

"Von Wunden und von Moribunden"

"Moribund" –
an Art Project

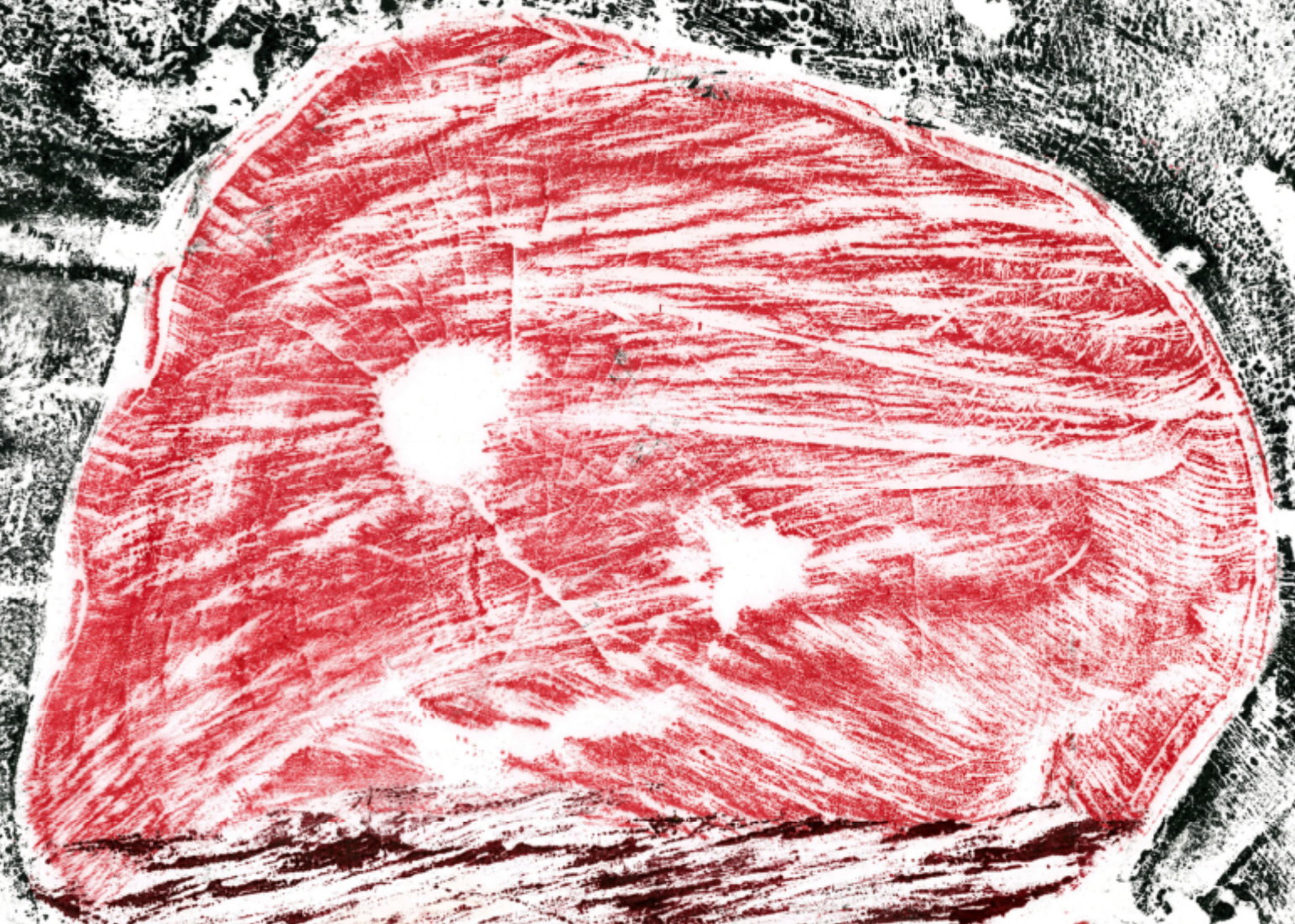
by Birgitta Volz

I am thankful to

Hibiscus Art Village Team,
Aurodhan Art Gallery,
Pavilion of Tibetan Culture Team
& Karthic Dixit

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www.birgittavolz.de



*Aurodhan Pavilion of
Tibetan Culture
Birgitta Volz 2025*

"Ein bedrohtes Experiment"

"A Sanctuary under Siege"

This art project serves as a dedication to my cherished home, Auroville (www.auroville.org.in), an international community facing immense pressure. The very principles of Auroville, once a beacon of liberalism, are under threat of manipulation by extremists. Many of us who have poured our lives and resources into this remarkable project now face the prospect of exile, forced to rebuild at an advanced age in our home countries.

