

GERHARD TAUBERT – Daylights 15 March – 26 April 2014

taubert contemporary is pleased to present their first exhibition of works by Gerhard Taubert and hereby initiate a search for clues to our own past. Few collectors and friends of the gallery know the work of Gerhard Taubert which had a lasting influence on me, Thomas Taubert, although for many years so subtle that I was completely unaware of it. On a weekly basis, a continuous flow of paintings found their way from the studio to our home, where they were installed for inspection. Therefore, to see the world through my father's eyes was for me both normal and natural.

This world was always presented as remote and subdued, usually reduced to essential features and thus abstracted. This process of abstraction had a crucial influence on my perception of art of my own and younger generations, quite regardless of genre.

Early on, Gerhard Taubert developed a passion for landscapes in their various forms, starting in the immediate surroundings of the studio in Düsseldorf and later further afield. Regular family holidays led to various European countries, especially Spain, and later more often to the south of France. These trips were always made by car, and nature sceneries were often sketched and later photographed. The journey was the goal and provided inspiration for many works. But the vast majority of paintings were created in Provence where my parents lived for many years.

Gerhard Taubert's real interest was in composition and colour. The colour was always an expression of the atmosphere in nature depending on the year and time of day. This is reflected in the title of the exhibition in two parts DAYLIGHTS. In the second part of the exhibition, which will take place this summer, we will exhibit selected works by my father along with paintings by some of the artists in our programme and illustrate the above described influence.

The development of the acrylic paint and the possibilities it offered to rework the painting at once and not have to wait days or weeks as with oil painting was for Gerhard Taubert an unexpected gift: a few strokes on the gauze-covered canvas formed the basic composition, but the actual composition was created with acrylic paint on the canvas and could always be changed.

With this way of composing landscapes, the paintings are often dominated by juxtaposed and interlocking surfaces and seem to miss a "normal" spatial structure. It is this particular view of the world that distinguishes Taubert, and one will always recognise his works. This solo show focuses on these defining features, and highlights abstracted landscapes in selected significant works. We have deliberately refrained from presenting a retrospective of the different periods. This was recently achieved while Gerhard Taubert was still living, in a much larger exhibition in Kornelimünster near Aachen.

*Gerhard Taubert born 1929 in Altenburg, Germany.
He died 2012 in Düsseldorf, Germany.*