Der schwierige Raum

Curated by Gilbert Bretterbauer

German, 32 pages, 18.4 × 21.5 cm, numerous illustrations in color (16 ill.), 2 folded brochures without binding in a folded cover

With a text by Gilbert Bretterbauer

Participating artists: Ernst Caramelle, Georgia Creimer, Siggi Hofer, Michael Kienzer, Isa Melsheimer, Olaf Nicolai, Christiane Reiter, Heimo Zobernig

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The publication provides an insight into Gilbert Bretterbauer's curatorial work as part of the group exhibition *Der schwierige Raum*. Eight artists reworked and reinterpreted the strictly geometric Buchebner-Hall at Kunsthaus Muerz, which for Gilbert Bretterbauer was an “unplayable space” and precisely for this reason so appealing. Bretterbauer's intention was to present this space with the artistic positions and not the other way around, unlike is usually the case with group exhibitions. The accompanying text deals with the curator's fears and hopes in view of the sometimes delicate works of art and the visitors' understanding of art, the collaboration with the artists and the self-doubt about the curatorial work.

if the difficult space is not an exhibition in the conventional sense, what is it? the visualization of eight positions on the architecture provided by kunsthaus muerz for exhibitions with the help of the artistic practice shown in each case? ... everyone is waiting for the curator to give the project a sense of meaning and, in keeping with his intention, this arises as if by itself from the fact that works of art establish relationships with their surroundings and with each other, and that questions that were not even asked are miraculously answered.
gilbert bretterbauer: from his text *this is permanence*

Published on the occasion of the exhibition “Der schwierige Raum” at Kunsthaus Muerz, November 20, 2015 - January 31, 2016