

Bruno Jakob

Location: Hotel Terrace, 3rd floor, room 327 and 329

It has been more than 30 years since Paul Virilio coined the term “racing standstill.” The French philosopher, who died in 2018, used it to describe the increasing acceleration of our lives and the consequences that follow. If we look around us today, Virilio's observations seem almost prophetic. Are we still able to take our time? The fact that mindfulness trainers are now becoming more and more popular shows that the deficits are gradually dawning on us.

Artist Bruno Jakob seems to have created a work precisely for this purpose—namely to slow things down. Since the 1970s, he has been exploring the invisible, the hidden and the intangible. When he draws with water on paper or canvas, it leaves a trace. We can recognize it, but are we ready to say: “This is exactly what the work of art is”? Or is that not enough for us because we want to recognize more, want to experience more of what we often demand from art—the wow? Bruno Jakob's works offer us an excellent mental space to take our time. We can practice seeing and letting our imagination run free. Jakob is interested in the essence of the artistic act, which for him is a connection between time, space and consciousness. The works exhibited in Engelberg are from his series of *Invisible Drawings*. They are usually created while Bruno Jakob is inspired by the piano improvisations of the musician Hans Witschi, because for him sounds and tones are also space. (*ds*)

Bruno Jakob, who was born in Jegenstorf, Switzerland, in 1954 and lives in New York, USA, has been showing his works worldwide since the 1980s; they have been exhibited at the Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich, Switzerland (2011), and at MoMA New York (2010), for example. In 2011, Jakob took part in the *54th Biennale di Venezia*, Italy. Prize of the Ricola Collection, Laufen 2014. His works can be found in the collection of the Aargauer Kunsthaus, the art collection of the Swiss Confederation and the collection of the Kunsthaus Liechtenstein, among others.