

Nives Widauer

Location: Tal Museum, first floor, new part

Sometimes you have this vague feeling that you're not living up to your potential. But somehow you have no real idea what the possibilities might be. Over the course of her career, Nives Widauer has developed an unerring sense of how people and objects could still be seen. If the work of the Vienna-based artist had to be classified—in the sense of the Austrian writer Robert Musil—between a sense of reality and a sense of possibility, it would probably be somewhere between the two poles.

Possibilities is the name of a group of Widauer's works on paper.

Physically real here are doll clothes such as short pleated skirts or pink tops, plaits of red wool or a small scrap of fabric with a special pattern.

As if Widauer knew the possibilities of these little things, she paints ballerina legs on a green skirt, the red wool hairpiece is studded with horns, four legs wrestle with each other from a pastel jacket. These are sometimes cheerful, sometimes grotesque dream images that began in flea market finds. Nives Widauer, who creates videos, photographs, drawings and objects, but also performs and has designed video settings for the theater stage, is a collector. The works created from these objects or reproductions are not actually collages. It is more as if actors have found their real role here. (*ah*)

Nives Widauer was born in 1965 in Basel, Switzerland and lives and works in Vienna, Austria. Her work has been shown at the Kunstmuseum Basel (2022) and the Kunsthaus Zürich, Switzerland (2022), the Austrian Cultural Forum, Washington, USA (2020), the Lincoln Center New York, USA (2020), the Jewish Museum, Vienna (2019), and the Centre culturel suisse, Paris, France (2019), among others.

Further information: widauer.net