

## Without Time and Space

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### **Abstract**

*Cosmos*, my series of collages which I started in 2005, is a work-in-progress. Inspired by the publications that accompanied the Einstein Year, the latest theories of quantum physics and the speculations about parallel universes, I began to create my own universe in the drawer. My working process could be compared to the Boulle inlay technique which simulates infinity in a manageable way: each cut out 'planet' has resulted in providing me with the material for the next collage. The titles of the unfinished series include: *Remote Worlds*, *Alien Planets*, *Dying Stars*, *Supernovae*, *Milky Way* and *Worlds behind Worlds*.

### **Extract from my diary, Berlin, 31 10. 2010**

... while i was away, far away with no memory, it has become autumn in the garden behind the kitchen window with a gift of golden leaves, that have soaked themselves with sunlight for the last time - cycle and infinity, familiar return and undiscovered alien beauty that obey their own laws - i try to replace myself in the narrow orbit of my life where i am usually moving between fixed coordinates and practiced actions without thinking - the seventh cosmology congress in bath has hurled me out of my orbit into distant galaxies, and i stagger between diffuse, archaic knowledge and searching logic from star to star - mathematical formulas cannot explain infinity to me and god holds the door to the paradise of knowledge tightly closed in front of me – might i find out one day, when beginning and end coincide, that i did not perceive that the door of knowledge in front of which i waited had been open for me the whole time? ‘.– like in Kafka's narrative ‘the gatekeeper’...



**Figure 1.** *Winter Night in Schiller Park*, Berlin 2010. digital photograph

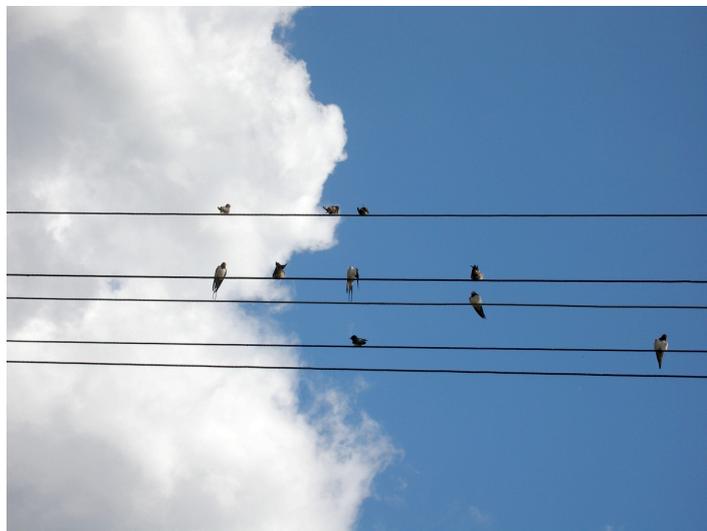
Nothing has captured and inspired the imagination of people of all ages and all cultures as much as the unimaginable, endless heavens and the mysterious 'Other' who is suspected by all religions to be there. He resides omnipotent or as part of a numerously populated parallel world, knowing and steering everything, sometimes in an angry mood, sometimes benevolent and forgiving, and from time to time he even assumes human shape and features – but always he remains almighty and may send us down here either to hell or get us up to heaven. To heaven all want to go, where the paradise is said to be, from which we were unfortunately expelled, because the curious Eva ate the famous apple from the forbidden tree of knowledge. She wanted to understand the Christian story of creation and how everything is connected in order to find out all about the tricks of the Almighty. Knowing that she did wrong she let Adam get a taste of it to share the expected punishment.



**Figure 2.** *But Eva!*, digital photograph, 2010

**From angels via airplanes to spaceships**

Because it is such a long way up there the Creator God has engaged angels as connection support, who can also intervene as guardian angels in events on Earth, but mainly carry up the dead souls of godly people.

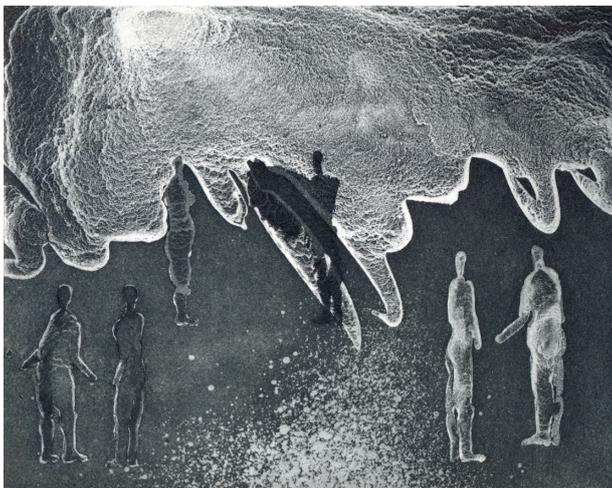


**Figure 3.** *The song of the sky*, digital photograph, 2008



**Figure 4.** *The angels demand more influence*, photo and collage, 1985

Again and again, other curious people wanted to get there while they were still alive. They closely watched the angels and the birds. The genial Daedalus was the first to build feathered wings for his son Icarus and himself that were partly held together with wax (!) (the whole tragic story and its connection to the Apollo mission can be read on the Internet). Icarus made it almost to the sun, Otto Lilienthal and Percy Pilcher only about 15 metres high before they crashed. But they were among the many pioneers who initiated the rapid development from angels via airplanes to spaceships.



