

Agentur für materielle Veränderung

Ager

agencyformaterialtransformation.com

agencyformate...

Eröffnung
17.10.2025
16 - 22 Uhr

Ausstellung
18. - 25.10.2025
täglich von 12 - 17 Uhr
& nach Vereinbarung

Kantinenraum der Spinnerei NeuhoF
Dr.-Enders-Straße 59
95030 Hof

Finissage
26.10.2025
11 - 15 Uhr

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About the exhibition

Agency for Material Transformation is an exhibition and a discursive space that takes place in the canteen of a former spinning factory in Hof, Germany. The Agency, initiated by the artists Vik Bayer and Michael Reindel, takes the material change happening in the region as a starting point for artistic work.

For years, the Franconian Forest has been in a process of dying due to extreme drought and the resulting expansion of the bark beetle. Two years ago, Amazon inaugurated a new fulfillment center, which has been operating continuously in three shifts ever since. Local environmentalists have made it their mission to save one of the oldest surviving species on Earth from extinction.

Moving within this web of information and engaging with the people and the region's environment, the exhibition responds artistically to these circumstances. The canteen of the spinning factory, which went bankrupt only a few months before the opening of the exhibition, becomes a space for infrastructural speculation: How else could we organize? What else could we produce?

About the project

Agency for Material Transformation is a framework in which a set of tools and methods informed by, and in exchange with, a specific bioregion are applied sculpturally.

In this case, the location was a recently bankrupt spinning mill in the textile region of Hof (Germany) and its surrounding bioregion. The latter also encompasses the infrastructural network whose repetitive processes shape and change the area over time. Through a concrete examination of work, materials, resources and value creation, the exhibition provides a speculative framework against the backdrop of material transformation in the region.

