

## ANTON HILLER

The human figure has always been of vital importance in Anton Hiller's life and work.

Although he was influenced by the strict classicistic attitude of his teacher Hermann Hahn, the main aim of his artistic creation was to break through the traditional imaginations of artistic representations of the figure and to reach for its archetype. Therefore he assembled stereometric bodies like cylinders, cones, cubes and bullets in a very architectural and abstract way, while at the same time the human figure remained the apparent origin of his sculptural designing. He simplified the shape, but never made it to an abstract geometric formula. „I always attached great importance to a solid, inner core in my works, which made the block-like noticeably and the border between body and space visible. My compositions, which aimed to action and reaction, should always express silence, motion and function and thereby create an evident and consistent whole.“ (Hiller, 1974)

Furthermore in his graphic work he circled constantly the manifestations of forms of appearance and their fragments in light and shadow. The reduction of human bodies could also be seen in his paper works, which - with the exception of a few works – do not relate to his sculptures. Rather his graphic work exists autonomous beside his plastic oeuvre, including drawings, water colors, lithographies and embossed printings.

ANTON HILLER (1893-1985) lived and worked in Munich.

1913 - 1923 he studied at Hermann Hahn at the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts and was part of the elite of the German sculptors.

In 1946 he was appointed as professor at the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts.

National and international exhibitions followed, among them:

a retrospective at the Art Hall in Mannheim in 1993; Art Association Villa Wessel, Iserlohn in 1994; „Chaos & Classicism. Art in France, Italy and Germany, 1918 – 1936“ at Guggenheim Museum New York in 2011 and the group show „Nur Skulptur!“ in the Urban Art Hall, Mannheim, in 2013.

A part of his work is also present in renowned collections, like:

Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich; Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlung; Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, Folkwang-Museum, Essen.

