

Visitor information

Sandra Senn

I place the meadow in the vase

1st March to 16th August 2020

For twenty years, Sandra Senn (* 1973 in Baden, lives in Berlin and Baden) has been developing a diverse artistic oeuvre which combines photography, painting and digital media. Language has always been one of her favoured means of expression. She creates generally short, lyrical texts, which sometimes take on an aphoristic character. An aphorism is a phrase encapsulating a thought, a saying. In recent times, Sandra Senn has presented her text installations in an exhibition context, but also in public spaces, with their context referencing the character of the site. Following many years in Berlin, Sandra Senn is once again living near Baden. She has been well-acquainted with the Langmatt since the 1990s; the unique time capsule that is the Langmatt has become very close to her heart. It therefore made sense to ask her to act as guest artist and create a comprehensive new text work for the anniversary exhibition *Chamber of the Heart – 30 Years of the Museum Langmatt* for a comprehensive new text work. Sandra Senn is exhibiting 38 subtle text interventions, created for the Langmatt's rooms, the historical annexe building, and further locations in the park.

These short, lyrical speech images capture the atmosphere of these locations or lend form to a daydream, a memory. Sometimes they connect with an object in the collection, or a detail of the spaces; sometimes, they allow one's thoughts free rein. The spectrum ranges from individual visually vivid words to pregnant aphorisms and lyrical speech, with humour and hidden depths. To achieve this, Sandra Senn uses nothing more than a single sentence that sums up a fleeting feeling with poetic precision. Often, her delicately intricate sentences are concealed within the room, where it takes a second or third look to discover them. These miniature installations engage with the object or space in surprising, associative dialogues. A shimmering speech act meanders through the building, flaming out here and there into a variety of presences and inviting us on a startling journey of discovery, a journey through time. In this way, it reveals to the public, in a seemingly incidental way, a new perspective on the multifaceted nature of the historic Langmatt ensemble.

In the "Grüner Salon" (green salon), Sandra Senn is exhibiting new artistic photographs, created during her researches in the Langmatt in autumn 2019. With her own polychrome sensibility, with a lack of focus, and with energetic movement, she transforms details of the Langmatt and the park into romantic pictures with the character of a fairytale. Just as she does in her texts, Sandra Senn creates resonances with the visual abundance of the Langmatt with a playful lightness. Perceiving these artworks brings into being a shimmering oscillation between the past and present, causing past and present to suddenly appear mutually permeable and transparent. The photographs joyfully unfold the wealth of colour and form and demonstrate the dreamlike and untroubled way in which the mediums of painting and photography can come together today.

A **plan** showing all the locations of texts by Sandra Senn within the Langmatt and outside in the park can be obtained from the museum's ticket desk (for free).

A **publication** exists to document all the texts and images in the exhibition: *Sandra Senn – Ich stell die Wiese in die Vase*. With a foreword by Markus Stegmann. Museum Langmatt, Baden 2020, brochure, 48 pages, 12 illustration, CHF 19.80 / 13.80.

LANGMATT

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