

Alchemie der Oberfläche

**Peter Bauhuis, Laurenz Stockner,
Anita Tarnutzer**

Exhibition

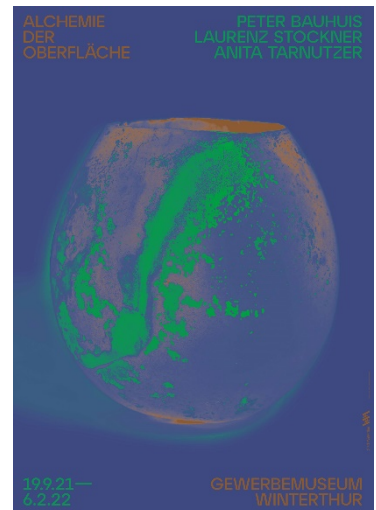
19 September 2021 to 6 February 2022
Gewerbemuseum Winterthur / Switzerland

Media conference with introduction

Friday, 17 September 2021 at 11 a.m.

Exhibition launch

Saturday, 18 September 2021 at 4 p.m.



Exhibition poster; graphic design:
Stillhart Konzept

Bowls, vessels and experiments with metal: “Alchemie der Oberfläche” [“Surface Alchemy”] uses works by the artists Peter Bauhuis, Laurenz Stockner and Anita Tarnutzer to show how experimental curiosity and a creative approach to materials research can enable metal’s physical limits to be tested and its visual appearance transformed in myriad ways. The exhibition at the Gewerbemuseum Winterthur has been expanded to include the special presentation “edel unedel”, which takes a look at the wide variety of craft techniques used for finishing metal surfaces.

The Munich-based goldsmith and artist **Peter Bauhuis (*1965)** presents vessels cast from various metal alloys: his unusual technique results in archaic-looking colours and textures. These works bear witness to a willingness to experiment as well as many years of experience. The simultaneous casting process he employs enables him to influence chance in such a way that the surfaces of what he calls his “Policasts” evince a primeval yet startlingly fantastical and painterly quality, thanks to unexpected casting traces, incrustations, fine cracks and holes.

The South Tyrolean artist and metalsmith **Laurenz Stockner (*1971)** forges bowls from a mixture of “cement copper” (smelted by himself) and iron. He creates the raw material for his vessels using an elaborate process that has been known in his region since antiquity. The production of his own basic material is in his view an essential element of his work, as is his mastery of the smelting process. He constantly pushes the boundaries of his material, with the result that his wafer-thin copper bowls, for example, change shape in even the lightest breath of air.

The Swiss artist and metal caster **Anita Tarnutzer (*1977)** uses vegetable dyes and natural oxidation processes to finish panels made of bronze and brass. In her work “Quintessenzen” [“Quintessences”], plants such as stinging nettles, sorrel and camomile are used in the dyeing process, leaving a distinctive chemical imprint on the surface of the metal. She initiates long-term experimental processes which exploit the capacity of base metals to react to, and be transformed by, the specific action of earth, vegetable substances or even hand perspiration.

Metals – a short introduction

Metals have the capacity to transform themselves in response to environmental influences. Air, water and chemicals cause natural changes in metals, resulting in discolouration, preservation or corrosion. Throughout the ages, diverse cultures have developed a vast array of methods of patinating, refining, colouring and coating metals. Countless techniques are employed to alter and enhance the surface qualities and appearance of these materials.

The permanent MATERIAL ARCHIV exhibition at the Gewerbemuseum Winterthur and the special presentation “edel unedel” provide helpful information about the multiplicity of processes involved.

Special presentation “edel unedel”

Stability and reactivity – both may characterise the appearance of a metallic surface. Stainless steel gains its name from its enduring metallic shine, and the term “noble patina” is given to the malachite green colour that can develop from copper, either naturally or as part of a colouring process. Metals are refined and embellished for a huge variety of reasons in all kinds of cultures.

Our current approach to surfaces is partly influenced by considerations of hygiene and efficiency, but in other eras new developments in metallurgy were often driven by a desire to create forgeries and imitations. One outcome was a profusion of colouring and coating processes that broadened the possible colour spectrum of metals and metallic finishes. The special presentation illustrates a wide selection of these techniques by means of sample panels created at different studios..

