



Christian Ludwig Attersee, *Feuerstelle*, 2011, mixed media with photo from 1968 on card, private collection
Photo: Johannes Stoll, © Belvedere, Vienna; © Bildrecht, Vienna, 2019

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Belvedere 21

Arsenalstrasse 1
1030 Vienna

Opening hours:

Wed to Sun 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wed and Fri to 9 p.m.
(also on public holidays)

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belvedere21.at/presse21

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ATTERSEE FEUERSTELLE

February 1 to August 18, 2019

The Belvedere 21 is devoting a large solo show to Christian Ludwig Attersee with a focus on his early work. Featuring as yet little-known works, the exhibition reveals how Attersee actively shaped and participated in the revolution in artistic production from the 1960s.

"With the exhibition Attersee. Feuerstelle we return to the artist's roots and simultaneously travel through time to the present day. It reminds us of the explosiveness of his radical early work and shows Attersee as a unique pioneer of the masterful crossover between art and lifestyle in all areas," according to Stella Rollig, CEO of the Belvedere.

Over the course of his almost sixty-year career as an artist, Christian Ludwig Attersee has successfully subverted all categories of art history. He has gradually leveled the aesthetic boundaries between high and low, Pop and Modern, fine and applied art. Born Christian Ludwig in Bratislava in 1940, in 1966 the artist chooses Attersee as a sobriquet after the lake of the same name in the Salzkammergut where he was raised and became an award-winning sailor. This then becomes his overarching identity and is inscribed on his work from now on like a trademark.

From the 1960s Attersee develops his own unique visual language. As the antithesis of Viennese Actionism, he is interested in the invention of augmented worlds and in the creative power of art. Attersee's object inventions, which he later transfers to canvas and paper, build a bridge to the everyday practical object – as is the case with his *Speisekugeln* or *Attersteck*. The artist launches the "Attersee

language," shoots a rather unconventional *Heimatfilm* ("homeland film"), and on the side he travels around the world as a professional sailor. He works on set designs, makes appearances as a musician (at what is now the Belvedere 21, among other places), creates wall hangings and mosaics, wraps Vienna's Ringturm in his art, and produces products like the herbal vermouth called *Atterbitter* and the *Attersee-Wurst* (sausage). Whereas the bright colors and visual subjects in the early stages of his oeuvre are reminiscent of Pop Art, from the mid-1970s the artist adopts a more gesturally expressive drawing style that later morphs into the painterly.

Attersee's work draws on his own biography and everyday life, as well as on art and its history. Birds, fish, flowers, meals, fruit, women, the horizon, sailing, and the weather have been part of his iconography since the beginning of his career and form an overarching narrative whose numerous stories only reveal themselves upon closer inspection. With his world of subjects Attersee, the artist of eroticism and beauty, celebrates an all-embracing lifestyle in which everything can be ambiguous. He flirts with kitsch and attempts to enhance his work's visual presence. Attersee's approach is ironically subversive and self-promoting in equal measure.

The themes featured in Attersee's creative work are still topical today: from the gender discourse that makes its first appearance in Attersee's photo series from the 1960s in which he presents himself as an androgynous figure, to the political stance he took against the political and social swing to the right in his series of condemnatory posters in the 1980s, and the environmentalism that he has addressed in his most recent work. An ironically skeptical examination of the term *Heimat* ("homeland") is also a constant in his oeuvre.

"The considerations present in his early artworks have not only entered the world of popular culture, but they are now mainstream and have infiltrated our lives for good. For subsequent generations of artists Attersee is a pioneer or one of the founding figures, and in Austria he is largely unique," says Britta Schmitz.