The artwork serves as a potent symbol of the destruction and disregard for a sustainable future. Auroville's transformation from "The City the World Needs" into "A Place Nobody Needs" reflects a concerning repetition of past mistakes. The embrace of corruption and the erosion of its founding principles threaten the very essence of this extraordinary community.

Dieses Kunstprojekt ist Auroville (www.auroville.org.in) gewidmet, einer internationalen Gemeinschaft und meiner indischen Wahlheimat, die sich seit ein paar Jahren unter großem Druck befindet. Auroville war eine Bastion der Freiheit, aber nun werden seine Grundprinzipien ausgehebelt.

Viele Menschen, die ihr Leben lang alle ihre Ressourcen in dieses bemerkenswerte Projekt gesteckt haben, werden nun mit dem Exil konfrontiert und sind gezwungen im Alter mit "Nichts" in ihre Herkunftsländer zurückzukehren und wieder ganz von vorn anzufangen.

Meine Kunstwerke sind Symbole dieser gedankenlosen Zerstörung einer nachhaltigen Zukunft. Aurovilles herzerreissende Transformation von "Der Stadt, die die Welt braucht" hin zu einem "Ort, den die Welt sicher nicht braucht" spiegelt die traurige Wiederholung der Fehler der Vergangenheit.

Exhibition Gallery at the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture,
International Zone, 605 101 Auroville, India
March 3rd to 16th 2025

Aurodhan Art Gallery, Lalit Verma,
33, Francois Martin Street, Pondicherry 605012, India
0413 - 2222795 / 2222449, www.aurodhan.com
April 5th to 16th 2025



"Von Wunden und von Moribunden"

"Moribund" – an Art Project

This art project aims to transform some of the felled tree trunks, a daily reminder of a painful event, into meaningful works of art. These creations will serve as a poignant memorial, commemorating the loss of these magnificent shade trees and highlighting the act of environmental vandalism that occurred on January 4th, 2024, when the Crown Way was tragically denuded.

Mit diesem Kunstprojekt, das ich von Baumstümpfen gedruckt habe, möchte ich an die brutal gefällten Schattenbäume an der Hauptstrasse in Auroville erinnern.





On January 4th, 2024, the Auroville Crown Road witnessed a devastating act: the mass felling of shade trees. Ordered by the Auroville Foundation Office, these trees, planted two decades ago with European Union funding, provided crucial shade to the residential area. Only a few trees survived, where brave citizens, risking their Indian visas, chained themselves in protest. This act of environmental destruction deeply shocked the community, evoking painful memories of Cyclone Thane in 2012, when the road bore a similar desolate appearance and Auroville was declared a disaster area.

Am 4. Januar 2024 wurden auf Anweisung des Auroville Foundation Office an der Hauptstrasse fast alle Schattenbäume gefällt, die 20 Jahre zuvor mit Mitteln der Europäischen Union gepflanzt worden waren. Nur wenige Bäume überlebten das Massaker, an die sich tapfere Aurovillianer angekettet hatten, die bei dieser Aktion ihre indischen Visa riskierten. Diese blinde Zerstörung hat die Gemeinschaft von Auroville zutiefst erschüttert da dabei schmerzhaft Erinnerungen an den Zyklon Thane wachgerufen wurden. Damals, 2012, sah die Strasse ähnlich aus und die ganze Gegend war 2 Wochen lang Katastrophengebiet. Die Einwohner retteten damals viele der Bäume, indem sie diese mühevoll wieder aufgerichtet haben.



"Apocalypse",
2024,
190 x 116 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on cotton veil.