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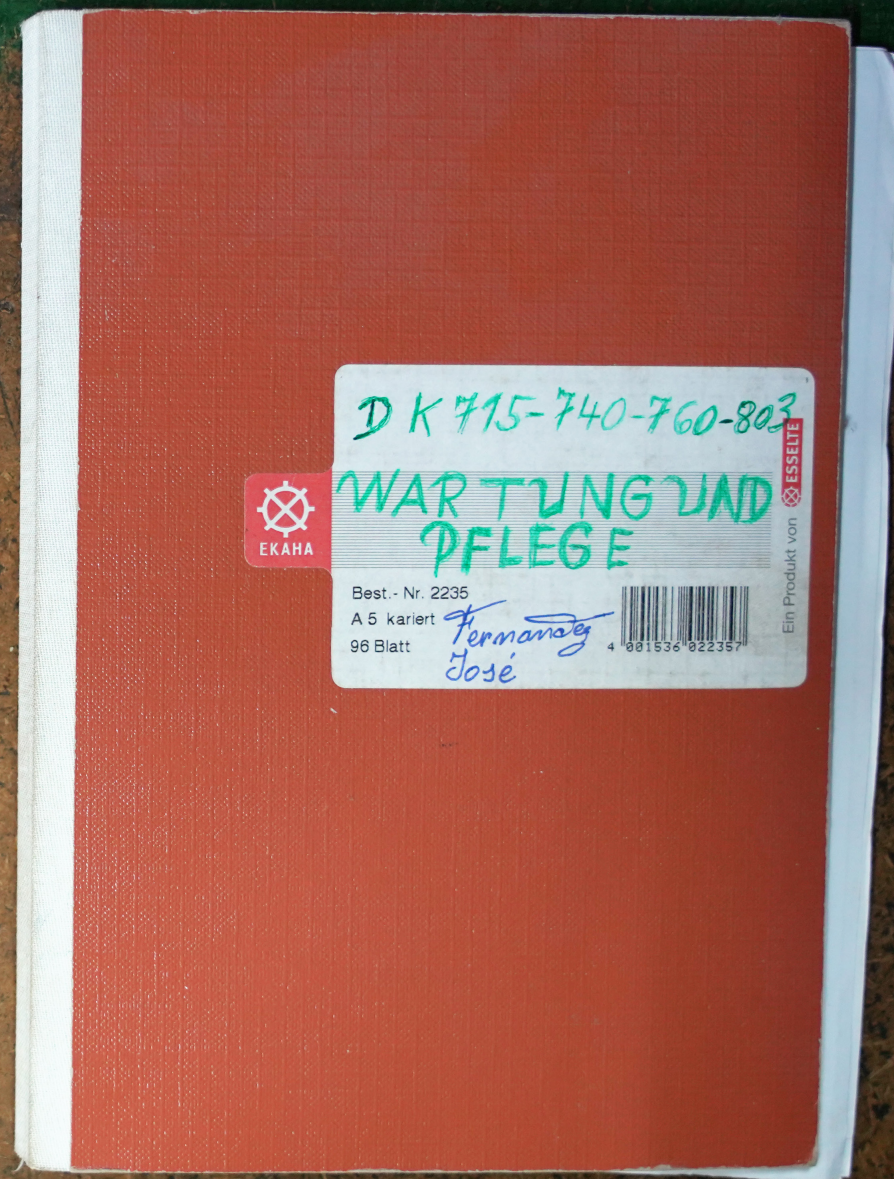
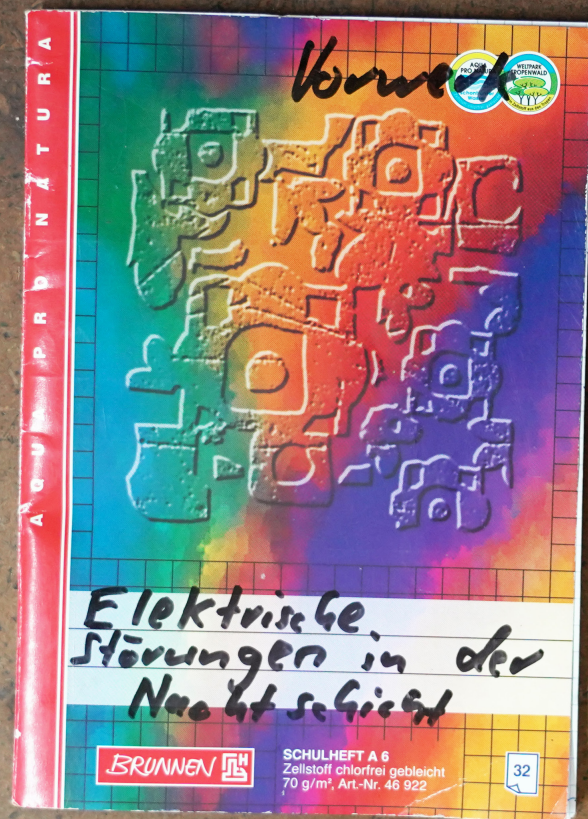


Installation view of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei NeuhoF, 2025

With artworks by Karla Zipfel, Jonas Aumüller, note books from the former factory worker José Ferndandez, chairs and tables from the canteen.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
With artworks Jonas Aumüller and note books from the former factory worker José Fernandez.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei NeuhoF, 2025

Note books from José Fernandez, a former factory worker. Titled „electrical faults during the night shift“ and „maintenance and care“.

Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
Exhibition visitors enter the exhibition through „Vereinzelungsanlage“ (turmstile) by Michael Reindel.



