



4 THINK \* MEMORY

**Maria Walcher** \*1984  
Knot | 2017

Here on the floor, surrounded by all the objects that are meant to illustrate a common Tyrolean history, lies this fragile handkerchief with a knot in it. It stands for the different personal memories that we bring with us to the museum. They connect with the narratives presented here. Past and present combine to create a picture, sometimes clear, sometimes blurred.

With Maria Walcher's installations, we become part of her art. There are two other works by the artist outside the museum:

5 The "Jacques" chair with the book "I forgot about" invites us to make a note of something forgotten: a word, a place, an object, a song, a taste, or a feeling that had escaped us and is recalled here.

On our way up to Bergisel, we are confronted with the artist's question, "Was it a dream?". She is referring to Bergisel as a place – a place where past and present merge, especially when yesterday's heroes are brought out for celebration on specific occasions.

## 5 Artworks located in front of the museum:

**Maria Walcher** \*1984  
Jacques | 2022

Installation with lettering "Was it a dream?" on the way up to Bergisel, chair and book in front of the museum

**Esther Strauß** \*1986  
from every window in every house | 2022

Quotation by Avraham Gafni (formerly Erich Weinreb), who, as a Jewish child in Innsbruck, saw all the swastika flags celebrating the "Anschluss" to the German Reich in 1938. Multi-part installation, part 2; metal base



[www.tiroler-landesmuseen.at/wirsammeln](http://www.tiroler-landesmuseen.at/wirsammeln)

## Do you know of any items from the Nazi era in your family or circle of acquaintances?

A letter, a photo, a badge or some other everyday object? Do you think the time has come to pass it on? In her art intervention, Esther Strauß invites all Tyroleans to contribute objects from the period of National Socialism. They can be deposited in the white pedestal in front of the museum and will be added to the Historical Collection of the Tyrolean State Museums. You can hand in the objects with your name or anonymously. If you like, you can also write something about the history of the object. That would be a big advantage for the museum!

Larger items can be left at the museum ticket office. If you would like to hand them in personally, please contact us by calling +43 512 59489 611. We would be delighted to hear from you.

INTERACTIVE  
EXHIBITION



# THINK \* MONUMENTS

with artworks by Petra Gerschner,  
Franz Kapfer, Esther Strauß  
and Maria Walcher



TIROLER-LANDESMUSEEN.AT

13.5.  
– 3.10.22  
**TIROL PANORAMA  
WITH KAISERJÄGERMUSEUM**



# THINK \*MONUMENTS

## INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION

What does Bergisel mean to you? Ski jumping maybe? Or Andreas Hofer? His statue stands in the centre of the park. But he is not the only object of remembrance on Bergisel. There are numerous monuments to other wars and to the military history of the Imperial Rifles as well. Who put these heroes on their pedestals, when and why? And what do we think of them today?

The museum is also a place of remembrance of our common history. Which events are narrated here, which are forgotten? The artists **Petra Gerschner**, **Franz Kapfer**, **Esther Strauß** and **Maria Walcher** have thought about Bergisel, the monuments and the museum. You can add your own ideas at interactive stations outside and inside the museum. They will become part of the exhibition.

**Forthcoming events and educational programme**  
tiroler-landesmuseen.at

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1 THINK \*PROTEST

**Petra Gerschner** \*1960  
fragments of future | 2022

In “fragments of future” we see young demonstrators framed in a collection of political slogans. They are taken from hand-painted signs used as an expression of protest at various demonstrations. Petra Gerschner extracts these messages and combines them in the picture. The work hangs on the outside wall of the circular structure that houses the historic Giant Panoramic Painting. Of the things happening today, which will make history?

Andreas Hofer, who occupies a position at the centre of the room, is still a role model as a rebel for many Tyroleans today. He is remembered and celebrated as a freedom fighter. But this has little to do with our ideas of freedom. Today, for example, we value equality for all and tolerance towards other religions. But Hofer was an opponent of modern ideas and held fast to the old traditions and prerogatives of the farming community.

Which uprisings in history brought social justice?  
Which could bring societal change in the future?  
So why not erect a monument to activists in social movements?



2 THINK \*IDENTITY

**Franz Kapfer** \*1971  
For God, Kaiser und Fatherland | 2009

The installation created by Franz Kapfer is the same size as the inscription on the Andreas Hofer monument in the park. Here in the museum it almost fills the room. The margins are adorned with symbols of war, pride and strength. The artist has drawn them on a simple wooden structure. With the light behind it, this gives the sign the appearance of theatre scenery so that the symbols lose their power.

There are many myths surrounding Andreas Hofer. His monument and the Giant Panoramic Painting were created at a time when the power of the Austro-Hungarian emperor was waning. Andreas Hofer was cast as a fighter who was loyal to the emperor in order to strengthen the bond between the Tyroleans and the imperial house. For centuries he served as a hero for various purposes. Tradition, fortitude, faith and wilfulness are clichés that many still associate with Hofer and the Tyroleans today. Does that also apply to you?

Over the course of time Bergisel has become a kind of “heroes’ mountain” with 20 monuments. Almost all of them have to do with war, glory and a certain image of masculinity. Go and take a look at them.



3 THINK \*SECRET

**Esther Strauß** \*1986  
from every window in every house | 2022

The museum is not only a place for looking back but also one for forward thinking. In her art intervention, Esther Strauß modifies the existing “Schauplatz Tirol” exhibition. She juxtaposes the identity card of the Jewish girl Ilse Brüll, who was murdered by the National Socialists, with a uniform of the Hitler Youth movement. In such organisations, young people were incited to marginalise and persecute Jews and other groups.

A postcard shows that many Tyroleans were enthusiastic spectators at the official parade of the Nazis in Innsbruck, while a film made in 1942 provides evidence of the involvement in National Socialism of the traditional Tyrolean Riflemen's associations. Many families still avoid talk about this period today, though many a souvenir is kept out of sight.

In her work, Esther Strauß addresses National Socialism and the question of how we can cope with the fact that there were many perpetrators among our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.