Baumstumpf-
abdruck mit
Ölfarbe auf
Baumwollstoff





"Baumstumpf",
"Tree Stump",
2024,
116 x 116 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on cotton veil.



"Meteorit",
2024,
126 x 116 cm,

Baumstumpf-
abdruck mit
Ölfarbe auf
Baumwollstoff



"Blutmond",
"Blood Moon",
2024,
131 x 111 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on cotton veil.



"Trauernde
Baumgeister"
"Mourning Tree
Spirits", 2024,
126 x 116 cm

Tree trunk prints
with oil colour
on cotton veil.

"Traurige
Überreste"
"Sad Remains",
2024,
116 x 116 cm



"Blutmond",
"Bloodmoon",
2024,
84 x 119 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on rice paper



*Blutmond
Bloodmoon
2024*



"Blutsonne",
"Blood-Sun",
2024,
97 x 97 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on rice paper.



"Verlorenes Zuhause",
"Lost Home",
2024, 98 x 98 cm,

Tree trunk print with oil
colour on rice paper.



Birgitta between
her work during
the "Liberation"
Art Camp in
Sve Dame

Birgitta between
her work during
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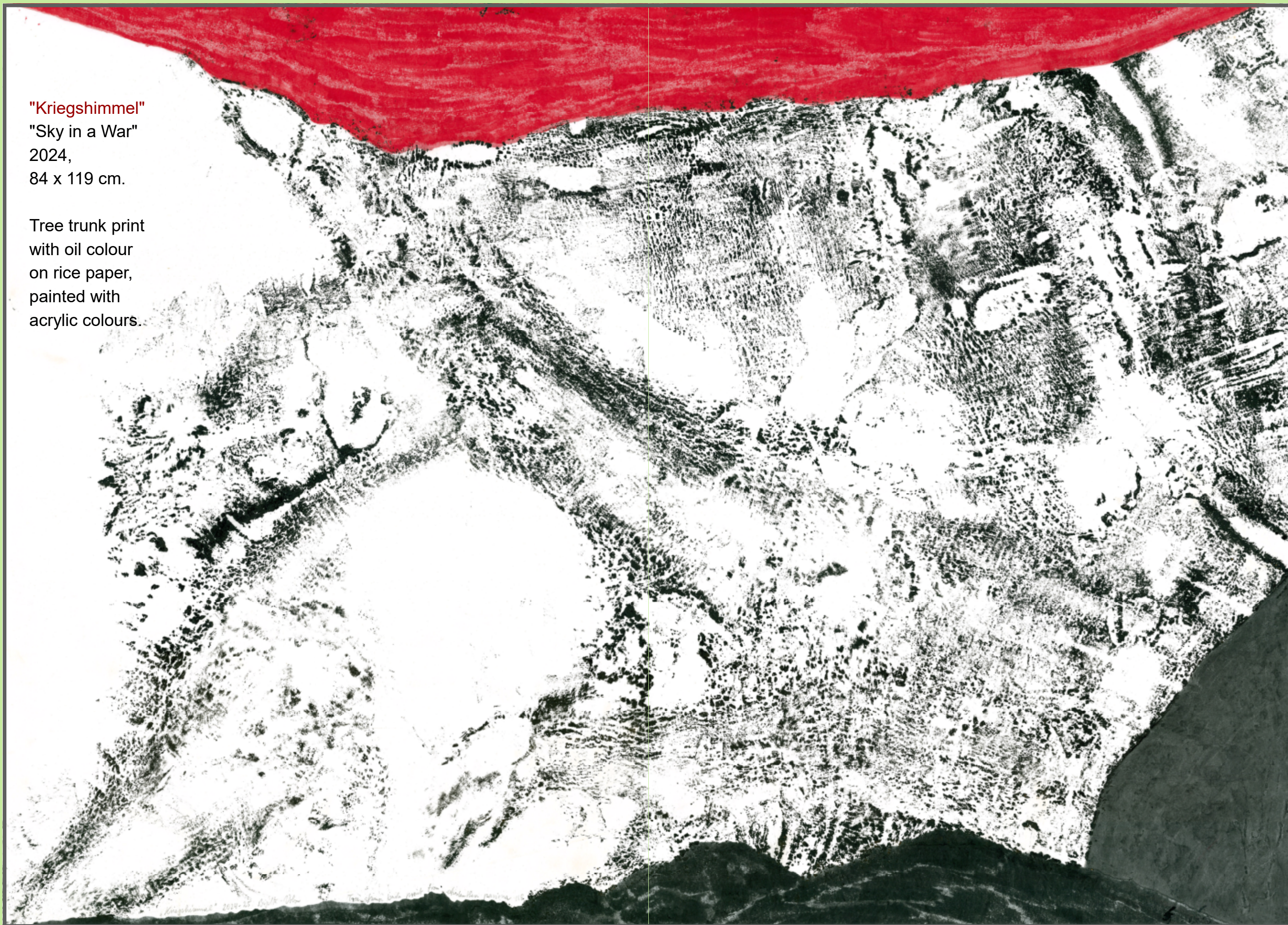
"Kriegshimmel"

