

## THOMAS WALDER

## Time's Velocity, Velocity's Medium

New Photographic Engravings and Drawings by Thomas Walder, student of print and graphic design, Professor Schenk

Michael Schneider

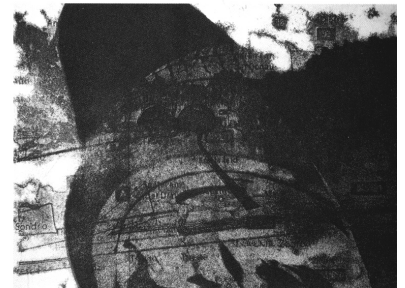
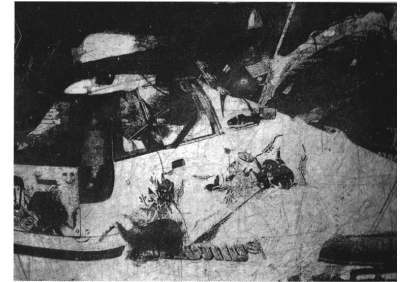
There are defining motifs in the history of art that are linked to the most important questions and urgent problems. A quantitative study would surely confirm that for many centuries the horse was the most important motif in art, alongside man, and that this role was later taken by the car. After 1945, the car almost received a genre of its own.

The number of artists that concern themselves with today's horsepower is impressive. The shift from horse to car is linked to a change in velocities. An acceleration of life in itself can also be read in the variety of automotive art. The works of Thomas Walder, for example, show an informed approach to both, the significance of the automobile and the speed of our lives. Thomas Walder has decided not to present the car as a social phenomenon, but as a vehicle, an assistant, a necessary device of everyday life. He tells of the trips with his car from South Tyrol to Vienna and back over years, hours and hours of traveling. He shows the relationship to his car, a simple one, like an old mare that could be called a true friend. To arrest these moments, he uses a digital camera, taking snapshots in and around the car. Decisive here is the next step, where he throttles the speed. His sketches are all engravings, photo engravings, where the slow process of emergence makes it possible to recapitulate the moment, have the memory live, and charge the snap shots with emotion and experience. Photography, drawing, and notation, document and emotion are combined in a single medium. This slow process of reexperiencing by editing and reworking the photographs is then followed by the quick and spontaneous creation of his large format coal and ink drawings, now full of density and with a velocity that again corresponds to our time, our experience, and our mode of reception. □

alle / all  
THOMAS WALDER  
*Hin und Retour, Aufbruch ins wo...*

linke Seite / left side  
Radierungen / engravings

rechte Seite / right side  
Kohle und Tusche auf Leinwand /  
carbon and ink on canvas  
143 x 225 cm



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