

# Plateau mit Halbfigur

[initial situation]

*The programme of a place* for thought-constructs, physical geometry and insinias: a design can only ever be a 'plateau', a sample area for forms of thinking, prototypes – sculptures, or a combination of these elements.

Conceptually, my sculpture studio serves as the model, as a comparative situation – in the manner of a still life, storage facility or viewing depot – and as a spatial design. Here, the essential and the non-essential are gathered together, competing on an equal footing for consideration by a potentially conclusive pictorial idea. The half-life of the element that is removed from this situation contrasts with the planned overall impression, with the specific 'grammar' of the studio at the moment in question.

The sculpture at the Kesselhaus will involve a planned process – a process to develop an idea – site-specific – on a scale that seemed impossible until now.

This workbook, as the first part of a two-volume catalogue, represents the initial situation. Comparing images and noting similarities. The second volume will focus on the finished work. The dimensional aspects of the final sculpture and its technical realisation are reduced to the most economic use of resources – with specific intent. Scale is conceived without being overwhelming, material without unnecessary effects, and colour in conjunction with form. Everything is affected by the conditions of short-term construction, which however also reveal the openness of the temporary structure, its potential. What this means is the *Halbfigur* [half figure] of what is presented on a thousand possible conceptual *Plateaus*. Resources, time and discourse are given. Something that is inherently processual cannot be precisely controlled, as became clear to me during the preparatory stages. That is what makes it interesting, along with the issues that are raised time and time again in my sculptural practice – the question of sculpture and built structure, of pedestals and dimensions with a suspicion of monumental scale, of set design, of the functionality or uselessness of a construction or composition. Giving form to an idea remains the goal. In the sense of a hollow body or vessel, the word *Kessel* [kettle, boiler] also refers to an enclosed valley – a basin in which something is collected.

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