**Figure 5.** *Icarus transforms himself into a cloud in front of witnesses*, aquatint etching, 1977



**Figure 6.** *Above the Clouds*, digital photograph, 2006

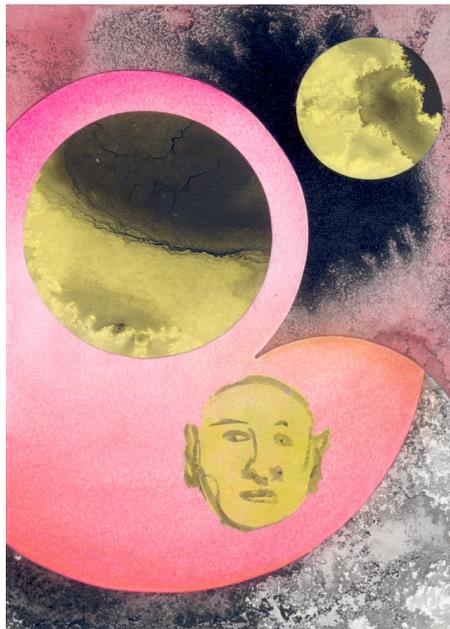
### **The discovery of the world**

Just 500 years ago the Christian Europeans discovered foreign continents and declared the members of the local cultures living there to be savages without rights. The barbaric and inhumane conditions in which the seizure, colonization and exploitation occurred are known. The long boat trips to get there were difficult; today one travels quickly and conveniently – and soon we go further away to other planets.

### **Extract from my diary, 30 March 2010**

...the physicists at CERN in Geneva are on the track of the origin of the world. With the Large Hadron Collider they succeeded in the first high-speed collision of two proton beams that has released an energy that comes quite close to the conditions of the Big Bang, the hypothetical beginning of the universe. From the collisions physicists expect answers to fundamental questions of nature and have therefore given the LHC the name of 'world machine'. It is also hoped that the extreme particle collisions will conjure up the Higgs boson to

make it visible and measurable as the missing link in the chain of evidence of particle physicists – the mysterious Higgs was baptized ‘God’s Particle’. ‘World Machine’ and ‘God’s Particle’: the names make us pensive; hopefully, not everything will turn out differently again and Eve will not be blamed for it in the end.



**Figure 7.** *Man in the Moon*, watercolor, pastel and collage, 2008

Planets, also, are born and die in the course of billions of years. The technical intelligence of man, coupled with his selfish and aggressive instincts, has created, in the opinion of many scientists, a good basis for an accelerated death of the earth.

#### **Above All the Stars**

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with the material for the next collage. Since then, mathematical measurements discover galaxies and planets at ever-greater distances and the secrets of the cosmos grow with its expansion.

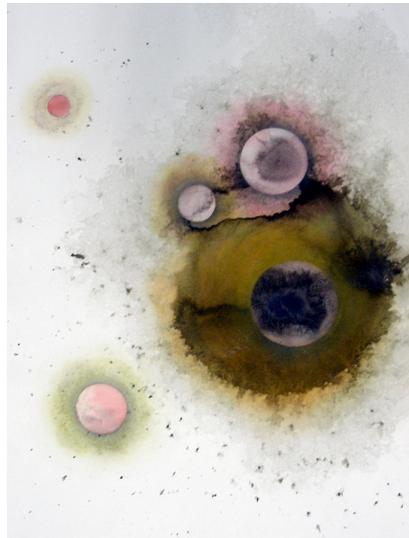
**Extract from my diary. Berlin, 29 January 2011**

... the myth of time has dissolved in infinite space, that i try to delimit in my imagination until it fits into my 'cosmos in the drawer' - i can let planets explode with liquid paint and magically make new ones from the fragmented splashes and move them back and forth within a comprehensible area on purely aesthetic laws ...



**Figure 8.** *Dying Stars II*, watercolor, pastel and collage, 2005

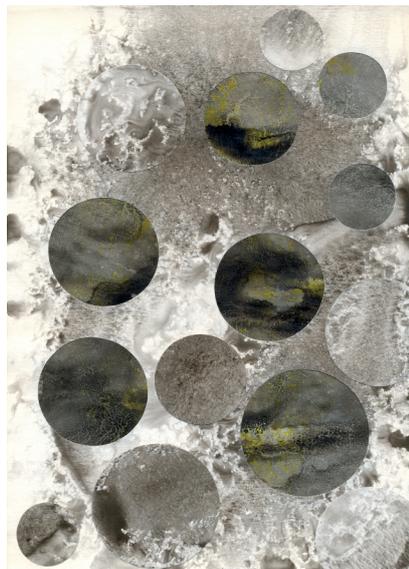
Furthermore, scientists see the only chance of survival of the human race in the colonization of space. On that they are working with full speed and in the conviction that, in another 500 years since the discovery of our world, travel from planet to planet and a comfortable life on at least the moon and Mars should be possible.



**Figure 9.** *Super Nova VI*, watercolor, pastel and collage, 2005



**Figure 10.** *Foreign Planets I*, watercolor and collage, 2005



**Figure 11.** *Distant Worlds I*, watercolor and collage, 2005.



**Figure 12.** *Worlds behind Worlds V*, watercolor, pastel and multi-layered collage, 2010



**Figure 13.** *Worlds behind Worlds III*, watercolor, pastel and multi-layered collage, 2010

Recently, a potential ‘second Earth’ was discovered with suspected similar properties, at a distance of only 20.5 light years. It can only be hoped that there is no one living there already.



**Figure 14.** *Intergalactic journey*, manipulated digital photograph, 2011