tidal flats.

It gives me a multitude of possibilities to specify and make visible my view of nature and life. And the art is right in the middle of nature and not just on my doorstep about 1.1km from the garden studio in Nieblum. You can literally smell it, and when the screeching seagulls and the oystercatchers hover over the garden. Then you hear the vastness that literally calls you to dream. On some days, the salt air settles like a fine veil on windows and glasses and thus also on my works in public space.

It is a space where art can unfold freely and playfully. The water, the air and the light, the sand and the wind are the metaphor. The dust in our house is more the daily reality. My creative hands are ultimately just the icing on the cake. And so it is not surprising that the works, whether created close to the North Sea or in the middle of the Atlantic, in the protective belly of a container ship or subsequently in the garden studio on the island, always take water, air and light and reflect them artistically. And finally, they again suggest longing and departure for freedom and distance. Accompanied by the artistic documenting, sorting and capturing of the force of nature and harmony made visible, none other than Charles Trenet with his chanson "La mer" embodies and accompanies the graphic and painterly production of my sea(h)pieces.

They take up some of the themes and make it possible to playfully get to know the sea with all its facets a little better, and currently in an extraordinary location - the music pavilion on the Sandwall in Wyk - which for the past two years has thus made a new view of the sea possible. For me, art is not a purely consumer product, but only becomes a work of art through contemplation and interaction with the outside world!