

OPEN

OPEN is an ongoing project held with and for people who were forced to leave Ukraine. Since April 2022, the art educator Lyudmila Harvey is leading workshops for kids, teenagers and adults at the Kunsthhaus Zug. The participants experience the exhibitions through collective reflection and discussion of the artworks. A very important aspect of the project is the creation of a safe space for the participants during their stay at the Kunsthhaus Zug. They are encouraged to share their thoughts and emotions on the artworks and are accompanied by Lyudmila Harvey throughout the process.

Project Lead:

Lyudmila Harvey, *Art Mediator*

Friederike Balke, *Art Education Kunsthhaus Zug*

Chantal Küng, *Head of Art Education Kunsthhaus Zug*

Matthias Haldemann, *Director Kunsthhaus Zug*



Lyudmila Harvey together with participants discussing the exhibition „Richard Gerstl - Inspiration Vermächtnis“ at Kunsthhaus Zug, 2022

After the collective discussion of the exhibitions, the participants are invited to create their own works in the art education atelier of Kunsthaus Zug. Throughout the month of August up to December 2022, paintings and collages were made that were shown on the occasion of a project presentation on the 10th of December 2022 at Kunsthaus Zug.

A flyer was printed and the participants invited their friends, family and community to the project presentation - also, the Kunsthaus Zug invited their members via a newsletter. The flyer was shared on social media and the homepage of Kunsthaus Zug.



Participants discuss the colour variation in Gerstls paintings at Kunsthaus Zug, 2022



Kids and teenagers working in the workshop at Kunsthaus Zug, 2022

The kids and teenagers involved in the workshops collectively developed a curatorial and art educational concept for their exhibition. They participated in the hanging and arranging of the works and were proud to show them to the public. The art educational interventions consisted of questions directed towards the visitors that ment to fuel the discussion of the works. The questions asked were, for example:

Which emotions does this work bring out in you?

What strikes you the most in this piece?

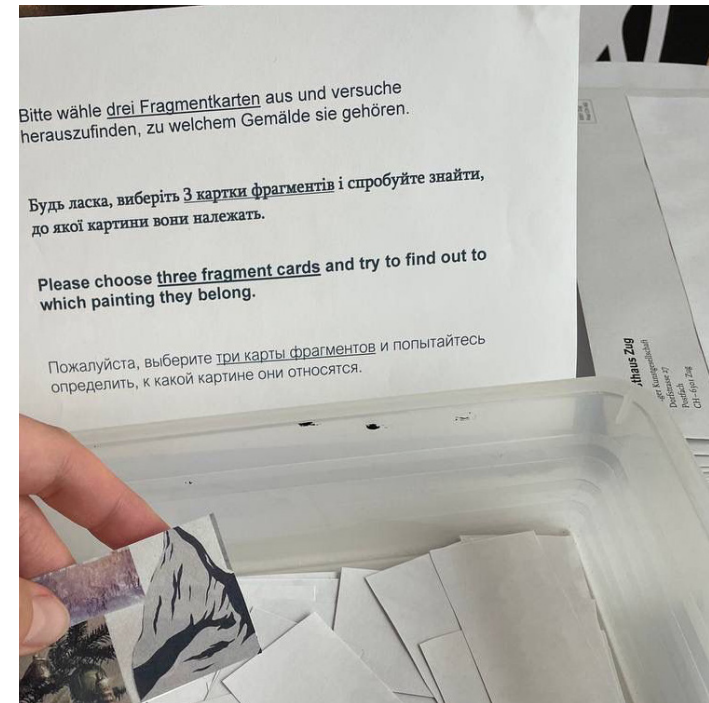
What memories does this piece revive?

What does this mean to you?

What sounds/smells could you imagine inside this painting?

Furthermore, the kids developed „fragment cards“ which displayed parts of works that could be searched for in the exhibition. All art educational interventions were available in four languages: German, English, Russian and Ukrainian.

After small opening speeches by Chantal Küng and Lyudmila Harvey, the kids were also handed small gifts to encourage them to follow up on their creative practices; acrylic paint, paintbrushes and canvases.



