

Anna Stangl / on my work

The central focus of my work is the human body. This is my main interest. For me it is a medium, a language, by means of which I can express something else. Because it enables me to approach something which is difficult to grasp by itself more easily by using something which I know very well and which I feel and can follow.

For example, when I represent various states of the body such as running, dancing, or lying, I try to express something lying behind the clear, unequivocal image: that is, moods, ideas, abstract concepts, such as fear, relaxedness, calmness, sometimes tenderness and love, but also loneliness.

The fact that the bodies are naked is therefore not always to be regarded as something sexual or erotic (although, of course, eroticism is a topic of some works). But I believe that a body with clothes is much less neutral and evokes many more meanings by itself.

On the basis of very subjective experiences, I try to find a form which is accessible and might also be useful and meaningful for other people. In the beginning there is always a very vague feeling, like an elusive dream. I then try to reach a point, to focus on the point where the core of this feeling is situated, for example, in the expression of one figure's face.

Anna Stangl, Vienna, 1995