



CV

Elisabeth Kopf

Projectdesigner, communication designer, artist, inventor
Educator, curator

[Elisabeth Kopf](#)

[Design Buero Baustelle](#)

[Babylon Design School](#)

[University of Applied Arts Vienna](#)

[Alliance Graphique Internationale](#)

Biography

Born in **1963** in Vorarlberg, a small province in the far west of Austria. She moved to Vienna in **1981** where she studied psychology, history and philosophy at the University of Vienna. She changed her future path when she dropped out of her studies to become a professional taxi driver, where she learned everything about the streets of Vienna and its people. In **1989**, she moved to Hong Kong, where she worked as a fitting model, travel guide and photographer. She learned everything about survival and about things she had never even heard of. Returning to Vienna in **1992**, she gave birth to her lovely son Luc one year later. This very first conscious experience of having carried into the world something miraculously wonderful was the ignition spark of her future creative life.

Autodidactic studies and projects in the fields of photography, design and art resulted in the opening of her studio **DESIGN BUERO BAUSTELLE** in **1999**. The range of her creative activities continuously expanded, and today the studio contributes to the fields of corporate identity and communication, governmental and public affairs, science, culture, health and social environments. Since **2013** the main focus has gradually shifted towards creating concepts for sustainability and nature-inspired designs.

The **DESIGN LABEL BAUSTELLE** stands for conceptual and progressive design, high quality and cross-border-thinking. Project-related cooperation with designers, writers, scientists, researchers, psychologists, cultural managers, media experts and other professionals exemplify the characteristic qualities of the studio. National and international clients as well as self-initiated projects keep the variable teams of the **NETWORK BAUSTELLE** busy.

Works such as »Little Orchestra – the Musical CD Packaging« and »Air ° Cigarette – First Aid for the Last Puff« are internationally renowned and have won various design awards, including the Sappi-ideas that matter Award. The works are presented in publications and exhibitions worldwide (AGI – best of decade; International Ink Painting Biennial Shenzhen/China). Elisabeth regularly gives talks at design events, conferences and in educational settings..

Since **2004**, she has been basing her educational activities through her faculty position at the University of Applied Arts Vienna. Also in Vienna, she founded **BABYLON DESIGN SCHOOL**, a playground of passion, fantasy and creativity.

Together with Regina Rowland, she co-founded the research and education project **ALPHABET OF LIFE – NATURE'S LEARNING LAB**. The craft and trade association »Werkraum Bregenzerwald« commissioned them to co-curate an educational exhibition and associated learning programs that took place in **2018** in the Austrian Alps.

She has been a member of **AGI – ALLIANCE GRAPHIQUE INTERNATIONALE** since **2006**. The AGI unites the world's leading graphics designers and artists. Its members encourage knowledge, understanding and design practice among the young and the alliance fosters contacts with other organizations, colleges and schools, government bodies, companies and commercial institutes.

Being linked to the international design community and working with the very future-oriented next generation of young designers provides a thrilling source of inspiration and motivation.

Voices

Stefan Sagmeister, designer, NY

The mysteriously dark blue Music Box Elisabeth Kopf designed for the Vienna Art Orchestra is one of those very few pieces that blew me away: It not only packages music beautifully, but performs music itself, thereby creating a conversation between design and content I have nowhere else experienced so elegantly ... a conceptual loop that blurs the borders not only between art and design, and between content and packaging, but also between music and object. This is innovation. She is clearly one of that small number of professionals who has risen to the very top of the industry, which is why her work was part of the AGI ‚best of decades‘ exhibit last year in Berlin.

Wang Xu, designer and curator, Guangzhou, China

“Long Life ° Air Cigarette” was the brightest work in the Ink Design Exhibition of the 4th International Ink Painting Biennial of Shenzhen.

Donovan Brien, typesetting.tv, USA

An explosion of originality—and a completely new take on graphic design.

Ahn Sang-soo, designer and educator, Seoul, South Korea

She’s our secret weapon.

Andrew Kner, Print Magazine, New York

Intellectually exciting ... avant garde and down to earth all at the same time!

Christoph Lehrner, New Design University St. Poelten

The problem with her work is, that its impact can’t be measured in numbers.

Nastja Yudina, Design-Journal, Moskau

This is intelligent design ...

Otto Kapfinger, architect, author

Zählt zum Besten, was ich je gesehen habe – nicht nur inhaltlich, sondern vor allem auch in der sehr ansprechenden Art der Darstellung.

Fons Hickmann, UdK Berlin

Her work paralyzes every effort to define design. She keeps going when others quit.

Izumi, Gallery éf, Tokyo

We all say immediately YES to your design, it’s so warm, not only sharp and clear.

Marian Waibl, former assistant

I miss your brilliant madness.

Karina Wagenhofer

Der Sturm, wenn sie ausschert, ist gewaltig und weht alles um, was nicht berechtigterweise fest steht.

What people say behind her back

Talks too much ... head in the clouds ... doesn’t accept boundaries ... fatalist ...

Exhibitions

- 2018 *Alphabet des Lebens – Lernwerkstatt Natur*, Werkraum Bregenzerwald, Andelsbuch
- 2016 *Books*, Taiwan Book Fair Foundation, Taipei, Taiwan (solo exhibition)
- 2016 *Hangeul Calligraphy + Latin Typography*, Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center, South Korea (group exhibition)
- 2016 *AGI Special Project exhibition*, DDP Seoul, South Korea (group exhibition)
- 2015 *Stage on Paper—2nd International Performing Arts Poster Design Exhibition*, National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing, China (group exhibition)
- 2015 *AGI International Poster Exhibition*, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland (group exhibition)
- 2015 *Flags of Peace*, Just Peace Festival, The Hague, The Netherlands (group exhibition)
- 2015 *Imago Mundi: Vienna for Art's Sake!*, Contemporary Art Show (Luciano Benetton Collection), Belvedere Winter Palace, Vienna, Austria, Fondazione Giorgio Cini Venice (group exhibition)
- 2014 *AGI International Poster Exhibition*, São Paulo, Brazil (group exhibition)
- 2012 *AGI Special Project exhibition*, Hong Kong, China (group exhibition)
- 2012 *Grafist 16 – International Graphic Design Show*, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey (group exhibition)
- 2009 *Sappi – ideas that matter*, City Hall Bruxelles, Belgium (group exhibition)
- 2008 *International Graphic Design Biennial*, Museum of Contemporary Art Ningbo, China (group exh.)
- 2008 *Tokyo ideal ° Air Cigarette*, Gallery éf, Tokyo (solo exhibition)
- 2007 *Spotlight '07: Roadshow Austrian Design Future*, Designforum Vienna, Austria (show director)
- 2006 *360° Design Austria*, Designforum, Vienna, Austria (group exhibition)
- 2006 *face2face*, Designzentrum Stuttgart, Germany (group exhibition)
- 2005 *design2context*, Lausanne, Switzerland (group exhibition)
- 2005 *Herzklopfen*, LOKal, Vienna, Austria (solo exhibition)
- 2005 *AGI – best of decade*, Berlin, Germany (group exhibition)
- 2004 *International Ink Painting Biennial*, Shenzhen, China (group exhibition)
- 2004 *Open Horizon*, Accenture, Vienna, Austria (solo exhibition)

Curating

- 2018 *Alphabet des Lebens – Lernwerkstatt Natur*, Werkraum Bregenzerwald, Andelsbuch, Austria
- 2013 *Das Blut der Angewandten*, Babylon Design School, The Essence 2013, Künstlerhaus Vienna
- 2010 *Peter Herbert – 50 portraits*, Remise Bludenz, Austria
- 2007 *Spotlight '07: Roadshow Austrian Design Future*, Designforum Vienna, Austria
- 2001 *Best Austrian graphic designers*, Print Magazine NY / European Regional Design Annual

Lectures

- 2019 *Circular Design – kreislauffähig entwerfen*, wei sraum / designforum Tirol, Innsbruck, Austria
- 2019 *Knowledge Jam: Factory Session #1 – Innovate: Architecture*, Die Brotfabrik, Vienna, Austria
- 2019 *Blickwechsel: Handwerk und Design im Einklang mit Ästhetik und Ökologie*, Museum für Angewandte Kunst Frankfurt
- 2018 *Alphabet des Lebens*, Lange Nacht der Wissenschaft, designforum Vorarlberg, Austria
- 2016 *Art of Design / Art of Design Education*, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2016 *AGI Outdoor Studio*, Dongdæmun Design Plaza, Seoul, South Korea
- 2015 *Hearing Lecture*, FH Vorarlberg, Dornbirn, Austria

- 2014** *14 Grafikerinnen im Wien des 20. Jahrhunderts*, Designforum, Vienna, Austria
- 2013** *The mobile University: Bregenz Forest – Cradle of Design*, AGI Congress, London, GB
- 2012** *A lot of a lot*, Grafist '16, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2010** *How we made Einstein roll over*, AGI Congress, Porto, Portugal
- 2009** *Global identities and an extraterrestrial view*, Academy of Visual Arts Leipzig, Germany
- 2008** *Global identities and an extraterrestrial view*, Int. Graphic Design Biennial Ningbo, China
- 2008** *Dinge, die mehr werden, wenn man sie teilt*, Academy of Visual Arts Leipzig, Germany
- 2008** *The curtain of Parrhasius*, Philosophical Cafe, Alfred Adler Institute Vienna, Austria
- 2008** *The edge of chaos*, Büro '16, Vienna, Austria
- 2008** *Elisabeth Kopf Baustelle*, Froum Stadtpark, Graz, Austria
- 2008** *Design past and future*, Buero Baustelle, Vienna, Austria
- 2007** *Unknown Land*, AGI Congress, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2006** *Olympic Torch Action Poster*, AGI Tokyo (contribution to lecture series)
- 2006** *Design lernt schwimmen, face²face*, Designzentrum Stuttgart, Germany
- 2004** *Auge Gottes*, alessandri design studio, Vienna, Austria
- 2002** *Design Austria 75th Anniversary Conference*, MQ Architekturzentrum, Vienna, Austria

Performances

- 2019** *Warten auf Grün*, Warteraum Mini-Kino at Montforter Zwischentöne, Feldkirch, Austria
- 2010** *Film Requiem live with Peter Herbert*, Remise Bludenz, Austria
- 2010** *Fire on Earth*, Remise Bludenz, Austria
- 2007** *Film Requiem live with Peter Herbert*, Int. Society of Bases Convention, Oklahoma, USA
- 2000** *Film Requiem live with Peter Herbert*, Millenniumsperformance, Feldkirch, Austria
- 1999** *Film Requiem live with Paul Skrepek jr.*, dieTheater Konzerthaus, Vienna, Austria
- 1998** *Little Orchestra – Live with Vienna Art Orchestra*, VAO World Tour, Porg&Bess, Vienna, Austria
- 1997** *Little Orchestra – Live with Vienna Art Orchestra*, VAO World Tour, Brucknerhaus, Linz, Austria

Awards and grants

- 2020** *IIID-Award Silver – Category Sustainability*
- 2017** Impact Innovation – FFG research grant (*Alphabet des Lebens*)
- 2004** Sappi – ideas that matter Award and innovation grant
- 2004** Joseph-Binder-Award
- 2003** Grafic Europe – Emerging Designer
- 2001** Gustav-Klimt-Award
- 2001** Selected Designer of Austria, Print Magazine NY / European Regional Design Annual
- 2000** Joseph-Binder-Awards
- 2000** Art Directors Club New York, Merit Design Award
- 2000** European Design Annual, Certificate of Design Excellence
- 1999** European Design Annual, Certificate of Design Excellence
- 1998** European Design Annual, Certificate of Design Excellence

Selected bibliography

- 2019** *Homework: Design Education, Practice & Process*, Alliance Graphique Internationale / Ahn Graphics Publisher, South Korea

- 2016** *Hangeul Calligraphy + LatinTypography*, exhibition catalogue, Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center, South Korea
- 2016** *First Choice: Leading International Designers...*, Ken Cato, Images Publishing Dist Ac, Australia
- 2014** *Catálogo Exposição Internacional de Cartazes AGI*, exhibition catalogue, AGI Brazil
- 2014** *Imago Mundi / Vienna for Art's Sake / Archive Austria / Contemporary Art / Luciano Benneton Collection*, published by Fabrica, Italy
- 2014** *Golden Meaning / Graphic Design & Mathematics*, published by GraphicDesign&, London, UK
- 2013** *Heidelinde Resch: 14 Grafikerinnen im Wien des 20. Jahrhunderts*, Design in Österreich Band 3, published by Design Austria, Ambra Verlag, Austria
- 2013** *Das Blut der Angewandten*, Babylon Design School, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria
- 2012** *Heaven & Hell – AGI special project exhibition catalogue*, Hong Kong, China
- 2012** *Grafist 16 – International Graphic Design week*, catalogue, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2012** *100 beste Plakate A/D/CH 2011*, catalogue
- 2012** *One by One: Graphic Designers of the World Today*, published by Jiangping He, Berlin
- 2011** *IdN v17n4: 100th Issue / 10 designer / 10 curators*, design magazine, Hong Kong, China
- 2011** *Marke Österreich*, published by Liquid Frontiers/Die Presse/Österreichische Post AG
- 2009** *Sappi – ideas that matter – 10th anniversary*, catalogue
- 2008** *HQ. high quality. Best of Advertising, Art, Design, Photography, Writing*. Edition Braus.
- 2007** *AGI – Graphic Design since 1950*, edited by Ben & Elly Boss, Thames and Hudson, UK
- 2007** *AGI – TO KYO TO*, edited by Jiangping He, published by hesing Berlin, Germany
- 2007** *FAQ Graphic Design*, edited by Elisabeth Kopf, published by NDU, St. Pölten, Austria
- 2007** *women make*, published by Wang Xu, China
- 2006** *360° Design Austria #1 – Artificial Atlas of Austrian Design*, edited by Designforum
- 2006** *4th International Ink Painting Biennial of Shenzhen*, exhibition catalogue, China
- 2005** *Sappi – ideas that matter 5*, award catalogue, published by Sappi Limited
- 2008** *Designer*, magazine, Moscow, Russia
- 2003** *area – 100 of the world's most innovative emerging graphic designers*, Phaidon Press NY
- 2003** *This End up: Original Approaches to Packaging Design*, Mono Design, published by Rotovision
- 2002** *lighter 7/2002*, design magazine, Beijing, China
- 2001** *Print Magazine – European Regional Annual*, New York, USA
- 2000** *European Design Annual 5*, RotoVision
- 1999** *European Design Annual 4*, RotoVision
- 1995** *Zwischenzeit – Ein intermediales Symposium*, catalogue, Schratzenberg, Austria

Juries

- 2016** Golden Butterfly – Best Books of Taiwan, Taiwan Book Fair Foundation, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2016** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, Seoul, South Korea
- 2015** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland
- 2014** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2013** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, London, United Kingdom
- 2012** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, Hong Kong, China
- 2012** 100 beste Plakate A/D/CH, Berlin, Germany
- 2008** International Graphic Design Award Ningbo, China
- 2007** Sappi – ideas that matter Award, Maastricht, Netherlands
- 2007** AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale/new members, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2006** Sussmann Stiftung, Vienna, Austria
- 2001** Art Directors Club New York 80th Annual Awards, New York, USA

Affiliations

- 2017** Founding member of Bioversum – Nature-inspired Systems
- 2012 – 2016** Board member of AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale (treasurer)
- 2006 – now** Member of AGI – Alliance Graphique Internationale
- 2006 – 2008** Board member of Design Austria
- 1998 – now** Member of Design Austria

Clients

Accenture GmbH, Agentur Engel, Alfred Adler Center International, Aktionstheater Ensemble, Amúr Wien, Austrian Association of Individual Psychology, Austrian Federal Chancellery, Austrian Samaritans, Austrian Red Cross, Azizamusic New York, Biestmilch, Bootleggers Syndicate, Chmafu Records, Design Austria, Diamo, Die Presse, Edition Bahnhof, Elisabeth Schimana, Evelyn Fink-Mennel, Frauenmuseum Hittisau, Gallery éf Tokyo, Hannes Löscher, IMA Institute of Media Archeology, Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung, Jazztage Bludenz, Landscape Honey Austria, linchpin, Museum für Verhütung und Schwangerschaftsabbruch, NutritionDay Worldwide, Phœnix Baroque Austria, Regionale 08, Ri Filme, Ri Filme, Science Communications GmbH, Universal Music, University of Vienna/Institute of Austrian Historical Research, Traps Audio Productions, Vienna Art Orchestra, VINCE, Vonbank Orgelbau, VOR Verkehrsverbund Ost Region, Wang Chaoying (Tokyo/Shanghai), Wang Xu (Guangdong, China), Werkraum Bregenzerwald, Wolfgang Hermann, Wolfgang Reisinger, Yvonne Oswald, Zufallsproduktion

Teaching positions

- 2004 – now** University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria (lecturer)
- 2008 – 2014** University of Applied Sciences Graz, Austria (lecturer)
- 2009 – 2010** Atelier Tipografic ² (international coach and coordinator of the Austrian participants)
A cooperation of the Association of Dutch Designers (BNO), Grafische Cultuurstichting, University Leiden, Design Austria, Typografische Gesellschaft Austria, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Universitatea Nationala de Arte din Bucuresti
- 2006 – 2007** New Design University St. Pölten, Austria (guest professor))

Workshops / symposia

- 2017** *Nature-inspired Design*, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria (symposion)
- 2016** *Alphabet of Life*, Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan (workshop)
- 2014** *Blood*, University of Applied Sciences Vorarlberg, Austria (workshop)
- 2012** *Blood*, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University Istanbul, Turkey (workshop)
- 2010** *Europe—Design—Politics*, National University of Arts Bucharest, Romania (workshop)
- 2009** *Hallo Sonne!*, Academy of Visual Arts Leibzig, Germany (workshop)

Outdoor Studio / Waldwoche

- 2018** *Urknall 2te Erde*, Waldwoche Bregenzerwald / Austria (workshops)
- 2018** *Universion Wanderklasse*, Waldwoche Bregenzerwald / Austria (workshops)
- 2017** *Biomimicry Lernworkshop*, Werkraum Bregenzerwald / Austria (workshop)