



Katrin Rüb

Jena artist Katrin Rüb and her colleagues Thea Grün, Petra Meyer and Martina Schmidt create art in their joint artists' workshop. The workshop members couldn't be more diverse. This is exactly the reason why they inspire each other through their varied approaches to the central question "What is art?" Addressing this question in different ways is a continuous challenge, however, it also a reassurance.

Katrin Rüb's artistic role models are Emil Nolde and Georg Thumbach, to whom she owes the confidence in the fact that charcoal on its own can create "real" pictures. She is interested in depicting scenes and situations of everyday life on the streets. Her works are snapshots with charcoal and reed pen: people waiting at a bus stop, people pausing in the hustle and bustle of the cities, people absorbed in thought or interacting with others. By using such spontaneous techniques which enable her to draw quickly on the spot, Katrin Rüb develops her own handwriting in genre painting. Depicting aspects of everyday life has been almost forgotten in modern art, although such scenes can represent the whole world. Katrin Rüb wants to depict a feeling or an expression by reducing details and using a color or a brushstroke instead. Such an expression or such a feeling may have inspired her in the first place, or they are spontaneously released during the creative process. In her work, she is also preoccupied with profound questions, such as: How do we live? How do we spend our time? How do we shape our environment?

Her children feel rather uncomfortable when their mother sketches other people at a tram stop. They have told her explicitly: "Never make drawings at our school!"

Katrin Rüb's unmistakable affection for the views of the world is also reflected by her delicate and almost ethereal landscapes which express her strong emotional attachment to nature. Again, she deliberately reduces details in favor of a deeply emotional impression. The carefully coordinated colorings of her watercolors as well as the graphical black-and-white of her charcoal drawings sometimes recall paintings of the Far East.