



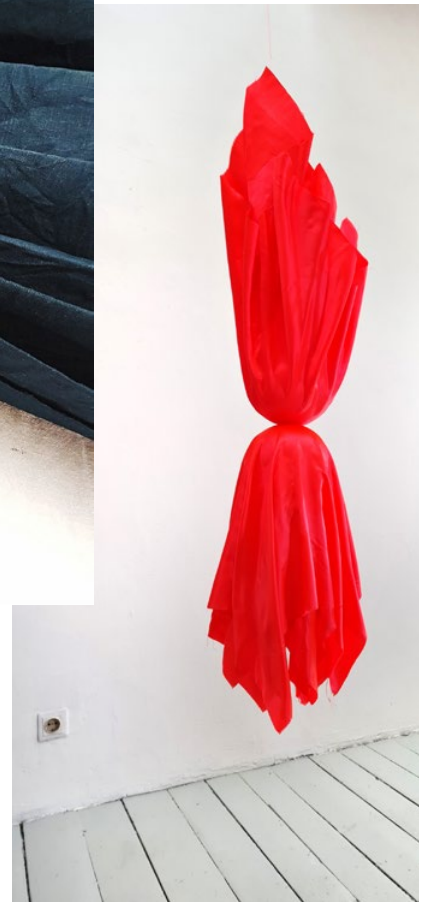
Conceptual visualizations of material thinking

Romana Hagyo and Silke Maier-Gamauf



We, Romana Hagyo and Silke Maier-Gamauf, understand the work on textile objects, which subsequently serve as body-extensions and costumes for the photographic stagings, as “material thinking.” This work takes place in the studio. Here, we follow Henk Borgdorff’s material thinking approach (2011, p. 29). “Artistic research is ‘material thinking’: the articulation of non-propositional knowledge and experience embodied in artworks and creative processes.” The creation of costumes and objects is understood as research on the material. The starting point for work with textiles as material is, first and foremost, the design of the *Juppe*, the Bregenzerwald traditional costume. The production steps are taken from the production of traditional dress, and are used to create folds in the fabric. The process is divided into cutting, starching, ironing, shaping, sewing, and fixing. This production method is used to “queer” traditional textile approaches, as its use often has gender- and class-specific associations.

Second, we work with plant materials, shaping moss, twigs, and grass combined with impregnated linen to independent objects. These objects subsequently function as costumes for photographic stagings in public spaces. Focus here is on work with mosses. What we are particularly interested in is that mosses do not need to take root in order to grow in a place, as they absorb moisture from the air. In this way, they can make places that are unsuitable for other plants, usable (in that moss functions as a turf for other plants to take root in) (see Kimmerer 2003: 55). This presents a further development of the concept of *Anthropophytes*, which Romana Hagyo and Silke Maier-Gamauf have developed in their like-named project. The process of material thinking is accompanied by feedback from, and exchange with experts.



Folded objects, 2021



Anthropophyts in the making, 2023



Textile objects and `Heiliggeist Haube` (Holy Spirit Hood), 2022-2023



Herring and the Fuff, C-prints, textile objects, 2022-2023



Folds
C-Prints/Dibond, 2020



Anthropophyts /Mooshaube (moss hood)
C-prints, textile object with and without moss, 2023



Anthropophyts
c-prints/dibond, 2023
videostill, video „tie“, 2:25 min, 2024



Textile objects, 2024/2025
Drawings, 2023



Folded textile objects, 2022/2024



Textile, folded and unfolded, 2022/2024