

The Changing Shadow Storage (2007)

A text by Walter Seidl

Nikolaus Gansterer's artistic approach grapples with the language of drawing and its translatability into spatial relations. Basic graphic structures are examined in their interactions with the surroundings in order to pry open the two-dimensional forms in three-dimensional dimensions. In his installation *Changing Shadow Storage* at the NÖ Forum, Gansterer works with the ephemeral qualities of the medium of drawing, which in its mainly non-color or eye-catching form, usually has to be observed up-close in order to enable precise interpretation. The installation condenses around this phenomenon: it consists of a drawing milled on the NÖ Forum's inner façade and depending on the incidence of light and shade, allows beholders a holistic perception only by taking several positions, one after the other, gradually moving sideward. These differences in light and standing position lead to finely differentiated interpretations of the drawing, which mutates to a living matrix of fluctuating moments of reality.

What is essential for Gansterer's approach is that construction of a network of information that is echoed in the elements assembled in the grid within the drawing. The linguistic and conceptual connection to a changer turntable ultimately makes it possible with Gansterer's *Changing Shadow Storage* to perceive different spheres of space and time consecutively and test out the possibilities of perception, bit by bit, similar to listening to a number of different records. Thus arises the connection to music, essential for Gansterer, which plays an equally important role in the artist's work, promoting a multi-sensory, that is, visual and auditory artistic awareness. Thus, in the temporal relativity required for its experience, the shadow-light space becomes a sound-filled resonant space, which makes it necessary to store memory, and transfer it to a personal legibility.

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