"Sky in a War"

2024,

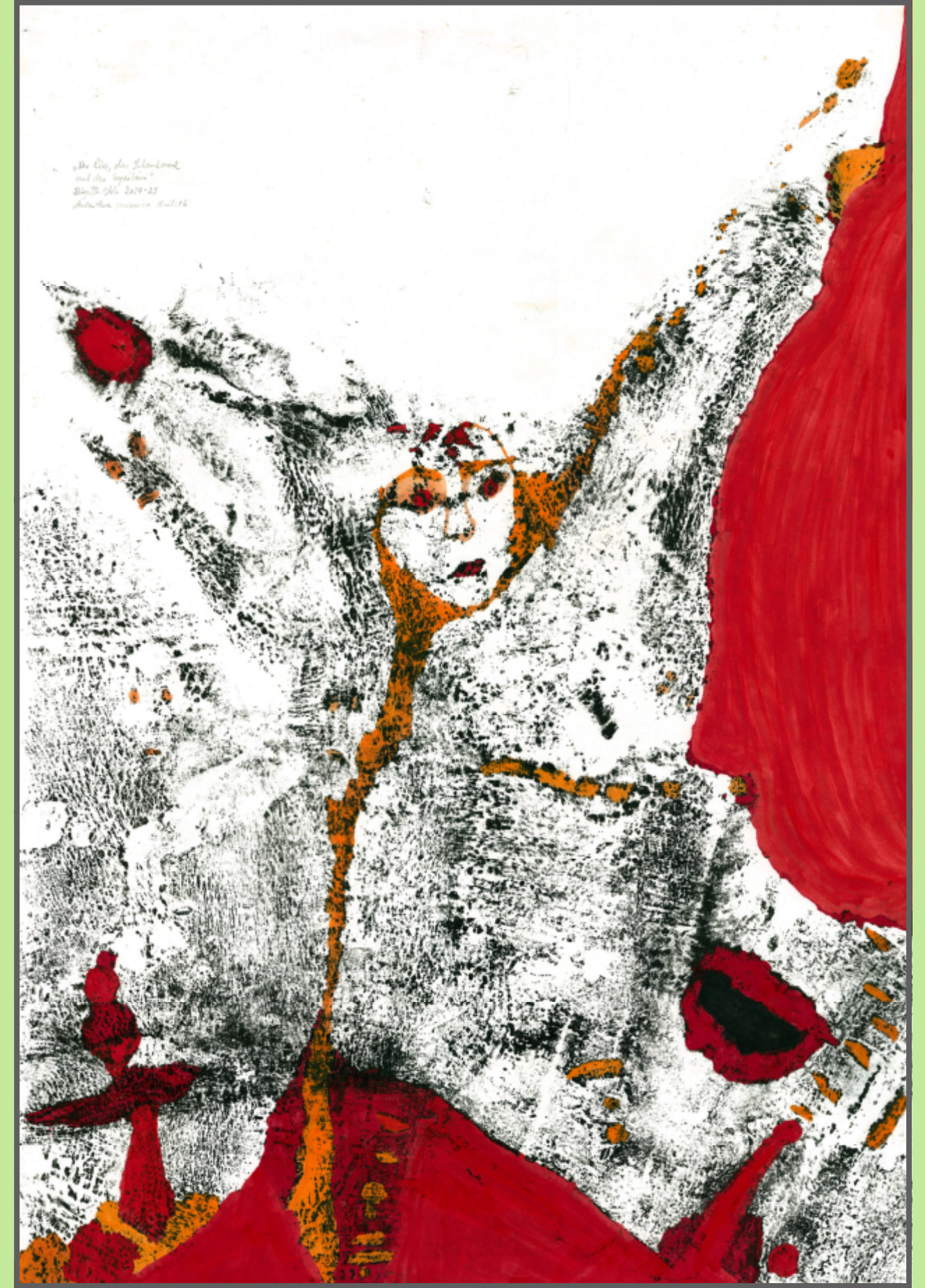
84 x 119 cm.