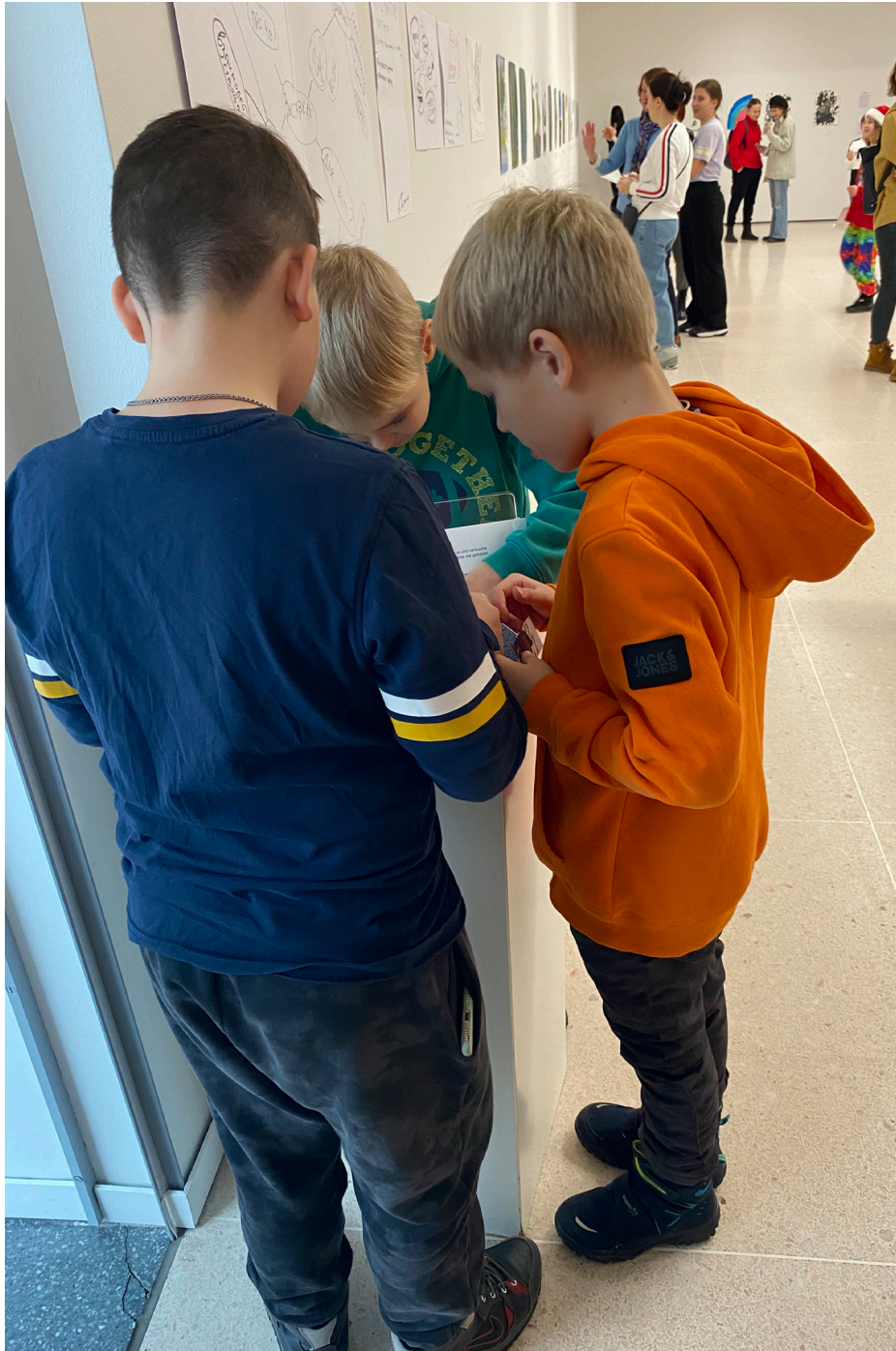
Visitors using the fragment cards, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022



Installing the exhibition, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022



Exhibition view, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022



Playing with the fragment cards, Kunsthau Zug, 10.12.2022



Visitors in the exhibition, Kunsthau Zug, 10.12.2022



Kids showing their work to relatives, Kunsthau Zug, 10.12.2022



Kids at the workshop table producing collages, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022



People enjoying the apero at the Kunsthaus Bar, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022



The experience of developing an exhibition on their own, as well as contributing to all states of its production, has been an empowering journey for the participants of the OPEN project. We believe in the transformational potential of art education - as well as in the possibilities of opening spaces for collective reflection upon art and lived experience. We wish to continue the workshop series - even considering the implementation of a durational project at Kunsthaus Zug.



Lyudmila Harvey and the exhibition team, Kunsthaus Zug, 10.12.2022