

The project “ÜBER DIE DÖRFER – alb: hören” (“ACROSS VILLAGES - alb: listening”), was developed and realized by the artist duo “Unternehmen VOLKSBAUSTELLE” (Tilman Neuffer and Hans Hs Winkler). With the project the narrative and listening to stories will be placed into the center of the artistic work.

Storytelling is the origin of our culture: oral tradition, mythology, historiography - the "oral culture" has shaped and influenced the cohabitation of the human race since early humanity. What was the story of the lion man, what songs did the Stone Age flute accompany, and what did the “Venus vom Hohlenfels” really mean? The Swabian Alb has recently received the status of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage. Not only in the six recognized caves, but in numerous museums and exhibition venues, artefacts and documents recall the history of the last 45,000 years and make the coexistence of earlier epochs a sensual experience.

“ÜBER DIE DÖRFER – alb: hören” is linked to this museum culture, reactivates the cultural form of storytelling and the oral tradition and brings it into contact with museums and their collections of memories. The artists gave themselves the task of tracking down oral artefacts (stories, myths and legends) which are in circulation, and making them accessible to hearing stations in public space.

The starting point of the research were 15 different places on the Middle Alb and the Zollernalb and their local museums. Three of them became co-operation partners: Stadtmuseum Münsingen as well as Heimatmuseum Jungingen and Heimatmuseum Meßstetten-Hossingen. Until the beginning of July, the artists spend one week in each location to get to know people there and to get in touch with them: Their stories - known and unknown, funny and tragic - are now presented, together with historical recordings, at three listening stations.

On October 6 (Münsingen), October 7 (Meßstetten-Hossingen) and October 8 (Jungingen), the three ready-made listening stations will be presented to the public. “ÜBER DIE DÖRFER – Alb hören” extends the range of the museums on site by oral artefacts and at the same time stimulates a dialogue within the city and village community: What stories do we tell ourselves and what about? The O-tones can be exchanged by the museum directors at any time with new and different ones - so "ABOUT THE VILLAGES" remains up-to-date and the story telling in the river.

In cooperation with the museums in Münsingen (Yannik Krebs), Jungingen (Ludwig Bosch), Meßstetten-Hossingen (Ursula Neher-Springer).

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