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on rice paper,
painted with
acrylic colours.





"Todeskuss" - "Fatal Kiss", 2024, 119 x 84 cm, tree trunk print with oil colour on rice paper, then painted with acrylic colours.



"Der Riss, das Schandmaul und das Superhirn" - "The Rupture, the Bad Mouth and the Supermind", 2024-25, 100 x 70 cm, tree trunk print with oil colour on rice paper, then painted with acrylic colours.

"Frontverlauf"

"Line of Fire"

2024,

70 x 100 cm,

Tree trunk print
with oil colour
on rice paper,
painted with
acrylic colours.

This work
stands as a
symbol for the
dramatic events
in Auroville and
the world.





"Living Tree", 2024, 100 x 70 cm, Tree trunk print with oil colour on rice paper.



"Lady of the Tree", 2024, 30 x 21 cm, Tree trunk print with oil colour on rice paper



"Diaspora", 2024-25, 70 x 100 cm, bark print from injured coconut trees with oil colour on rice paper, then painted with acrylic colours.

This work symbolizes the exodus of Aurovilians back to their countries of origin due to imposed and unacceptable changes of rules in the AV foundation.



"Schwere Verletzungen", "Heavy Injuries", 2024, 116 x 116 cm,
Bark prints with oil colour on cotton veil.

Printed during the "Heart/h/fullness" Art Camp in Aurodhan Garden, Pondicherry, India. These art works show the multiple injuries on the bark of some old coconut trees, which are the most common fruit trees in South India.

