

Arno Oehri

Arno Oehri was born in 1962 in Ruggell, Liechtenstein, a tiny country situated between Switzerland and Austria in central Europe. He studied graphic design and became an independent artist in 1986. Exhibitions, performance-projects and work stays bring him regularly abroad for longer periods of time. In 1991/92 he lived, worked and exhibited in New York City; other important work stays brought him to Mexico, Russia, Italy among others. Having his Ruggell studio as a base camp he is a traveler and a citizen of the whole globe. Current art project he's involved in include a multimedia theatre piece as well as a documentary on a Liechtenstein descendant jazz musician who lived and died in the Midwest of the USA.

Statement

The exhibition "Drifting Elements" at the Alexandre Hogue Gallery in Tulsa, Oklahoma is his first showing in the area. It consists of about 30 recent works on paper, drawings that combine drawn elements with verbal elements. Thus his works are situated at the borderline between visual and verbal communication. The intellectual background of these works is to be found in philosophical and natural-scientific notions: the world of myth colliding with the world of empirical facts. This "collision" sets free an enormous amount of creative energy for Arno Oehri. Reduced in colours and playing with rather simple forms combined with words like "drifting element" or "Lethe, river of forgetfulness," these works give an insight into the artistic "researches" of this Liechtenstein artist.