ON THE EXHIBITION

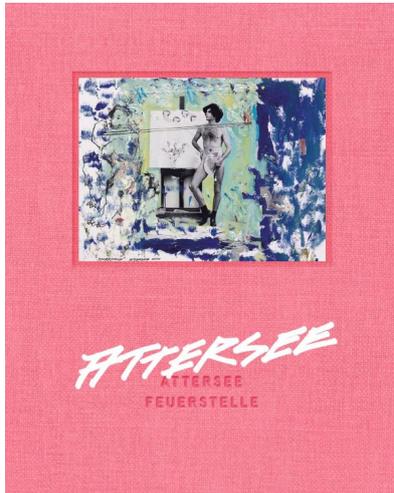
ATTERSEE. Feuerstelle is the first exhibition to pay close attention to the Viennese artist's early career. The display intends to show the quintessential early Attersee cosmos, recontextualize and bring his work up to date, and trace the crucial artistic development in Attersee's extravagant oeuvre. The title of the exhibition is taken from the picture *Feuerstelle*, 2001, because in it a working principle can be identified that reveals how Attersee bases the continual development of his own creativity on previous work. His personal treasure trove of subjects is subject to constant metamorphosis and is applied in complex contexts. The selection of works brings together as yet less noted themes, foregrounds the correlations between the genres, highlights the "Atterseeization" of the setting, and demonstrates the performative aspect of his oeuvre. Collages, works on paper, photographs, films, music, and paintings are displayed on an equal footing with inventions, craft, and product design. In certain places contemporary pieces are integrated in the exhibition to demonstrate the consistency in Attersee's oeuvre.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

- 1940 Born in Bratislava/Slovakia
- 1944 The family moves to Austria; Attersee spends his youth in Aschach near Linz and at the Attersee lake in Upper Austria
- 1957–1963 Studies painting at the Academy of Applied Arts in Vienna (graduates under Eduard Bäumer)
- 1964–66 First object inventions in the field of eroticism and the everyday
- 1965/66 Sojourn in Berlin
- 1971/72 Sojourn in Berlin upon the invitation of the Artists-in-Berlin Program by the DAAD
- 1975 Attersee's work is shown at the ninth Paris Biennale
- 1974 First concept concert *Selten gehörte Musik* with Attersee, Brus, Nitsch, Rainer, Roth, Rühm, Steiger, and Wiener in Berlin
- 1977 Participates in documenta 6 in Kassel
- 1979 Sojourn in Paris, transatlantic crossing in late 1979/early 1980
- 1982 First Attersee matinee at the Museum of the Twentieth Century in Vienna
- 1984 Attersee represents Austria at the Venice Biennale
- 1986 Design of Vienna's Café Ring with wallpaper
- 1992–2009 Professor of painting, animation, and tapestry at the University of Applied Arts Vienna
- 1996 Facade mosaic after a design by the artist on the Atterseehaus in Vienna
- 1997 Awarded the Grand Austrian State Art Prize
- 2002 Comprehensive Attersee retrospective at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- 2004 Awarded the Lovis Corinth-Preis by the Künstlergilde Esslingen, Germany
- 2005 Exhibition with work from the past five years at the BA-CA Kunstforum in Vienna
- 2005 Awarded the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art, First Class
- 2005 Set design for the ballet *Petruschka* by Igor Stravinsky at the Wiener Staatsoper
- 2006 Exhibition at the Sammlung Würth, Künzelsau
- 2006 Set design for the ballet *Amadé* at the Madlenianum in Belgrade
- 2006 Covers Vienna's Ringturm in a painted design called *Don Giovanni*
- 2007 Decoration of the first Liederball of the Vienna Men's Choral Society at the Kursalon, Vienna
- Interior mosaic *Reichtum Erde* at the Geological Survey of Austria, Vienna
- 2008 Richard Strauss's *Salome* (stage production, set design, and costumes) at the Theater Bremen
- 2015 Set design for the opera *Weisse Rose* by Udo Zimmermann at the Brucknerfest Linz with accompanying exhibition in the theater's foyer.