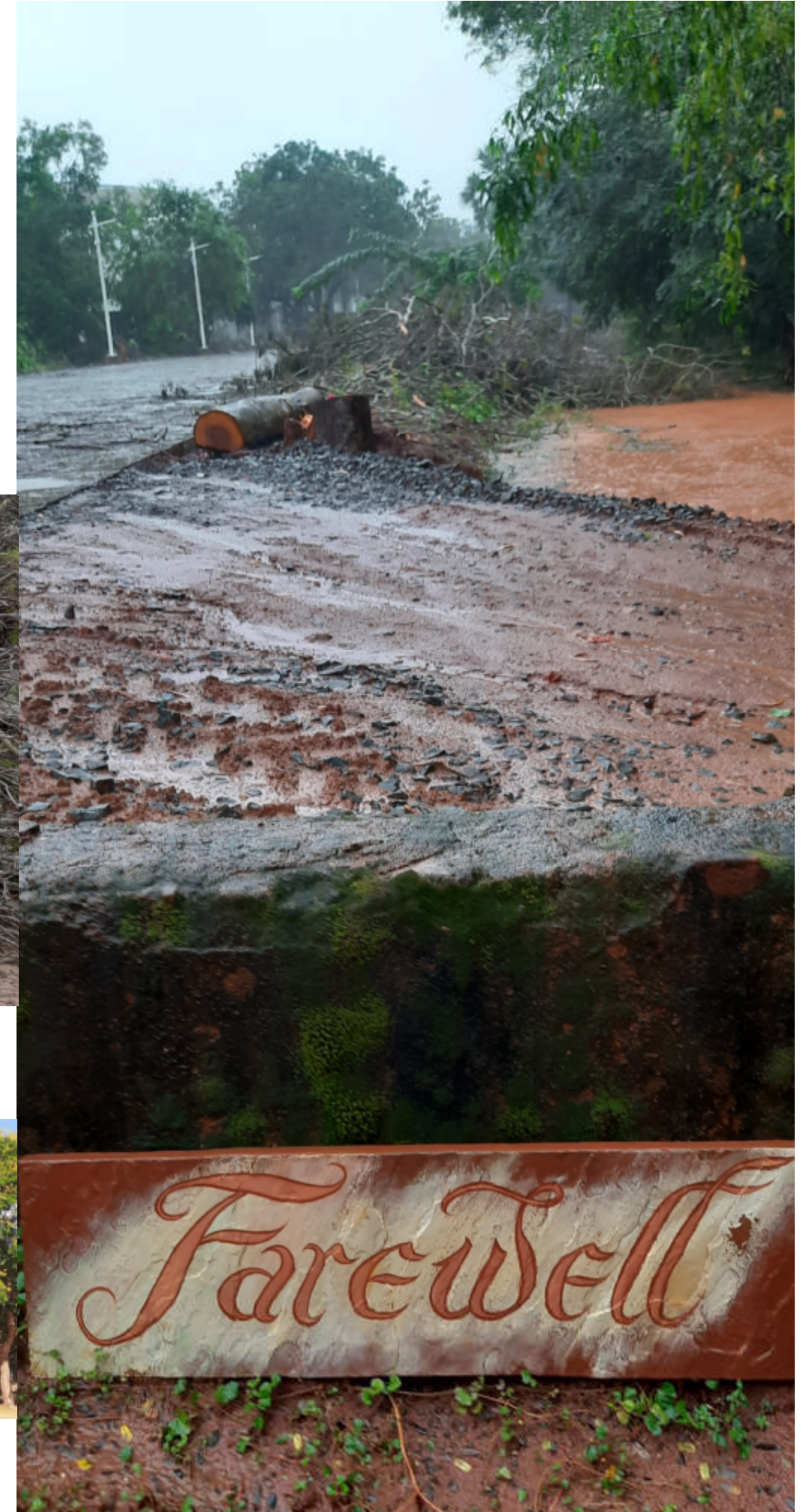
Diese Abrücke, von vielfach verletzten Cocospalmenstämmen, sind während einer internationalen Künstlerresidenz im Garten der Aurodhan Art Galerie in Pondicherry, Indien, entstanden.



The flowering trees
before the felling.



Die blühende, noch
intakte Allee.



Birgitta Volz, +91 9442300574, birgittavolz@hotmail.com, www.birgittavolz.de

- 1982 Begins artistic works with woodcuts
- 1985 Youngest member of the Association of Professional Artists in Nuremberg, Germany
- 1984-88 Studies at the Würzburg College (Commercial Art), BA
- 1987 Guest student at the "Academia de Bellas Artes", Madrid
- 1988-91 Master of Arts at the University of Modern Arts in Kassel, Germany (Graphic Arts)
- 1996-97 Invitation to lecture at the College of Art, New Delhi, India and at the University for Modern Arts in Porto, Portugal as an invited guest of the German Cultural Institute (Goethe Institute)
- 1997 Awarded the "Marielies-Hess-Foundation" art price
- 1993-98 Fellowship for 5 years in the House of Fine Arts, Wiesbaden, Germany
- 1998 Rewarded the "HAP Grieshaber Prize", Germany
- 1999 1 year fellowship of the Bavarian Government at the "International House of Artists Villa Concordia" in Bamberg (received for artistic life time achievements)
- 2000 Awarded by the "New Saxonian Gallery"
- Invitation to lecture at the College of Art in Kumasi, Ghana, as an invited guest of the German Cultural Institute and Alliance Française
- 2001 Fellowship of the German-Italian Institute "Villa Vigoni", Italy
- 2003 "Brenner's Artists in Residence" Fellowship, Baden-Baden, Germany
- Fellowship "Le Centre Est-Nord-Est", St-Jean-Port-Joli, Québec, Canada
- 2004 Artist in residence "Engramme", Quebec, Canada
- 2005 joining the international community of Auroville in the south of India
- 2006 founding "Matrigold", Birgitta's jewellery label and design company (www.matrigold.in)
- 2014 International Narrative Art Residency, Goa Chitra Museum, Goa, India
- 2018 International Chittorgarh Art Festival, Medan, India
- "The Baobab Project": Adventurous expedition with the author Konny von Schmettau into the bush of Namibia to print a 3000 year old Baobab tree
- 2019 Auroville International Art Camp, India
15. International Art Residency, "Werkstattwoche Lüben", Germany
- Invited to the "Uronto" International Art Exchange Program, Bangladesh
- 2021 Auroville International Art Camp, India
- International Artist Residency at "Pedvale Art Park", Sabile, Latvia
- 2022 Auroville International Art Camp, India
- Fellowship at "Winnerod Manor", Germany
- "Old School Art Residency", Gorna Lipnitsa, Bulgaria
- 2024 "Liberation" Art Camp, Auroville, India
- "Heartfullness" International Art Residency, Pondicherry, India
- "Farindola International Art Festival", Italy



