

That color in itself has no meaning should be a well accepted idea. Yet many people attach a meaning to a certain color because they have strong associations to it. Certainly Angelika Sieger is a color painter. Her color is strong and in contrast to the dull world, jumps out at the viewer. Sometimes these colors in her paintings have associations. They come, however, from combinations of colors. So it is her grouping of colors in individual paintings that determine this associative thinking, not the single colors that are visible.

If she allows landscape images to inspire her painting, then the resulting painted image will have this associative reference even if details are not evident. What this means for the viewer, is that not only is there the painted image to be seen and understood, but also the suggested image. By painted image I mean the accumulation of color on the canvas without interpretation when there is no clear external subject matter depicted in the painting. When we see color forms we want to know what it is that we are looking at. When we find no referential imagery present, we search our experience from looking at other painting to find a compatible order that would give reason to the color forms. But the color combinations are more difficult to categorize. There are categories, but there are many more nuances, depending on the experience of the viewer.

These are the kind of thoughts that come mind when I look at the paintings from Angelika. When I see a reference to nature, it sometimes disappoints me because it takes attention away from the beauty of the color forms and the spacial experience it creates. The danger for me is that the image is very near to reducing the emotion to the experience of the landscape. When the painting is free from suggested references, I can bathe in the sensuousness of the color. But of course this tension between abstract color and referential color can be stimulating for many viewers.

The way the color is placed on the canvas varies between linear paint strokes and more flat areas of color placement. These differences come from searching for the image. Always the question for the painter is, what shall I paint. There are of course many answers to this question. But with Angelika it is always the color that leads the way. And the color is filled with emotion. What to paint is a problem for all painters. It is not necessary to decide all at once.

Her paintings are sensual, pictorial, emotive, and a pleasure to look at. They belong to a tradition that continues to evolve but somehow remains the same. With her new studio in the ‚vorAlpen‘, the changeable mountain light will begin to have it's effect on the pictures that come from the color order. It takes time.

Prof. Jerry Zeniuk