

Culture Play Spaces – farmhouse parlor

Kultur Spiel Räume - STUBENrein

LOCATION

Murau, Austria

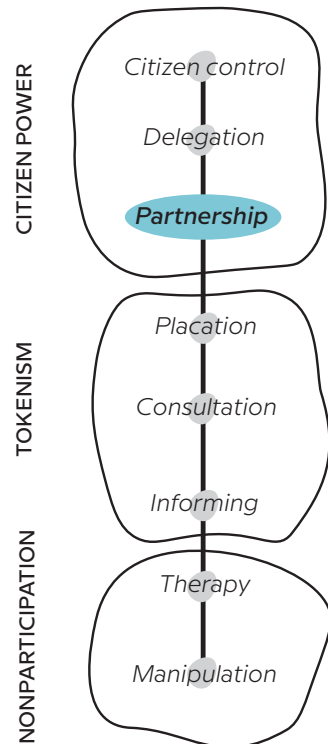
TIME PERIOD

From 2019 to 2022



THE PROJECT

The Culture Play Spaces project takes place in 14 municipalities around the district capital Murau. The creative works have been implemented in very different places, from a vacant vicarage to a parking place. The targeted goal of the project was to find up-to-date ways to gather the local community. Traditions are not taken up in their formal form here, but in their important function for a successful living together.



DESCRIPTION OF THE SPACE

The area around the district capital Murau covers a total of 1,385 km², 14 municipalities and 28,000 inhabitants. Its remoteness comes from the fact that it is sparsely populated and suffered from falling populations since the 1970s. Moreover, the numerous small hamlets and scattered farms make transportation and access to daily-life-support facilities difficult. The area has historically grown public spaces (e.g. squares in front of churches). But more important are unconventional ones such as bars, empty restaurants or barns that seem to be more spontaneous places for public gatherings.

INITIATION AND ACTORS

The STUBENrein project was created in 2016 on the initiative of the regional development

association "Holzwelt Murau" (Wood World Murau). The series of different events have been organized by the theater director Andreas Staudinger, the project manager and architect Gunilla Plank and the curator and artist Uli Vonbank-Schedler.

ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & METHODS USED

Within the 14 municipalities, the goal of (re)designing social coexistence in the area has been developed by various activities, from an exhibition in a bus stop to events related to culture. The local protagonists played a central role in the implementation, as their local network was used. This close cooperation between the local community and the organizers ensured that themes were dealt with were important for the people. The project also

gives women a special place in the activities with the idea of making visible their lives, wishes, goals, living conditions and disappointed hopes. Without the help of Gunilla Plank, who is employed by the "Holzwelt Murau" association and the financial support from LEADER project (EU), the project could not have come to life.

RESULT

STUBENrein seems to have reached its targeted impacts. The local community has been truly involved and new dynamics have emerged. Moreover, politically, socially and culturally well-trodden paths were broken up. However, some projects did not work out the needs of the population. That is the case of some podcasts because apparently the need to come together in real space is too strong. The beneficiaries of this project are probably those who are currently not sufficiently represented in general social life, such as part-time farmers, young women-farmers, the socially disadvantaged, ... More broadly, we can say that these activities have been well perceived by users and this should lead to local follow-up events.



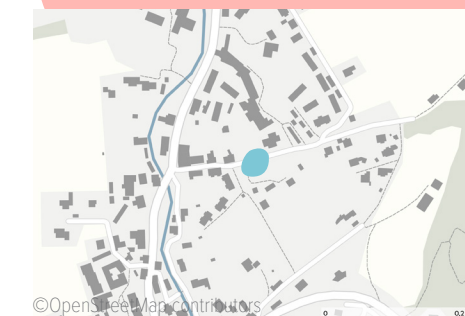
Kultur muss sich lohnen ©Gunilla Plank



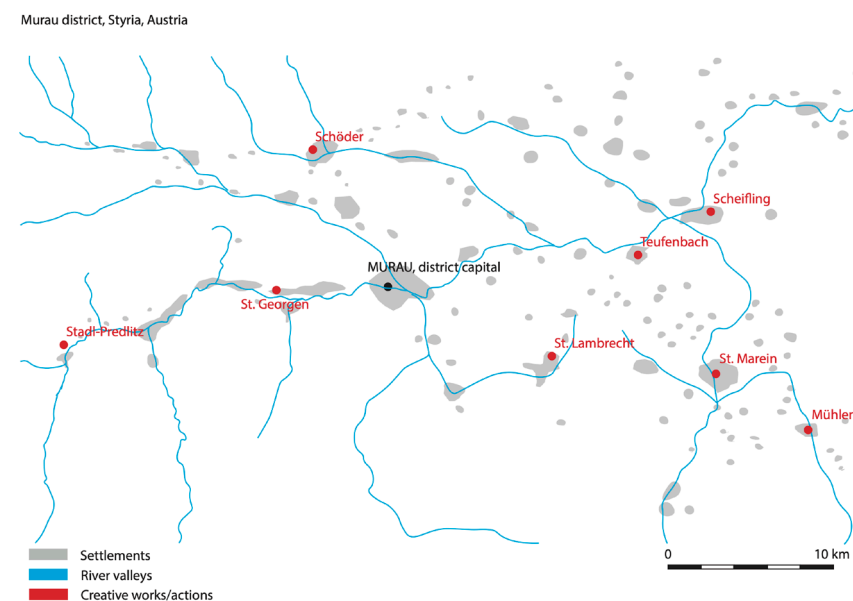
Busstop, 2021 June 17th ©FH JOANNEUM – photo by thuemmel-strittmatter



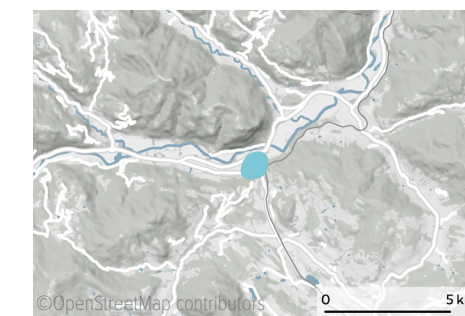
MurauerInnen, Heldinnen May 2020 ©Andreas Staudinger



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Locations of some actions/projects in the Murau district ©FH JOANNEUM – drawing by thuemmel-strittmatter



Murau, Styria, Austria

more about this project