Christian Ludwig Attersee lives in Vienna and on the Semmering mountain in Lower Austria. Since the mid-1960s his artworks have been exhibited in over 500 solo shows in many European countries and in the USA. For details, see www.attersee-christian-ludwig.at

CATALOGUE



ATTERSEE. Feuerstelle

Editors: Stella Rollig, Britta Schmitz

Authors: Jürgen Dollase, Walter Gröbchen, Michaela Pappernigg, Ana Petrović, Stella Rollig, Britta Schmitz, Annette Tietenberg

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EDITION



The exhibition will be accompanied by the edition

TORTE MIT SPEISEKUGELN UND SPEISEBLAU

(BACKE, BACKE KUCHEN), 1966, 2018

12-color print on deckle-edge paper,

50 × 50 cm on 60 × 60 cm, framed

Numbered, dated, signed/number of copies: 50 + 20 A.P.

Available for € 490.00 incl. VAT at the Belvedere 21

and online at www.belvedere.at/editionen21 from January 31.

"MUSIC BOX" & CD



RAMPI RAMPI: ATTERSEE MUSIC

TRANS-OEUVRE 1968-2018

Rampi Rampi, a cross section of Christian Ludwig Attersee's musical oeuvre from 1968 to 2018, is available at the Belvedere 21 from February 1, 2019 as a CD (18 tracks) and as a music edition (with colorized vinyl, CD, liner notes by Walter Gröbchen, "Atterseelied" single, hand-signed photo print of Attersee & Affe, and an art print of Kirschensaft) in a limited edition of 300. CD €20, "music box" €150 incl. VAT.

SUPPORTING PROGRAM

A long history connects Attersee to the Belvedere 21. He first exhibited in the pavilion by Karl Schwanzer—then known as the 20er Haus—in 1982. Over the following years he made several appearances at the museum with his matinees together with his artist and musician friends. Music also plays an important part in the exhibition's supporting program.

CURATOR-GUIDED TOURS

With Britta Schmitz

Friday, February 22 and Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 7 p.m.

The art of Christian Ludwig Attersee always has a connection to the everyday and takes place in the here and now. Curator Britta Schmitz will talk about the artist's multifaceted early work and reveal connections to his life. *In German.*

€4 (plus admission)

Duration: 1 hour | registration required

ATTERSEE HOUR

With Bernd Jeschek and Christian Ludwig Attersee

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 | 7:30 p.m.

The actor Bernd Jeschek will read poems and texts by Christian Ludwig Attersee, with the artist accompanying on the piano throughout the evening with a selection of his songs. *In German.*

€3 (excl. exhibition visit) or free with a valid admission ticket

Blickle Kino at the Belvedere 21 | registration required

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

With Christian Ludwig Attersee and Walter Gröbchen

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 | 7 p.m.

Christian Ludwig Attersee will talk with Walter Gröbchen (author and music publisher) about his sixty-year career as a lyricist, musician, and entertainer. The dialogue will feature a musical accompaniment of examples from the artist's audio oeuvre. *In German.*

€3 (excl. exhibition visit) or free with a valid admission ticket

Blickle Kino at the Belvedere 21 | registration required

ATTERSEE MATINEE

Seldom-heard Music

Sunday, June 16, 2019 | 11:30 a.m.

In celebration of his exhibition Christian Ludwig Attersee will play the *Selten gehörte Musik* with Markus Lüpertz, Hermann Nitsch, Gerhard Rühm, Ingrid Wiener and Oswald Wiener live at the Belvedere 21 for what is probably the last time. Further information at www.belvedere21.at

SCREENING

Gruss Attersee. Ein Märchen für Erwachsene, 1969, 94' 15"

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 | 6:30 p.m.

