

artimex fine arts ag.

IMPORTANT DATES + EVENTS

1997	May 1	Officially opened doors to-day, after spending last two weeks installing gallery.										
	May 30	Barbara Lembke arrived from Stockholm staying with us over the weekend on way to conference in Ticino, brought 3 early Catherine's for resale.										
	June 16	Ulrich & May Schwanecke came to the gallery on way from Beatenberg, off to Germany to-day.										
	June 20	Vernissage: Club der Freunde Südafrika Only 8 people attended + 1 artist from Stellenbosch + 4 from the Club's committee + 7 family members There were no sales at the opening, nor was there any press publicity !										
	August 3	Dirk and Annie Meerkotter arrived from Döbel/Karlsruhe, met them at the station.										
	August 5	Meerkotters off this afternoon to Paris, they met Norman Catherine & Janet who are staying with us one night on way to Luxembourg/London for new publication.										
	September 5	SITHOLE+ CATHERINE vernissage until 20h00 at public's request: only 4 visitors + 7 family members attended + 1 fax = 1 minor outside Norman Catherine sale !										
	September 11	Jack Ginsberg's 1st visit to AX, made 2 bids for NC and acquired 2 Bosch, total CHF 2800 = 1st important sale !										
	September 13	Pierre Hersberger bid CHF 16000 for 1 LS which he had already seen in Beatenberg - first major sale, though for a/c of reseller Hylton R.										
1998	January 23	<u>posting first appeals for Stiftung Nord Süd - crucial in our continuing Artimex under a modified form !</u>										
	March 2	To-day (Fastnacht), sent Mr. Chr. Greif at IFO AG notice terminating lease per end 1998, keeping archive/office.										
		<table border="1"><tr><td>END</td><td>OF</td><td>A</td><td>STORY</td><td>GOING</td></tr><tr><td>BACK</td><td>TO</td><td>1961</td><td>!!</td><td></td></tr></table>	END	OF	A	STORY	GOING	BACK	TO	1961	!!	
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	March 31	Mr Greif is not much in favour of sub-letting part of gallery premises, he is considering to sell the "Stockwerk" for CHF600'000 !										
	April 14	We put up a nice display of SA books in showcase 1st floor University Main Bldg., Basel, by invitation of Christine Hatz - MGU, to run parallel to a series of lectures on Africa.										
	April 24	Provisional agreement to-day with Karin Meyer, Zug, to sub-let 50% of gallery space per 1.8.98 (the two main exhibition areas) - that should make a few people happy !										

1998
(cont.)

- April 27 First book order from abroad was received to-day, from the Völkerkunde Museum, Frankfurt a.M. !
- May 1 **1ST ANNIVERSARY: COMPLETELY PASSED OVER AND FORGOTTEN !**
- May 8 Schwanecke staying with us until Sunday.
- May 9 Ulrich Schwanecke exhibition & vernissage: Frühschoppen at 11 a.m. The Club der Freunde Südafrika (Mr Fontana) offered a barrel of beer, we provided the snacks !

30 people attended - there were 5 sales !

Pity there were to be no further artists' exhibitions.
- May 15 Potential buyers of premises came to look at the gallery, as Mr Greif (IFO) decided to sell - **so we'll have to move in any case !**
- June 8 Jean Fritts Sotheby's NY coming on 24.6. with Mrs. Wille to see Sithole's and other African arts for auction.
- June 9 Hylton & Molly Rogoff staying at Helvetia Hotel for 2 nights, then off to Grindelwald/Jungfrauoch.
- June 10 **Hylton Rogoff saved my skin again**, buying a canvas by Catherine for CHF 10'000 in settlement of monies owing, which we are trying to resell on a 50/50 profit basis. He also took one Irma Stern litho to SA and I gave him 1 drawing by Norman Catherine.
- June 13 We had the visit of Francine Cartier & Fritz Zweifel.
- June 15 The Basel Art Fair closed to-day, it was a total waste for us to keep the gallery open Mo to Sa from 9 am to 8 pm during the fair, for we *only* had the visit of the Rogoffs who would have come in any case !
- June 16 Began posting my last appeal to past clients or past sponsors, the aim being for the proposed North-South / Basel Foundation to take over activities and/or premises on a "not for Gain" basis.
- June 18 Life is strange - now that the premises are up for sale, press photographer from Regio came to take pics of the gallery - why was there no exposure before ?
- June 24 Had 1st visit to gallery by Sotheby's representatives Jean Fritts, New York, and Fatma Turkkán-Wille, Zurich, for possible 1st NY auction of Contemporary African Art.
- June 26 To-day appeared the advert in the Regio Zeitschrift offering the gallery premises for sale at CHF650'000 - that explains the photographer a few days ago !
- August 12 A Mr RW Baumann made proposal for our continued stay in reduced premises which he intended acquiring - not quite acceptable as he wanted us to pay for taking down ceiling!
- August 18 First decent sale of postcards ex SA to a shop opposite the gallery (1109 cards at 25 Swiss cents only) including cards by NC and ZB from the 70's !

1998 (cont.)	September 9	With CMH trip to Geneva, delivering to Jack Ginsberg 2 NC bought last year. He had no time or money to visit Basel this year, alas !
	September 30	Chr Greif telephoned this morning that he had sold the premises per 31.12.98, so that's the end of my gallery story in Switzerland as the new owners (an advertising agency) are requiring all the space !
	November 18	Christie's Amsterdam faxed that they don't handle Contemporary African Art, thus there is no chance there with our Sithole's !
	November 19	Got fax from the SA National Gallery, Cape Town - they regret they cannot accept any of our Catherine's, even gratis ! So we're stuck with them, the Lord only knows why -
	November 28	FE + FC + HP + Claudio + Markus + Karin moved the remainder of the Gallery to our flat - what a mess !
	November 29	The electrician took down all electric fittings - it cost only CHF 100.- (would have been 60.-, but I had no change).
	November 30	A new telephone was installed at home, also the remaining book shelves; then I started filling all holes in the gallery and taking down picture rails - it took about 2 days and was to save a lot of money.
	December 8	At 12.30 handed all gallery keys to Chr. Greif - the total bill for repainting was only CHF 450.-. <i>Voilà, c'est tout.</i> The proposed Showcase in Rümelinspassage as from 1.2.99 was not taken; why waste more money on the Basel public !
	December 31	<p>In retrospect, I've lost over CHF 2'500 p.m. every month since moving to Spalenvorstadt 29 - in other words, I could not cover the rentals, only other running costs, and obviously I could not draw any income from the venture.</p> <p>There was no support whatsoever from the locals or foreigners, old clients ex S.A. have enough S.A. art and did not come at all or not more than once; there was no support from S.A., from the S.A. Embassy no use moaning.</p> <p>I simply did not have the capital to stay the expected 3 years to make a mark, in fact I have to pay back our children and Henri P. vast sums I borrowed from them - I don't know how.</p> <p>Our private living costs were met by receiving a minimal Unemployment Benefit from the ALK Basel (till being pensioned off end of January 1999), and an IV contribution for Caroline. Officially I was to earn a commission on sales from the family business set up, for which I was working "auf Abruf".</p> <p>It would have been better not to have a gallery, to carry on with "Beschäftigungsprogramme" and to die on the job. At least I would not owe the family so much.</p> <p>Nothing makes sense any more.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Fernand F. Haenggi</i></p> <p>Basel, 24.3.1999</p>