The special presentation “edel unedel” is a collaboration with Sitterwerk St. Gallen and Bern University of the Arts.

Other exhibitions at the Gewerbemuseum Winterthur

U-Joints or The Art of Connecting Things, Part III, 7 March 2021 to 9 January 2022

MATERIAL ARCHIV. Interactive laboratory for studying materials, permanent

Gewerbemuseum Winterthur

Kirchplatz 14

CH-8400 Winterthur

Tel. +41 (0)52 267 51 36

gewerbemuseum.medien@win.ch

www.gewerbemuseum.ch

Opening times / Admission prices

Tues to Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. / Thurs 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Closed Mon

Special public holiday opening times: www.gewerbemuseum.ch

Entire museum CHF 12 (concessions CHF 8) MATERIAL ARCHIV CHF 5 (concessions CHF 3)

Children + young people up to the age of 16 + school classes: free admission

Information for media professionals

Media briefing

Friday, 17 September 2021 at 11 a.m.

With an introduction (in German) by Markus Rigert, Co-Director Gewerbemuseum Winterthur, plus a joint tour of the exhibition. Peter Bauhuis, Laurenz Stockner and Anita Tarnutzer will also be present and will be happy to answer questions. Please let Media Relations know if you wish to attend.

Media Relations

Luzia Davi, gewerbemuseum.medien@win.ch, telephone +41 (0)52 267 51 36 (direct line: 68 83)

Press pack

A comprehensive press pack will be distributed at the media briefing and can also be ordered from Media Relations. It will be sent out shortly before the exhibition launch.

Media images

High resolution JPG files may be downloaded at www.gewerbemuseum.ch (→ Information for media professionals). Further media images will be released at the exhibition launch. Please use the media images only in connection with reporting on the “Alchemie der Oberfläche” exhibition at the Gewerbemuseum Winterthur, and only during the exhibition period, citing the copyright information and crediting the photographers. Thank you!



© Peter Bauhuis



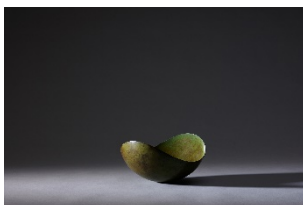
© Peter Bauhuis



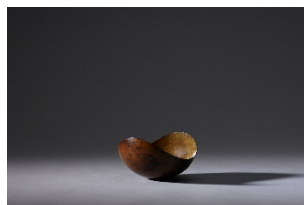
© Peter Bauhuis



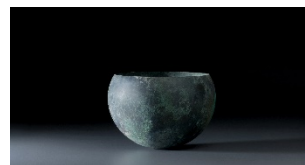
© Peter Bauhuis
Photo: Philipp Mansmann



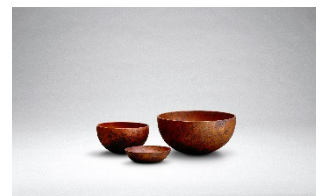
© Laurenz Stockner
Photo: Jürgen Eheim



© Laurenz Stockner
Photo: Jürgen Eheim



© Laurenz Stockner
Photo: Jürgen Eheim



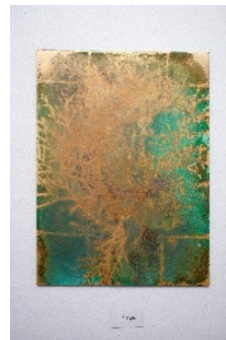
© Laurenz Stockner
Photo: Jürgen Eheim



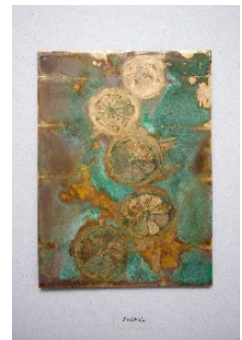
© Anita Tarnutzer: Pilze



© Anita Tarnutzer: Pilze



© Anita Tarnutzer: Thuja



© Anita Tarnutzer: Zitrone