

## **Heinz Aeschlimann**

Location: Kurpark Engelberg

Our western world is a world of stone. From the sublime mountain massif to the banal lime powder, which is first used to make cement and then mixed with sand and water to make concrete: without stone, our modern life would be inconceivable; it is its ancient foundation.

Heinz Aeschlimann knows this better than almost anyone else, because he cultivates two passions that at first glance seem to have little in common: road construction and art. As an entrepreneur and engineer, he developed the concrete and asphalt pavement for the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge, one of the largest structures in the world. As an artist, he works primarily in metal and, more recently, with a poured asphalt mixture he created himself, which also allows him to cast geometric volumes. He sinks metal molds upside down into the floor of his studio courtyard and then fills them layer by layer with asphalt heated to 220 degrees, interspersed with pebble splinters or glass. An impressive example of this is the slender, over-man-high pyramid that Aeschlimann displays in the Engelberg Kurpark. The giant, which weighs several tons, rests quietly and darkly in the green area, conveying an intense sense of groundedness and a celestial pull at the same time, reinforced by the rich blue-black of the asphalt and the star-like sparkle of the glass splinters that cover the matt ground in swathes. *(roe)*

Heinz Aeschlimann, born in Hergiswil, Switzerland in 1947, lives and works as an artist, engineer and entrepreneur in Zofingen, St. Urban, Stansstad and Monte Ceneri, Switzerland. Aeschlimann runs a road construction and asphalt company and has been active as an artist since 1970. He is known for his striking steel sculptures, which are in numerous collections and have been exhibited in the USA, Asia and Europe.

Further information: [heinzaeschlimann.artroom.ch](http://heinzaeschlimann.artroom.ch)