



Paul Suter - Press Folder

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and by appointment



BIOGRAPHY

- 1926 born in Gränichen (CH)
- 1947-51 studies at the Arts and Crafts School, Basel
- since 1951 establishes his studio in Basel
- 1951-58 works primarily with bronze and stone
- 1958 first iron sculptures
- 1958/62/63 Scholarships
- since 1964 establishes an additional studio in Soubey (CH)
- 1965-73 stays regularly in Paris
- since 1972 creates sculptures of monumental size
- since 1982 creates several series of works on paper; working stays in Umbria (I)
- 1990-95 working stays in Barcelona

Paul Suter lives and works in Basel, Soubey (CH) and Umbria (I).

SOLO-EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2008 "Paul Suter – Sculptures, dessins et gravures", Galerie du Soleil, Saignelégier/Ju (CH)
- 2006 Galerie Mäder and Galerie Carzaniga, Basel
Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 2003 Kunsthalle Wil (CH)
- 2002 "In den Raum schreiben", Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 2001 Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 2000 Edition Franz Mäder Galerie, Basel
- 1997 Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 1996 Edition Franz Mäder Galerie, Basel
- 1995 Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 1994 Galerie Wassermann, München
Galerie Academia, Salzburg
- 1993 Galerie Academia, Salzburg
- 1992 Galerie Pudelko, Bonn
Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich



- 1991 Edition Franz Mäder Galerie, Basel
Zimmermannshaus, Brugg (CH)
Sa Nostra Centro de Cultura, Palma de Mallorca
- 1990 Galerie Wentzel, Cologne
Galerie Barcelona
Sala las Veronicas, Murcia (E)
Edition Franz Mäder Galerie, Basel
- 1989 Städtische Galerie, Regensburg
Galerie Mäder, Basel
- 1988 Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
Galerie Wentzel, Cologne
Galerie Theo, Barcelona
Kunstverein Schwelm, Wuppertal
- 1987 Galerie Mäder, Basel
- 1986 Galerie Wentzel, Cologne
Galerie Brigitte Hilger, Aachen
Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
Galerie Wack, Kaiserslautern
- 1985 Galerie Academia, Salzburg
Galerie Zimmermannshaus, Brugg (CH)
Galerie du Manoir, La Chaux-de-Fonds
- 1984 Galerie Wentzel, Cologne
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 1983 Galerie Academia, Salzburg
Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
- 1982 Galerie Wentzel, Cologne
- 1981 Hilger und Schmeer, Duisburg
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 1980 Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau
- 1979 Kunstverein, Krefeld
Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
- 1977 Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 1976 Galerie du Manoir, La Chaux-de-Fonds
Galerie Regio, Freiburg im Breisgau
- 1975 Ausbildungszentrum Sandoz, Zurich
- 1974 Kunsthalle Basel
- 1972 Galerie Handschin, Basel
- 1961 Galerie Läubli, Zurich

GROUP-EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2008 "Lasciami - 10e Triennale de Sculpture Suisse Contemporaine en pleine air",
Fondation Bex & Arts, Parc de Szilassy, Bex (CH)
- 2006 Scultura Internazionale ad Agliè, Torino
- 2005 "Format klein – Ausdruck gross", Skulpturengalerie Krafft + Partner AG,
Gebenstorf (CH)



- Skulpturenausstellung Reha-Klinik Rheinfelden (CH)
"Various Artists", Galerie Schlégl, Zürich
- 2003 ARCO, Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
SkulpTour Sempachersee, Nottwil-Luzern (CH)
- 2002 ARCO, Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 1999 "Bex + Art", Bex (CH)
Artexpo, Fira d'Art de Barcelona, Galeria Barcelona
- 1998 Artexpo, Fira d'art de Barcelona, Galeria Barcelona
- 1997 "Sammlung Koenig", Zollikon (CH)
Art Cologne, Galeria Barcelona
Artexpo, Fira d'Art de Barcelona, Galeria Barcelona
- 1996 Bex + Art, Bex (CH)
ARCO, Fira Internacional d'Art, Madrid, Galeria Barcelona
Art Cologne, Galeria Barcelona
- 1992 La Sala de Cultura de Santa Coloma, Santa Coloma de Queralt (E)
- 1991 "Schweizer Bildhauer", Fondation Gianadda, Martigny
- 1990 Bex + Art, Bex (CH)
Passagen, Bad Ragaz
- 1989 "Perspektiven Schweizer Eisenplastik", Dietikon, Zurich
- 1988 "6 Bildhauer", Galerie Theo, Barcelona
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
helvet art 1988, St. Gallen
- 1987 Skulpturenausstellung Park Castelen, Augst BL (CH)
Ausstellung Holz und Metall, Bad Krotzingen (D)
"Bildhauerzeichnungen", Galerie Theo, Barcelona
- 1986 "... nur Rost", Skulpturenausstellung Glaskasten, Marl
- 1983-84 "Internationale Kleinplastikausstellung", Padua
Schweizerische Plastikausstellung des Schweizerischen Bankvereins,
Glatt (CH)
Galerie Schlégl, Zurich
- 1983 "Kleinplastikausstellung", Galerie Academia, Salzburg
Galerie S 65, Aalst (B)
- 1981 Schweizer Kulturwoche, Würzburg
- 1980 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien", Biel (CH)
"Skulpturen 1900-1980", Galerie Thomas, München
- 1976 Kloster Paradies Eisen, Handwerk, Kunsthandwerk, Kunst, Schaffhausen
- 1975 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien", Biel (CH)
- 1974 "Kunst seit 1900", Argauer Kunsthaus, Aarau
- 1973 Internationale Plastikausstellung, Keukenhof (NL)
Biennale Middelheim, Antwerp
- 1972 "Stadt und Skulptur", Marl
Kunstverein, Binningen (D)
- 1971-72 Salon de Mai, Paris
- 1971 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien", La Chaux-de-Fonds (CH)
- 1970 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien", Biel (CH)
- 1968-72 Salon de la Jeune Sculptur, Paris
- 1968 "Schweizer Bildhauer", Galerie Beyeler, Basel