Rotating rod with mount, various door wings, two totes with grass from maintenance work and wood chips from a local sawmill, Panel 1 (grass, sawmill offcuts, lacquered numbers, pages from the publication by Energievision Frankenwald e.V., acrylic glass), Panel 2 (clay, plywood from the estate of Walther Schmidt, uprooted tree from maintenance work in area 5636-306, polished steel)

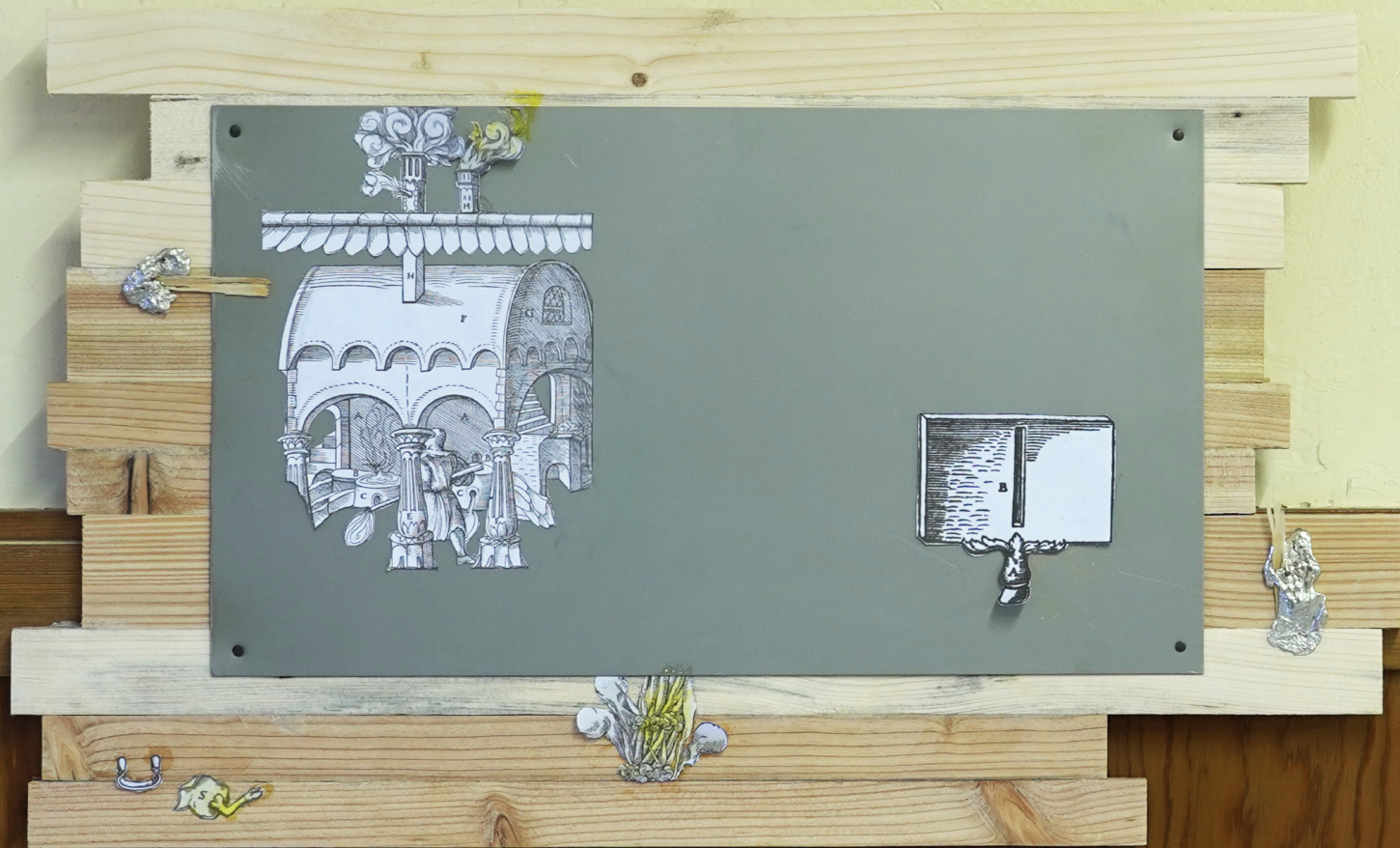




Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“,
Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
The totes (the same as the ones used in Amazon Fulfillment
Centres) contain locally sourced materials, like wood chips from
spruce trees infested with bark beetles.



