

BLACK FOREST (60 | 11), ENTSCHIEDEN 63 | 11), PARADIGM (92 | 13)

All the fabrics I use for my work have one thing in common: they represent time - time preserved through wear. The origin, age and past history of the fabrics are secondary, but they still play a role in the process of acquiring the material. Patina acquired through usage lends spatial depth, not unlike the way old Dutch masters applied their paints.

Along with diachronically preserved time, the present time, too, has an impact on my production and plays a significant role in procurement of the fabric: the World Wide Web transcends space, providing synchronous access to materials from all over the world. Geographical borders, cultures and history win new significance in my creative work.

The three objects presented here are important examples of the diachronic and synchronous progress of a creative process based on time.

The initial idea for BLACK FOREST (2011) was interaction of the colours black and blue with all their emotional implications. The various blue tones are created by dyeing cotton fabric with indigo to form transitional patterns – from reddish blue to blueish green – like applying many layers of paint to create a composition. The fragments used have different surfaces, date back to different eras and were produced for different uses (Japanese kimono and Japanese futon cover, Chinese fabric woven by the Miao people).

In ENTSCHIEDEN (2011) too, I have incorporated fabrics from various cultures and eras: German linen (1950), fragments of a Japanese kimono (1920), in combination with a widely-used modern synthetic fabric.

PARADIGM (2013) shows quite clearly how I transfigure the existing material that I have found. The chaotic surface (tears, oil stains, splashes of paint and burns, etc.) of a German army tarpaulin from World War II and a clean ironing cloth from 1920 combine to form a diptych. Manipulations such as abrasion, repairs using various threads and stitches, along with the use of silk and cotton as underlying materials, are some of the additional elements I use to create suspense and bring (my own

individual) order into my work.

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