- 1966 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung", Biel (CH)
 1965 "Schweizer Künstler", Kunsthaus Aarau
 1962 "Basler Künstler", Kongreßhalle Berlin
 "Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien", Biel (CH)
 1961 "19 Junge Basler Künstler", Kunsthalle Basel
 1958 Schweizerische Plastikausstellung im Freien, Biel (CH)

WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- 1996 steel sculpture, Novartis AG, Basel
 "Novae Artes", steel sculpture, Ciba AG, Basel
 "Sphinx", steel sculpture, Kantonbank, Therwil (CH)
 1994 "Caribu", steelsculpture, Kantonschule Luegete, Zug
 1992 "Olympia", steel sculpture, Parc Europa, Santa Coloma de Gramenent, Barcelona
 1991 "Castor und Pollux", steel relief and sculpture, Promena AG, Pratteln (CH)
 1988-89 steel sculpture, present of the company Spaeter AG and the artist to the town Basel
 1987-88 steel relief, Zimmermannshaus, Brugg (CH)
 1986-87 steel relief, Condair AG, Münchenstein (CH)
 1983-85 steel sculpture for a garden in Zurich
 1983-84 steel sculpture for a garden in Arlesheim (CH)
 1981 steel sculpture in the court of the administrative building of the Westphalian machine property company Unna (produced together with the work members)
 1980-82 design for the freeway connection: Wiesenstraße/Fasanenstraße (steel sculpture), Basel
 1980-81 AC Zentrum (2 steel sculptures), Spiez (CH)
 1979 steel sculpture for the Head Office Campogolongo of the power station Brusio (CH) (produced with the work members)
 steel relief, Schweizerische Kreditanstalt, Bern (CH)
 2 steel sculptures, Schulzentrums Volkhofenweiler, Cologne
 Zähringer Brunnen (Eisen, Stahl), Rheinfeldern (CH)
 1977 steel sculpture for a private house, Basel
 1976-77 steel sculpture, Cologne
 steel sculpture, radio studio, Basel
 1976 steel relief, Max-Plack-Institut, Freiburg i. Br. (D)
 1975-76 fountain (stone and steel), chappel Bubendorf (CH)
 1975 steel sculpture, Aareschulhaus Aarau (CH)
 1974 steel sculpture, Gemeindezentrum Reigoldswil (CH)
 1971-74 3 steel sculptures, Heuwaageviadikt Basel (Stahl)
 1971 concrete relief, Primarschule Höllstein (D)
 1970 concrete relief, Schalterhalle Postgebäude Muttenz (CH)
 1969 concrete relief, Gymnasium Liestal (CH)
 1968 fountain sculpture, Hallwylerschulhaus, Brugg (CH)
 1965 steel sculpture, Brunnmattschulhaus, Reinach (CH)

- 1959 steel sculpture, University hospital (Psychatrie), Basel
fountain (stone, bronze), Reinach (CH)
1954 sculpture, Krebs (bronze), Sissach (CH)

BIBLIOGRAPHY (SELECTION)