Installation view of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhoof, 2025



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025

A collage as part of the video installation „Holzauge“ by Vik Bayer, composed of wood from a local timber mill, steel sheets, tin casts and copies from a book on metal extraction and processing from 1556, titled „De Re Metallica“.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“,
Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025

A collage as part of the video installation „Holzauge“ by Vik
Bayer, composed of wood from a local timber mill, steel sheets, tin
casts and copies from a book on metal extraction and processing
from 1556, titled „De Re Metallica“.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
A collage as part of the video installation „Holzauge“ by Vik Bayer, mounted on constructions used as voting booths for works council elections.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei NeuhoF, 2025

The work „in between“ by Michael Reindel consists of straw, locally sourced wood and a red laquered number showing the amount of years that the artist's father was working at Spinnerei NeuhoF.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
„Ganz andere Wärme“ by Karla Zipfel.



Installation view of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuuhof, 2025
With artworks by Karla Zipfel, Hannelore Buchheit, Vik Bayer and a nettle bush by the close-by weaving mill Weberei Georg Chr. Wirth GmbH & Co. KG,



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“,
Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
„Lehmliege“ by Michael Reindel. A heated clay bench with locally
sourced materials.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
„Lehmliege“ by Michael Reindel. A heated clay bench with locally sourced materials.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“,
Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
„Holzauge“ by Vik Bayer. The video is mounted on a construction
out of spruce wood with bark beetle marks.





Auch auf der anderen Seite, diese riesige
abgerodete Fläche: Wald.



Installation detail of „Agency for Material Transformation“,
Kantine Spinnerei Neuhof, 2025
„Holzauge“ by Vik Bayer. The video is mounted on a construction
out of spruce wood with bark beetle marks.



Installation view of „Agency for Material Transformation“, Kantine Spinnerei Neuhaus, 2025

Bus tour

As part of the exhibition by the Agency for Material Transformation, we organized a bus tour in the surrounding landscapes of the exhibition space within a radius of 25 km.

It started at the canteen of the Spinning Factory Neuhof, where the exhibition took place and unfolded along the following itinerary:

1. Spinning Factory Neuhof
2. Amazon Fulfillment Center NUE1
3. SüdOstlink construction site
4. Solar panels
5. Wind turbines
6. Renatured moor Erlenbächle
7. Huschermühle freshwater pearl mussel breeding station
8. Spinning Factory Neuhof

Visiting these places we reflected on the transformation of landscapes, ideas of nature and how infrastructures of both international corporations and the means necessary for the provision of energy are forming our surrounding.

The Amazon Fulfillment Center NUE1 on the outskirts of the city is only a small manifestation of the company's expanding cloud and data infrastructures, supply chain networks and machines that create the basis for today's circulation of information and commodities, as well as their impact on our natural environment and how we move within it. Just a few minutes away is the construction site of one of Europe's largest infrastructure projects, which aims to meet Germany's southern regions' energy demands by transferring energy generated from renewable sources in the Baltic Sea. Passing by solar panels and wind turbines



At the Huschermühle freshwater pearl mussel breeding station.

the bus arrived at a renatured moor. The local Nature Conservation Union is acquiring land to create wetlands, which help to counteract the region's water scarcity and increase its carbon storage capabilities. Leaving the moor the tour headed to a nearby freshwater pearl mussel breeding station. Here, the Nature Conservation Union has created the infrastructure to preserve one of the oldest still existing, but critically endangered creatures. This species has survived ice ages and dinosaurs, and holds a special place within queer ecologies.

The tour took place in collaboration with the local Nature Conservation Union (Bund Naturschutz)

Contributions for the exhibition by:

Vik Bayer, Michael Reindel, Karla Zipfel, Hannelore Buchheit, Jonas Aumüller, Weberei Georg Chr. Wirth GmbH & Co. KG, José Fernandez, Bund Naturschutz Landkreis Hof

Commissioned by Verbindungslinien BBK Bayern, with funding from the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts.