

#### 4. SWISS URBAN SKETCHERS SYMPOSIUM

# This was the Symposium, September 8-10, 2022 in Basel

«You are sitting somewhere drawing, and suddenly someone shows up with a symposium pass hanging around their neck. And you have already met a new person.» (Heidi Zurbuchen) The many new contacts with like-minded people, the constant exchanges, the joy of drawing created an enthusiastic atmosphere with an infectious effect. A tourist at Münsterplatz was so inspired by Urban Sketching that he spontaneously started drawing in his notebook with a ballpoint pen and wants to actively participate from now on. Other sketchers have found their way into Urban Sketching through the public Sketchcrawl and now enrich our meetings after the symposium.

Workshop leader Vincent Desplanche from Toulouse got to know Basel through the symposium and says: «A constant waltz of streetcars, lots of people on bicycles, a motorless ferry that crosses the Rhine using only the power of the current, swimmers passing by, museums on every corner... The city is quiet and there is little traffic. You can find an abundance of places to draw.» His colleague Jens Hübner from Berlin appreciated Basel as a backdrop for drawing: «I also found the contrast of old and new architecture very appealing.» And Imke Kämpf from Lörrach found «picturesque squares and alleys, animated in a pleasant, casual way. The whole design of the symposium provided an ideal setting for meeting and exchanging ideas with other drawing enthusiasts. One felt so welcome.»

#### The concept

There were passes for 2, 3 and 4 workshops (also for people with smaller budgets or less time) and a supporting program that could also be attended with a guest pass. (Opening event and aperitif, Drink& Draw on Thursday and Friday evening, aperitif voucher at the closing event)

Our «headquarters» during the symposium was in the School of Design, where we were allowed to use a pavilion and the auditorium for the opening event. In return, we offered an introductory workshop in urban sketching for the preliminary course.

The sketchcrawl on Saturday afternoon close to the Rhine in the Kaserne area was open to the public including sketch exhibition, auction and aperitif.



9.9.2022 / Workshop by Olivia Aloisi at Rheinsprung

From Thursday noon to Saturday noon we offered 26 workshops of 3 hours, for 13 participants each. Topics were, for example, the implementation of lighting effects, sketching with ink, perspective in architecture, colors, capturing passing people, drawing street scenes and industrial sites.

The workshops were led by: Alex Hillkurtz (US/France), Aljoscha Blau (Germany), Inma Serrano (Spain), Jens Hübner (Germany), Stephanie Bower (US), Vincent Desplanche (France) and from Switzerland or the Basel region by Simon Müller (Bern), Boris Zatko (Basel), Brindarica Bose (Aargau), Imke Kämpf (Germany/Treiländereck Basel), Kuno Strassmann (Zurich), Olivia Aloisi (Basel), Silvia Todesco (Winterthur), Tine Klein (Basel).

The workshop leaders really appreciated meeting and drawing with each other during dinner at a local restaurant on Thursday evening.



9.9.2022 / Dinner for workshop leaders and organization.

Many opportunities were also organized for the participants of the symposium to meet each other and exchange ideas: There were three supervised meeting points with flags in the old town, near which there were attractive motifs. Everything was easily accessible on foot. In addition, each symposium pass was accompanied by two tickets for crossing the Rhine on a «Basler Fähri». Brindarica Bose used this to do some speed sketching with her workshop as a warm-up during the trip across the Rhine.

«And the final sketch crawl was just awesome, how the whole place in front of the Kaserne and on the Rhine was full of sketchers. That's also incredibly motivating.» (Heidi Zurbuchen)



10.9.2022 / Sketch by Alex Hillkurtz

## The Symposium in numbers

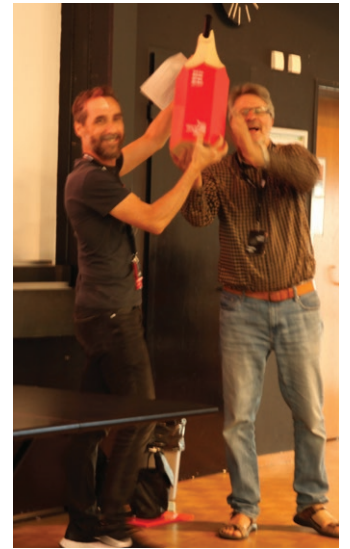
A total of 177 people participated in the Symposium:

- 104 participants with passes for 2, 3 and 4 workshops
- 30 persons with a guest pass
- 8 participants in the workshops for the School of Design
- 14 workshop leaders
- 10 persons in the organisation
- 11 helpers

## Thanks to

- Thanks to the Schule für Gestaltung Basel for hosting the symposium
- the GGG Basel (Gesellschaft für das Gute und Gemeinnützige) for the financial support that allowed us to lower the price of the passes
- the Papeterie Zumstein for the generous discount for the participants of the symposium and for the advertisement of the Sketchcrawl in the shop window
- Clairefontaine, da Vinci, Faber Castell, Hahnemühle, Leuchtturm, Schmincke and Winsor&Newton for providing drawing materials for the participants

# Impressions



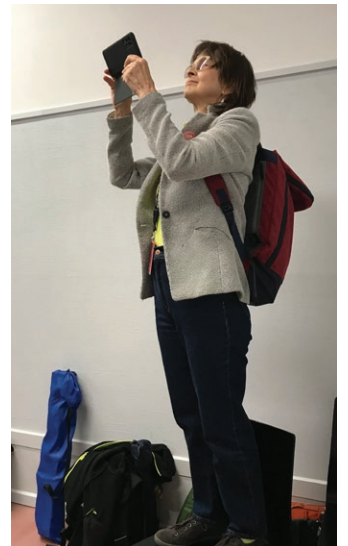
More images and sketches: <https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/uskbasel2022/>

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