"Lineamenta arborum" – "The Features of Trees"

Catalog in English, German and Spanish about the early bark prints of Birgitta Volz (1994 - 99)
84 pages, size: 30 x 22 cm, 1000 pieces, published in 2000

"Holzschnitte und Holzdrucke" - "Woodcuts and Woodprints"

Catalog in German about the wood prints of Birgitta Volz between 1994 and 2000
28 pages, size: 25 x 21 cm, 1000 pieces, published in 2000, ISBN: 3-935094-06-X

"Exotic Botanical Prints"

Catalog in English or German about the botanical prints of Birgitta Volz
46 pages, size: 28 x 21 cm, published in 2010

"Research of the Invisible" – Magical Bark Prints by Birgitta Volz

Catalog in English about the magic bark prints and the "Namibia Project"
56 pages, size: 24 x 17 cm, 100 pieces, published in 2018

"The Magic Drawingbook" – Varied Lewels of Perception by Birgitta Volz

Drawing book for adults in English or German with motifs of magic bark prints
80 pages, size: 22 x 16 cm, 100 pieces, published in 2019

"Bangla Time Travel" – Magical Prints by Birgitta Volz

Catalog in English about the magic prints during the "Uronto Residency" in Bangladesh
44 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm, mini edition, published in 2020

"Temple Tree" – Magical Bark Prints by Birgitta Volz

Catalog in English about the "Temple Tree Project" during the Auroville Art Camp
28 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm, mini edition, published in 2021

"The Winnerod Project" - Catalog in German about Birgitta's bark- and wall prints,

26 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm, published in 2022

"Silent Witnesses" - Root prints from an concentration camp memorial site

Catalog in English or German, 20 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm, published in 2022

"Manifesting the Galaxy" - from the bark of a tree, 40 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm,

Catalog in English, published in 2022

"Moribund" - "Von Wunden und von Moribunden", Birgitta's latest prints of tree trunks,

32 pages, size: 30 x 21 cm, Catalog in English, published in 2025

Birgitta Volz, an artist with major international recognition, can be credited with more than 112 solo exhibitions and 260 group exhibitions in 30 different countries.

Dieses Elefantengottbild hat sich an einer Cocospalmenrinde manifestiert und es ist ein Zeichen der Hoffnung in Zeiten von Umbruch und Veränderung.



"Panchamukhi Ganapati",
the 5-headed and most powerful
manifestation of Ganesha,
2024, 46 x 30 cm,
colour study on a photocopy of the
original bark print, painted with pencils
and acrylic colours.

"Trimukhi Ganapati",
der 3-köpfige Elephanten Gott,
2024, 46 x 30 cm,
Studie auf einer Fotokopie des
Originalabdrucks, mit Acrylfarbe und
Buntstift bemalt.

Left Side:

"Panchamukhi Ganapati",
the 5-headed and most
powerful manifestation of
the Elephant God,
2024, 100 x 70 cm
Coconut palm bark print with
oil colour in black and red on
rice paper, then worked out
with colour pencils.

**These Ganeshas
manifested during the
"Heart/h/fullness"
International Art Camp
and they stand as a
"Symbol of Hope" in these
times of turmoil and
change.**

