

Roland Hagenberg Biography

Roland Hagenberg is a writer, photographer and filmmaker who grew up in Vienna, Austria. After his training as a psychiatric nurse, he started to write and take photographs for German publications like STERN and Berliner Kunstblatt. In the 1970s he founded the literary magazine "Die Klinge" ("The Blade"). Contributors were renowned Austrian poets and novelists such as Friederike Mayröcker, Ernst Jandl and Robert Menasse. At that time Elfriede Jelinek – who later became a Nobel Prize recipient, was part of this Austrian literary circle.

Roland left Vienna in 1979 and moved to Berlin where he stayed for four years. The city was still divided and surrounded by "The Wall" – a surreal setting that attracted artists from all over the world. With many of them Roland got acquainted - described in his book "Maler in Berlin" (Painters in Berlin). Already at that time his preferred medium was not only photography: poetry and short literary essays complimented his work, which led to his explorations of New York in the 1980s – where his photo-series on Jean-Michel Basquiat originated.

During the 1980s Roland documented the art world in New York and collaborated on book projects with now legendary artists such as Karel Appel, Martin Kippenberger and Keith Haring. It is Japan, however, where his interest in contemporary architecture originated and where he has been living now for twenty years.

As director of numerous video documentaries Roland has captured the world of Japanese architects in particular – also in books, published in English, Chinese and Japanese. His passion is traveling – which resulted in a series of videos for BMW. Roland's stories and photographs are also featured in international magazines such as Vogue, Architectural Digest and Wallpaper.

Since 2010 Roland has been collaborating with Japanese architects to create experimental micro-houses in Raiding, the birthplace of composer Franz Liszt in Austria. For his "Storkhouse" (designed by Terunobu Fujimori) he was awarded the Austrian Tourism Innovation Prize in 2014. The constant switch between words and visuals, print- and film media, lies at the heart of his work, which was presented on several occasions at Sin Sin Fine Art – e.g. at the exhibition "Jean-Michel Basquiat and friends" in 2014,

Roland's theater play "Jetlag" – a drama about dealing with Alzheimer at old age (for which he also wrote the music) premiered at Rationaltheater in Munich 2018. (A new staging is prepared for Basel, Switzerland in 2022). His permanent 4-meter-high outdoor sculpture (in collaboration with Makoto Azuma) was installed at the STOA169 museum near Munich in 2020. Roland's books "Crosby Street" (about his time living in New York in the 1980s) and

"Bedtime Poems" are published by Art in Flow, Berlin and shoshi maimai, Tokyo, in 2022. Roland's photo portraits were on view at the Barbican in London, the Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt and the Mori Museum Roppongi Arts Center in Tokyo. He currently divides his time between Kyoto and Tokyo.

hagenworld@gmail.com

www.hagenberg.com

facebook.com/rolandhagenberg

instagram.com/rolandhagenberg