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Portrait.

With his camera Andreas Altmann discovers motives which are very often already in his head. With a paintbrush and colours, some of the compositions then find their finish as aquarelles.

Photography has always fascinated him. He was able to finally try this out himself after his grandpa had given him a bellows camera as a gift. "As far as my pocket money went" explains Andreas Altmann of his first steps. The digital camera makes things much easier although despite the fact of modern photo technique, fundamental parameters are still valid.

The combination of photos and painting came to a later date although the passion for this was always there. He actually wanted to visit the Academy of Arts and had already been working on a work folder. Although he chose a different profession and despite a few detours, he always remained devoted to art. Over the years he refined his personal artistic style and sharpened his views. He developed a special technique in which digital photos are printed on aquarelle paper and then worked over with a paintbrush and colours. This very 3-dimensional looking combination of photo accuracy and aquarelle flow makes each picture unique and represents a "symbol of myself as person" the computer specialist explains. Accurate technology of information management in the Allianz Insurance Company is his profession and "the partly indefinite, spontaneous creativity of art I live as my vocation."

Can do much, does much.

Art is well known as being "can" – and Altmann can actually do lots: he did photo coverages on Cardinal König, Wilfried, Georg Danzer and also in 2002 opened his own studio next to the Hundertwasser-House. As was previously done in two apartments and a cultural centre, he renovated almost everything himself in his studio. But concerning the subject of woodwork he only briefly states: "no more renovating!" (Although, being the father of four children this is hardly possible in reality.) His current work deals with motives of his home town: Vienna. Many of the photo aquarelles and approx. 40 pictures in the traditional photography techniques are being exhibited at the Dancing School Hernals (summer break July/August). Long walks through the city were necessary for discovering everyday occurrences, seemingly uninteresting, unattractive, odd and also beautiful. "I don't look for motives, I find them!" He defines himself as being a "findographer"; "it is the moment, in which the motive bell rings, accounting for the kick I always seek and find". He also passes on the skill of developing the view for basics: he's already held two workshops on the subject of "Digital Photography" in the summer academy on the Greek Island Zakynthos. Inspired by the wish of combining all interests together, I am always open for all sorts of new projects.