

HANF IN JENA

17 young people from Jena:

"I knew about the artwork before the project."

Yes: 0% / No: 100%

Podcast

Young people take a closer look at the artwork

in the former Saalbahnhof and then search for

traces of Kurt Hanf in Jena

Luca, Vincent, Josephine, Leonie, Grete and

Charlot (13:17 min)

1965

ARTWORK



"Schott Zeiss University", 1965 Kurt Hanf (1912 – 1987)

Metal tape about 11 × 5.50 m, Jena

Photo: Ettersberg Foundation, 2022

The larger-than-life metal artwork "Schott Zeiss University" by Kurt Hanf hangs in the entrance hall of a former train station, now the 'Kulturbahnhof'. The picture from 1965 is in its original condition and has not been restored.

Unlike other artists in East Germany, Hanf did not focus on the working class in this picture. His artwork refers to the special features of the city of Jena: the university, its glass industry, optics, the planetarium and the botanical garden. With a few lines, Hanf created the impression of movement.

Quote

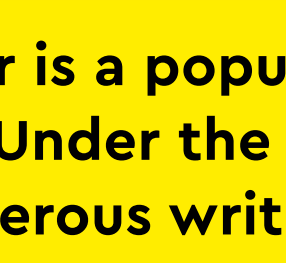
"We asked people on the street if they knew

any of Kurt Hanf's works, and we noticed

that many walked by blindly past them."

- Leonie -

Symbol



The reading worker is a popular motif in East German artworks. Under the slogan "Grab a pen, pitman!" numerous writing and art circles for workers began to emerge in the late 1950s. The programme, known as the "Bitterfeld Way," was intended to eliminate the separation between art and society. In Kurt Hanf's work, the book in the hands of the students stands for the unity of knowledge, research and production.

FOCUS

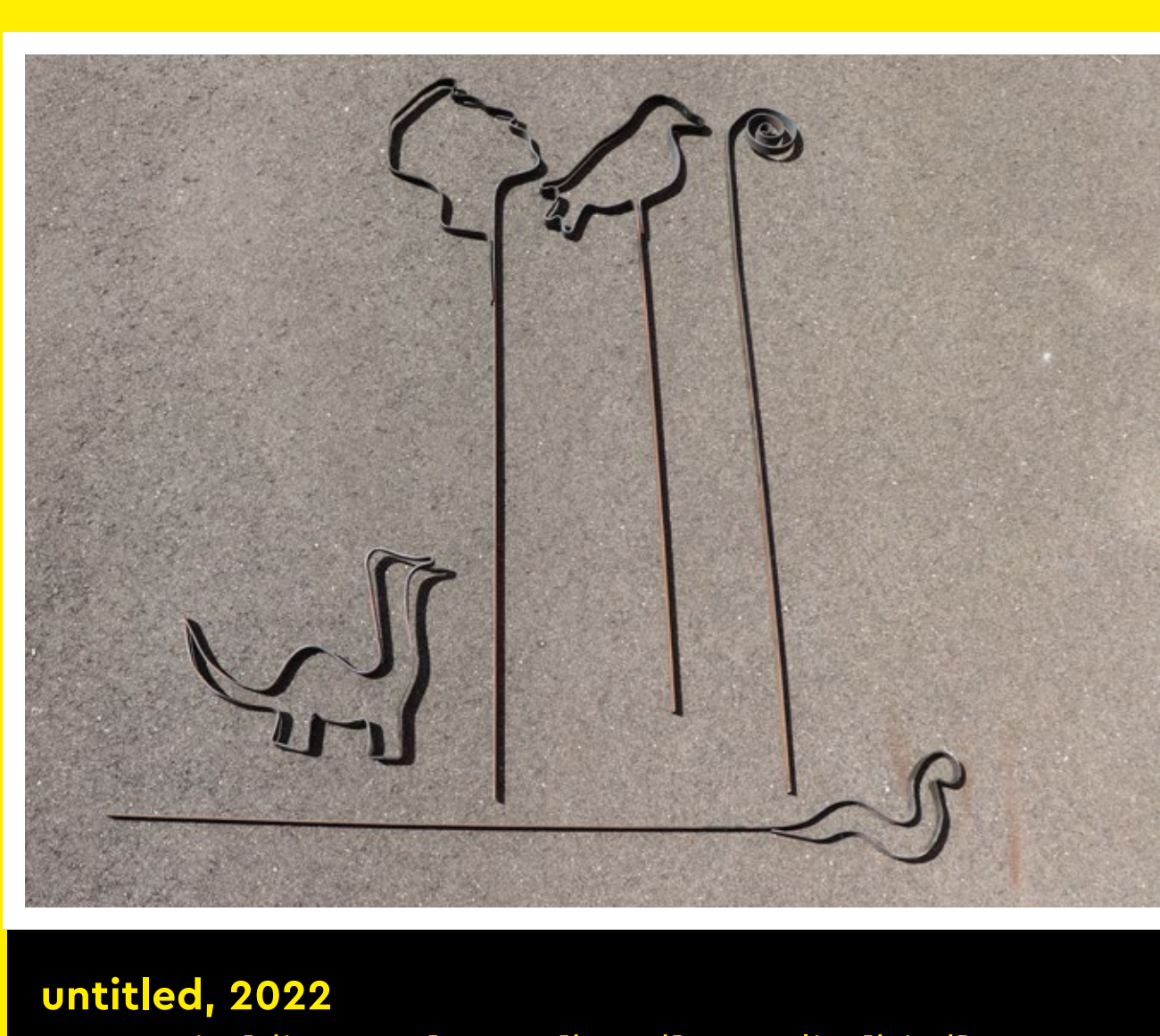
Kurt Hanf (1912 – 1987) used various techniques. Only two of his works were made with aluminium tape. His main works were paintings. Beginning in the 1950s, he led the painting and drawing circles at the Schott and Zeiss factory. Hanf also involved his circles in the creation of building-related artworks. With his art, he left a mark on the city of Jena. In the 1990s, some of his works were removed.

nice to know

Today, only holes in the wall are remain in the lower right corner of the picture. In the sketches, there are flowers in this spot. They stand for the botanical garden in Jena, which is the second oldest in Germany.

2022

ART PROJECT



untitled, 2022

Nastassja [dinosaur], Ben [head], Amelie [bird],

Robert Krainhöfner [spiral], Viviane [snail]. Steel strips

Montessori school Jena, grade 11 s/2

Karl, Leonie, Jennifer, Josephine, Grete, Charlot,

Ronja, Nastassja, Lara, Luca, Ben, Vincent, Vivi-

ane, Konstantin, Amelie, P., Lilly, Juri

Artist: Robert Krainhöfner from Jena

Expert: Doris Weilandt from Jena, Germany

Teachers: Mr. Kandzia, Mr. Agricola

First, the students drew their motif with only one line on a piece of paper. Next, they formed a strip of paper into a thin image. Then they heated a strip of plastic with a hair dryer and shaped it into the desired form. As a final step, some of the students recreated their motif with steel strips.

Quote

"I drew a silhouette of a friend of mine.

My friend was pretty sad, so I thought maybe it

would make him happy to be portrayed.

It would be nice, if people maybe look at the

silhouette and see themselves too."

- Ben -