



Die 12 Themen der vierjährigen Ausbildung

1. Human Form - Poetry of Colour - 4 Elements
2. Birth of Colour - Human Space - Tier Klang
3. Gesture of Colour - Nature of the Invisible - Plants
4. Mineral World - Grundfarben - Mensch und Kosmos

Further information, school fees and registration:

Visual Art School Basel

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Beppe Assenza (1905-1985) and his method

As a young man, Beppe Assenza was a successful Sicilian portrait painter. During the second World War, he was looking for new forms of expressions and became acquainted with the expressionist movement. Inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner on the nature of colour, the exploration of colours became a central theme in his painting. He came to Basel, Switzerland, and founded the Assenza painting school in Dornach, in 1968. Assenza's sketchbooks are an important part of his work. They contain his methodical research of colours as well as a large number of painting and composition exercises. Further, he researched the individual quality of the colours, the various levels of their formal potential, through to their gestural and linear forms of expression.

Mission Statement

The school structure should help bring together various aspects of the artistic path: individual experimentation, research and exercising, implementation and development of artistic processes in the student's own projects, history of art in theory and practice, an anthroposophical view of the human being, Goethe's and Steiner's Theory of Colour, the artistic research of Beppe Assenza, perception of the requirements of our times and dynamic group work.

The Visual Art School Basel (VASB)

Free-lance artists Charles Blockey and Fredy Buchwalder founded the art school in September 2011. Having previously taught at the Assenza painting school, both artists are now the main teachers at the VASB. Guest lecturers complement the school's program with specialised subjects such as biology, geometry, geology, the study of colours, music, video, photography and performance. Our art school is situated in the large, renovated rooms of the Walzwerk factory area in Münchenstein, 5 km from Basel city centre. Known as one of the world's art capitals and situated close to the Goetheanum in Dornach, Basel is an exciting place to study.

Part-time studies

Weekend Workshops

Professionals and working people can follow the four year program by taking part in 10 weekend workshops and a summer workshop each year. These courses form the foundation of the part-time study program, and can lead to a diploma with the completion of an individual project after four years.

Guest students may take part in single weekend courses or follow a thematic unit. (if space is available),

YEAR'S THEME:

Art and Freedom

Human Space

24. / 25. / 26. Sept 2021
22. / 23. / 24. Oct
12. / 13. / 14. Nov
10. / 11. / 12. Dec

Birth of Colour

21. / 22. / 23. Jan 2022
18. / 19. / 20. Feb
25. / 26. / 27. March

Animal Tonality

29. / 30. / 01. Apr/May
20. / 21. / 22. May
17. / 18. / 19. Juni

Summer workshop in Northern Italy

August 2022

Weekend plan

Friday 18.00 - 21.00
Saturday 9.00 - 12.00
14.00 - 17.00
Sunday 9.00 - 12.00

VISUAL ART SCHOOL BASEL



Program of the Visual Art School Basel
Full-time and part-time studies
2021-2022



FULL-TIME STUDIES

The full-time program with diploma is 4 years. In the the course of one year three themes are focussed. During 3 Input weeks, students and teachers intensively explore the trimester theme. Subsequently students develop their own projects with the help of a mentor and tutorials during the project weeks. Projects are presented each term. Each year there is a new theme (Year's Theme) connecting all three terms.

The aim is for the students to discover and formulate their own questions. The artist himself engages in a process of self-transformation. He trains his own sensory perceptions, develops his creative abilities, and learns to create something new from the deep connection with himself and the world surrounding him.

The craft of painting and drawing constitutes the foundation of the study program at the Visual Art School Basel (VASB). Individual experimentation and exploration as well as exercises inspired by the Assenza Method (see reverse) help the students become aware of process and enable them to shape their individual artistic capacities.

Minor subjects

In addition to the main subjects of painting and drawing, the study program also includes the following minors: art history, aesthetics, anthroposophy, graphics and printing, performance, sculpture, installation, photography and video. VASB is equipped with a printing studio and photo lab.

Material

Students are encouraged to experiment and work with a wide variety of materials and techniques on different grounds. Materials include acrylics, pigments, mineral pigments, oil, watercolours, ink, and plant colours on grounds including paper, canvas, wood, synthetic and mineral.

A one-year study program is possible

Visiting students can attend the input weeks (if place is available)

Part-time study program (see reverse for program)

Evening and summer courses (visit www.visualartschool.ch)



1. Human Space

18th October – 17th December 2021

Input Weeks 18th October – 5th November 2021
Project Work 8th November – 17th December 2021

Current questions regarding our responsibility towards the earth and its future inspire scientists and artists to search for new points of orientation. Central to this is the idea that the individual human being constantly brings forth reality and thus participates in evolution in a creative way.

The studies on «Human Space» are addressed in the following themes:

- Art developments on the themes of «Human and Environment» and «Cityscapes».
- History of architecture from antiquity to modern times and its relationship to painting
- Study of spatial perspectives
- Figure and space, nude drawing
- Art in public spaces, past and present
- Performance, printing, photography
- Artistic research on visions for a humane and sustainable culture and their possible realisation in time and space

2. Birth of Colour

17th January – 1st April 2022

Input Weeks 17th January – 4th Februar 2022
Project Work 7th Februar – 1st April 2022
(Basel Carnival 7th – 11th March)

The question of the coming about of colour is very much influenced by our general worldview. As colour is a symbol of reality, the question arises: am I part in the formation of reality or is it predetermined as a mechanistic, measurable fact?

How do colours come into being in nature? What makes the sky blue, the sun on the horizon red? How do the forces of light and matter play with and against each other? New pictorial forces can emerge from these questions.

The following themes will emerge:

- Research and exercises on the birth of colour
- Goethe's theory of colour and Newton's light spectrum
- Fluid, transparent materials contrasting with heavy, impasto materials
- The coming about of individual colours and their dynamic in colour composition
- Art-historical developments from Turner to the modern - «Light and darkness».

3. Animal Tontology

25th April – 1st July 2022

Input Weeks 25th April – 13th May 2022
Project Work 16th May – 1st July 2022

It seems more urgent than ever that humans realise that their lives on earth are inconceivable without animals. This is not only for the reason that they can eat them, but much more because animals are their brothers and sisters and through their acts of sacrifice made the human form of existence possible altogether. (See «Karl König Brother Animal»). Humankind has depicted animals since the prehistoric art of cave painting. From this connection between humans and animals, the most diverse currents of art emerge up to the modern and embody images that feed our imagination and creation.

We delve into the following themes:

- Drawing/painting and studies of the nature of the animal; eagle, lion, cow and bee
- Exploration of the networks of relationships between humans and animals
- Painterly realisation of specific animals in colour tonality and formal language
- The roles of the animal and their mythological representation in art history – from the Stone Age till the present day
Field research: zoo, farm

Weekly program

Monday – Thursday 9.00-17.00

Friday Free studio
Once a week: aesthetics, history of art / interpretation of art.

In agreement with the school direction, it is possible to work in the studio in the evenings or on the weekends.

