

Subject: translation + life

From: Eva Ruland <eva@webkunst.com>

Date: Thu, 1 Nov 01 12:05:38 -0800

To: "tadeusz" <tm@irenahochman.com>

Dear Tadeusz,

how are you?

it's getting cold in california. i'm back to wearing my big old german overall when riding my bike to san francisco.

life keeps me pretty busy. i got two web projects in, and have a job interview on friday. my dissertation has to rest more than i like.

here is the translation of the german newspaper article from "Hünfelder Zeitung."
it is not word by word and i abbreviated it slightly, but it reflects the journalist's interpretation of your work. I hope my english does not sound too funny.

take care,

eva

"On the backside of the senior citizen facility Seniana is a piece of art that displays four words: "cross," "Kreuz," "krzyz," and roads." It is a work of art by Tadeusz Myslowski. Myslowski, born in Poland, lives in New York since 1970 and has exhibited in many countries: in Poland, Portugal, France, Serbia, the U.S.A., Japan, and Germany. The Museum of Modern Art in Hünfeld showed his work in 1996. His piece "crossroads" is as international as Myslowski's vita. Really, it only consists of two words: "roads" and "cross." The "cross," however, also appears in German and in Polish on the wall of Seniana. All four words are crossed by themselves and meet with two other expressions, connected by a plus sign. The result is the shape of a square.

It is interesting to note that in English the words "cross" and "roads" together create "crossroads." These two words are not directly connected in Myslowski's wall piece. The eye of the beholder has to join the two via foreign languages. This is certainly a metaphor that points to society itself. Every German in Germany who thinks that there is no need to be open to foreign cultural influences, is stupid/limited. Such narrow-mindedness only hurts us. In Myslowski's piece of art the word "crossroads" is only created via detour and the use of other languages. In a similar way completion for each individual can be furthered through ideas and impulses from other nations and cultures. The square equates to the societal reality in which certain problems cannot be solved nationally any longer. International cooperation is indispensable. The list of such problems includes organized crime as well as ecological problems.

Myslowski's piece can be interpreted as a metaphor that illustrates that there is no perspective for the lonesome warrior. [Interdependence is the keyword that remains unused.] In the bigger picture we all gain from everyday annoyances and interruptions of our work as usual. Who would be there to give us the change we need to get the shopping cart if there were not all these people who jam up the parking lot exit?"