

ALU ART

About the art of discovering beauty in the ordinary

Shiny aluminium is something one comes into contact with every day. It is contained in lighting fixtures, decorative elements for cars, cosmetic containers and many other objects as well. And time and again one is impressed by the variety and visual attractiveness of this material. It is thus only logical that this material also draws the attention of artists such as young art student Matthias Lindner, who has been working in the plate production department at AMAG during his vacations since 2008. And this is where in the sum-

mer of 2010 he sees shiny aluminium sheets, or "blister sheets", as he calls them. This type of surface develops when the sheets are used as dummy sheets in the annealing process. Due to their uneven structure they reflect utterly diverse images of their surroundings, depending on the viewing angle. This interesting effect inspires him to integrate this material of great visual beauty that is aluminium into his works of art. In his photo studio, his experimentation with the material and light produces colorful, highly decorative photos. These photographs have been used

as large-scale creative elements in the shape of light boxes (illustrations 1 and 2) in the refit of AMAG's rebuilt headquarters. This has not just set a decorative tone but the images also create a link with the aluminium that is produced in Ranshofen.

"In the future, I would like to do works that move in the direction of sculpture and design and/or involve a kind of architectural approach to the material aluminium," says Matthias Lindner. And he already has some ideas in the drawer for realizing such works – using AMAG aluminium, of course. ■

Matthias Lindner

Born 1983, a student in the Experimental Design Department at the University of Art and Design Linz (Kunst Universität Linz) since 2007

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