

GERECHT? Geschichten über soziale Ungleichheiten

Creative Writing Project

Into Words

Words – the raw material we have at our disposal. Pens, pencils, keyboards and fingertips are the tools we used to weave some of these words into strings, to make something out of single units as random as life itself, to create some meaning. We stitched these strings of words into texts and poems in an attempt to communicate, to share our thoughts, to establish some common ground, or, at least, to trigger some sort of reaction – any reaction.

In literary texts the intended meaning may remain elusive – often lost between the lines, the undulations of the fabric. But we choose our words with care, we keep looking for the right ones, and if by doing so we chance upon a morsel of common ground, a bridge or a bypass here and there, we might feel that something has come through, something has happened between the writer and the reader or the listener – a fleeting moment of recognition, familiarity, perhaps an epiphany of sorts – even if just once in a while.

Worlds are built, characters come to life, thoughts are laid out to be heard loud and clear, and then a message might be communicated, something might emerge and lie out there to be read and heard and discussed. As authors we can't help but keep asking: is there enough common ground for this to happen? With the selection of texts included in this booklet we have tried to share our thoughts, to give voice to named or nameless individuals who may have experienced the same worries and heartaches as many others have time and again over the ebbs and flows of history. We have tried to give voice to all those who may have faced the same challenges, the same cruelties, the same forms of injustice.

There are quite a few pertinent questions that the curators of the exhibition *GERECHT? Geschichten über soziale Ungleichheiten* have raised. We have merely attempted to engage with some of these questions and the exhibits by creating ad hoc short fiction and poetry. Don't expect to find any answers. We can hardly give you any. But, we would be really glad if, in an attempt to reflect on the questions and the significance of the objects displayed, we have managed to meet each other someplace – amidst a smile or a nod – and, at the same time, raised more questions!

Violet Stathopoulou-Vais

Senior Lecturer, Applied Language Studies
Department of English
University of Innsbruck

October 2025



GERECHT? Geschichten über soziale Ungleichheiten

Echoes of Freedom

by Reka Pihes

DARFST DU SEIN, WER DU BIST?

CAN YOU BE WHO YOU ARE?

The Syringe

by Amelie Trippolt

A Syringe Made of Wood

by Frida Haardt

WER BESTIMMT ÜBER DEINEN KÖRPER?

WHO TAKES THE DECISIONS REGARDING YOUR BODY?

They Marched into Town

by Jonas André Oberparleiter

The Object is Oppression

by Christopher R. Standley

MUSS IMMER JEMAND BESTRAFT WERDEN?

DOES SOMEONE ALWAYS HAVE TO BE PUNISHED?

The Process of Creation

by Hanne Berendse

DARFST DU ALLES ANZIEHEN?

CAN YOU WEAR WHAT YOU WANT?

Untitled

by Jonas André Oberparleiter

WER RICHTET ÜBER DICH?

WHO IS YOUR JUDGE?

Privilege or Punishment

by Reka Pihes

WAS VERSTEHST DU UNTER GUTER ERZIEHUNG?

WHAT IS A GOOD UPBRINGING?

Gilded Hopes

by Violet Vais

KANNST DU DIR JEDE MEDIZIN LEISTEN?

CAN YOU AFFORD YOUR MEDICINES AND TREATMENTS?

The Weight of Words

by Clara Benedikter

The Day I Tried on The Norm

by Tanja Niederkofler

ENTSPRICHST DU DER „NORM“?

DO YOU FIT THE 'NORM'?

The Lay of the Mine

by Laurin Klocker

WAS, WENN DU DEINE ARBEIT VERLIERST?

WHAT IF YOU LOSE YOUR JOB?

Unseen

by Hanne Berendse

Unspoken

by Violet Vais

WIRD DEINE ARBEIT GESCHÄTZT?

DOES YOUR WORK GET APPRECIATED?

Laying Down the Sickle

by Christopher R. Standley

HAST DU WIRKLICH FEIERABEND?

CAN YOU REALLY CALL IT A DAY?

Detritus

by Violet Vais

WAS HINTERLÄSST DU?

WHAT DO YOU LEAVE BEHIND?

The Black Baby Doll

by Lara Wilhelm

Between Silence and Slivers – Black

by Albona Berani

WIE BENUTZT DU SPRACHE?

HOW DO YOU USE LANGUAGE?

The Warrior Cape

by Amelie Trippolt

My Name is Konjo

by Ezekiel Rockson

WAS TUN WIR JETZT DAMIT?

WHAT TO DO WITH IT NOW?