

In: Flash Art, Nov/Dec 2018, p. 94

CLAUDIA WIESER

GALERIE BEN KAUFMANN - BERLIN



CLAUDIA WIESER, Installation view, 2008.
Courtesy Galerie Ben Kaufmann, Berlin.

Tangible and intangible patterns are the fundamental structures binding our world together, however Wieser's work questions the construction of nature.

Entitled "Teppich des Lebens" (Carpet of Life), Wieser's show presents a slender tree trunk, covered with a pattern drawn in crayon, ceramic panels and two framed book pages with black-and-white photographs of bare-branched trees. The whole display is framed by a wall of golden patina.

The central pieces in the show

are two spaces, one filled by a black ceramic wall carpet with reduced geometric and circular imprints, and a second showing medium-sized ceramic plates, entitled *Geister* (Ghosts) — white, folkloristic patterns on a seemingly infinite black background. The figures on these plates evoke memories of Indian shadow theater, and also resemble sketches of gothic architecture. They are, in fact, derived from Renaissance-era crocheted tablecloth.

Claudia Wieser's works possess a confident, idiosyncratic aesthetic that seeks to fuse materiality and thought in the experience of looking. At the same time Wieser reviews the legacy of expressionism. However, she plays with suggestive causal interrelationships that are potentially simply a matter of analogies, beyond the romantic tradition and the allure of nature.

Dorothea Jendricke