

# HADELICH IN ARTERN

26 young people from Artern:

"I knew about the artwork before the project."

Yes: 65 % / No: 35 %

"I knew that the artwork was from East Germany."

Yes: 31 % / No: 69 %

## Podcast

How does the perspective on art in public spaces differ between the generations? The podcast group investigated this question and interviewed numerous people on the street, as well as their teachers and fellow students.

Anthony, Collin, Jack, Julian, Justin, Leon, Mo, Noi, Rafael, Salomon (14:01 min)

## 1972

### ARTWORK



"Water Earth Air", 1972  
Irmela Hadelich-Nauck / Martin Hadelich  
Plaster ceramics, Artern  
Photo: Norman Hera, 2022

The large-scale ceramic mosaic is now located at the entrance of the district office in the "Straße der Jugend". Until 2018, the building was a school.

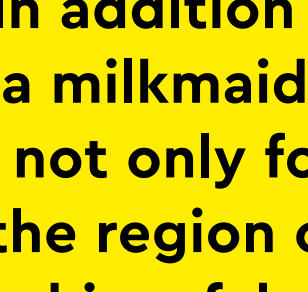
In 1971, the mayor asked Irmela Hadelich-Nauck (1923–2017) and Martin Hadelich (1903–2004) to design the artwork at the newly built Wilhelm Pieck Polytechnic High School. Their mural, "Water Earth Air", consists of friendly colours. In 1972, they installed the work with their 16-year-old daughter. Only the middle part, "Earth", is still on view on the building today. Both side sections are stored off-site.

## Quote

"The image that is still there, I would not have associated with water, earth and air. The one that's still there reminds me more of solidarity between people."

- Lara -

## Symbol



The preserved part of the mural shows motifs from agriculture. In addition to the fruit harvest, one can see a milkmaid with a dairy machine. This stands not only for technical innovation, but also for the region of Artern. In East Germany, VEB Maschinenfabrik Kyffhäuserhütte developed into one of the leading dairy machine manufacturers. The Kyffhäuserhütte company still produces agricultural machines today.

## Focus

A diver and a mermaid, and a cosmonaut and a prince on a flying carpet, are depicted on the side panels. Realistic figures stand naturally next to imaginary motifs. In correspondence with the mayor, further ideas were developed: He considered a depiction of soccer, handball or wrestling to be suitable, since these sports would show "the nurturing of young people in the school."

"Water" (former left side), 1972

Photo: Christine Rammelt-Hadelich (private)

"Air" (former right side), 1972

Photo: Christine Rammelt-Hadelich (private)