In the color film *Gruss Attersee. Ein Märchen für Erwachsene* from 1969, Christian Ludwig Attersee satirizes the clichés of postwar Austrian and German *Heimatfilm* ("homeland film"). The artist himself makes an appearance: carefully and fashionably dressed, in make-up, and as the designer of surreal objects like a box bra. Attersee remains true to this kitschy image of his homeland so that he can simultaneously debunk it. *In German.*

This screening launches a series of films at the Blickle Kino taking place on four other evenings and focusing on the *Verschobene Heimat* ("displaced homeland") – to use the title of another picture by Attersee.

Friday, March 1, Wednesday, March 27, Friday, April 12, and Wednesday, May 8, 2019 | 6:30 p.m.

Further information: www.belvedere21.at/blicklekino21

€5 | registration required

Blickle Kino at the Belvedere 21

ACCESSIBLE ART EDUCATION

See Things Differently: Picture association with Christian Ludwig Attersee

Saturday, March 30 and May 11, 2019 | 2 p.m.

Over the course of almost sixty years, Christian Ludwig Attersee has created a multifaceted oeuvre with a very unique visual language. With the aid of detailed descriptions, we will explore the content of his work and share the associations that the various picture titles evoke for us. *In German.*

€4 (plus €2 admission for persons with disabilities and caregivers)

Duration: 1 hour | registration required

INTERCULTURAL ART EDUCATION

Tea Talk

Friday, February 15, March 22, April 26, and May 24, 2019 | 4 p.m.

As part of the event series TEA TALKS, the Belvedere 21 is regularly transformed into a venue where people with and without experience of displacement can meet and talk. After a joint tour of the exhibition, we will talk over a cup of tea about the significance of art, share stories about our everyday lives, and take new memories home with us.

Event in German with an Arabic or Farsi interpreter

Further dates upon request via public21@belvedere.at

Free for registered participants | Duration: 2 hours

BABY ON BOARD AT THE MUSEUM

Christian Ludwig Attersee's Painted Pictorial Worlds

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 | 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 | 2:30 p.m.

Parent-baby group with art included! The Belvedere 21 offers guided tours of exhibitions that have been adapted to the needs of new parents with babies (aged 12 months and under). In a relaxed atmosphere we will turn our attention to the exhibitions of contemporary art. Nursing opportunities, bottle warmer, and changing table available. Strollers welcome. *In German.*

€4 (plus admission)

Duration: 1 hour / registration required

CREATIVE WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

Between Dream and Reality

Wednesday, February 6 and Thursday, February 7, 2019 | 2:30 p.m. | 3 to 6 years

Saturday, February 16, Friday, May 17, and Saturday, May 18, 2019 | 3 p.m. | 3 to 6 years

Wednesday, February 6, Thursday, February 7, and Friday, February 8, 2019 | 11:30 a.m. | 7 to 12 years

Sunday, May 19, 2019 | 3 p.m. | 7 to 12 years

Birds, dogs, and fish bustle in Christian Ludwig Attersee's colorful pictures. Why is there a palm tree on a slice of bread and butter, and is that really a tiger drinking contentedly from a porcelain cup? In Studio21 children can let their imaginations run wild and capture their own colorful fantasy worlds on canvas. *In German.*

Children: €4.50

Accompanying adults (children aged 3 to 6 years): free

Accompanying adults (children aged 7 to 12 years): €8

Duration: 2 hours | registration required

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition title	<i>ATTERSEE. Feuerstelle</i>
Curator	Britta Schmitz
Works	approx. 250
Duration	February 1 to August 18, 2019
Venue	Belvedere 21 Arsenalstrasse 1, 1030 Vienna
Opening hours	Wednesday to Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Long evenings: Wednesday and Friday until 9 p.m. Also on public holidays
Tickets	Regular €8 Belvedere 21 Annual Ticket €21 Reduced €6 Children and teenagers under 18 free
Web	belvedere21.at facebook.com/belvedere21 twitter.com/belvedere21wien instagram.com/belvedere21wien #ChristianLudwigAttersee

The press release along with high-resolution press photographs are available for download at:
belvedere21.at/press21