- 2003 *Paul Suter, Cire-perdue, Bronzegüsse bis 2002*, Edition Franz Mäder, Basel 2003.
Paul Suter, Cat.: Kunsthalle Wil, Wil 2003.
- 2000 *Paul Suter, Bronzezeit Bronzegüsse 1950-2000*, Edition Franz Mäder, Basel 2000.
Paul Suter, Escultures – La Natura del Ferro, Fundació Caixa de Girona, 2000.
- 1998 *Paul Suter, Eisenskulpturen und Zeichnungen*, Cat.: Baukunst Galerie, Cologne 1998.
- 1992 *Paul Suter*, Edition Franz Mäder, Basel 1992.
Paul Suter – Escultor del Hierro, Can Sisteré, Santa Coloma de Gramanet, 1992.
- 1991 *Paul Suter o la escultura arquitectonica*, SA Nostra, Caixa de Balears, 1991.
- 1990 *Paul Suter, Esculturas, Veronicas*, Région de Murcia, 1990.
Paul Suter, Escultures-Guaches-Dibuixos, Cat.: Galeria Barcelona, 1990.
- 1989 *Zu den Eisenplastiken von Paul Suter*, Cat.: Städtische Galerie Regensburg, 1989.
- 1988 *Paul Suter, Eisenplastiken*, Galerie & Edition Schlégl, Zurich 1988.
Müller, H.-J.: "Die Leichtigkeit der Schwere. Anmerkungen zum Werk des Eisenplastikers Paul Suter", in: *Kunst & Antiquitäten*, 4/1988, p. 98-104.
- 1987 *Paul Suters Schaffen*, Edition Franz Mäder Galerie, Basel 1987.
- 1980 *Der Eisenplastiker Paul Suter*, Cat.: Aargauer Kunsthaus, 1980.
Paul Suter, Kronos, Kraftwerke Brusio AG, Poschiavo, 1980.
- 1978 *Der Eisenplastiker Paul Suter*, Galerie & Edition Schlégl, Zurich 1978.



PRESS RELEASE: Paul Suter – Retrospective

22 June – 24 August 2006

On the occasion of the 80th birthday of the Swiss sculptor Paul Suter the Baukunst Galerie opens on Wednesday, the 21st of June 2006, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. a large retrospective. At the opening Dr. Gerhard Kolberg, curator at the Museum Ludwig in Cologne, will give an introduction in Suter's artistic oeuvre, exhibited at the Baukunst Galerie for the first time in 1998 and at last in 2001. As a consequent progression of the former exhibition beside large-sized iron sculptures a distinct selection of bronzes from different decades will be presented. Here early small-sized bronzes will be juxtaposed to the comparative large-sized bronzes of the last years. Furthermore monumental outdoor-sculptures and current works on paper will be shown. Parallel to the exhibition at the Baukunst Galerie at the 22nd of June 2006 the Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten in Marl will present a monumental outdoor-sculpture, which they recently received as a permanent loan of the artist.

Paul Suter, born in 1926 at Gränichen in Aargau, works as a free artist in Basel and Soubay in Jura since 1951. After his artistic education at the arts-and-crafts school in Basel from 1947 to 1951, Suter started to work with stone and bronze. At the beginning of the 60s he takes up to work out his cubistic-constructivistic sculptures in raw iron, which constantly changes its shape and colour depending on the different atmospheric conditions.

Suter's iron sculptures are realized in his studios in Basel and Soubey according to small, fragile models of thin sheet plates. In an intuitive, spontaneous working process he forms, cuts and solders the individual components with tools to a complex composition. According to these archetypes depending on the planned size the geometrical shapes are cut out of brand-new iron plates, which are curved, welded and screwed together.

The work with iron is characterized by the fact, that the result of every individual production step is visible at once, so that the artist is able to review it and proceed with his working process. Besides that the technique of welding allows a very free combination of different, sculptural shapes. This way flat, slight and broad, straight and curved iron modules are combined to constructions, which spirally develop into space. By their transparence they always include the space into their sculptural composition and apparently transform the heavy material in something light, almost agravic.

In contrast to the iron sculptures Suter's bronzes, which he makes per the Cire-perdue-technique, are more central and compact. They seem to remain in an earlier stadium of developing into the space. The energy of extension is more concentrated – it seems to be fixed in the moment of explosion or break out. The artist moulds with his hands curved surfaces and bands out of self-casted wax-plates and conjoins them to wax models. These are covered with a compound of brick flour, gipsum and water and subsequently burned. This way a negativ shape comes into existence from which the cast-bronze is arisen. In opposite to the iron sculptures Suter's mental concepts do not immediately assume a definite form – not until the end of the working process. A further difference is that the handcraft is a constitutive element: in the bronzes the handwriting of the artist is contained in the final product.

This connects the bronzes with Suter's drawings and watercolours, which he creates physically and impulsively, rid of the requirements of statics. Parallel to the sculptural problem of a work which is developed in a three-dimensional space, Suter concentrates in his drawings on the creative possibilities of the two-dimensional area. As an antipole to the clear construction of his iron sculptures with their spacial definite coordinations, the forming of his drawings is pictorial, free and fluent.

Thus Suter combines in his bronzes central characteristics of his iron sculptures and his drawings. The common element of all of them is the graphic character of his opus. Paul Suters works are origin creations, not abstractions, and in this sense "concrete". It is the energentic dynamic of his forming, which evokates in spite of the stilistic reduction associations with the organic world.