16-year-old Christine in front of the part

"Water", 1972

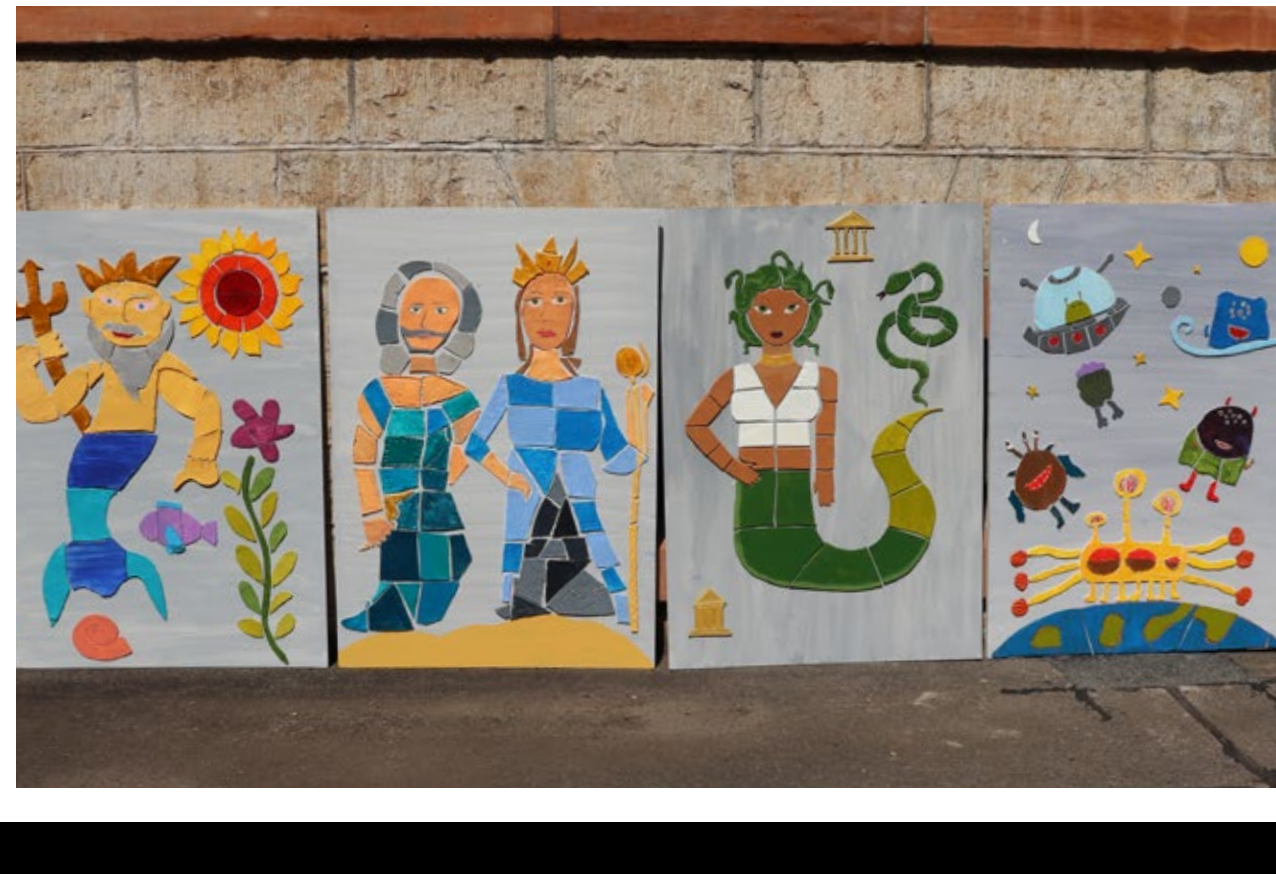
Photo: Christine Rammelt-Hadelich (private)

## nice to know

The motif "Earth" shows a rural community that seems diverse because of the different skin colours of the figures. From today's perspective, the image is problematic because it reinforces stereotypes. In East Germany, the motif was understood as a symbol of friendship between peoples. This could also be a reason why, in the Arterner Chronical of 1991, the painting was named "All children of the world need peace".

## 2022

### ART PROJECT



"Gods", 2022  
Alina, Amelie, Nele [Poseidon], Sarah, Lara [Zeus and Hera], Leonie, Louisa, Leonie, Celine [Medusa], Josi, Annabell, Saskia, Lea, Marvin [Flying Spaghetti Monster].  
painted modelling clay on lightweight board, each 0.70 × 1.00 m

State Community School "Johann Gottfried Borlach" Artern, grade 9

Alina, Amelie, Nele, Sarah, Lara, Leonie, Louisa, Leonie, Celine, Josi, Annabell, Saskia, Lea, Marvin, Rafael, Cedric, Lino, Leon, Julian, Mo, Anthony, Collin, Salomon, Justin, S., Noi, Jack, Lara, Jannis, Henrik, Leonie, J., P., L., Alexander, Marius, Jannek, Lukas, L., Jennyfer, Fabian, Nick, Lava, Lena

Artist: Viktoria Scholz from Leipzig

Contemporary Witnesses: Christine Rammelt-

Hadelich and Olaf Rammelt

Teachers: Mr. Bauspieß, Mrs. Geisendorf, Mrs. Pohl

Making a ceramic mosaic is a detailed process. The students cut out each individual tile from modelling clay, coloured it, and assembled the individual pieces into an image. The result is a four-part mosaic on their self-selected theme of "Gods." It consists of 313 individual parts.

## Quote

"I was pleased that, together as a group, we were able to put together the mosaic so well."

- a student -