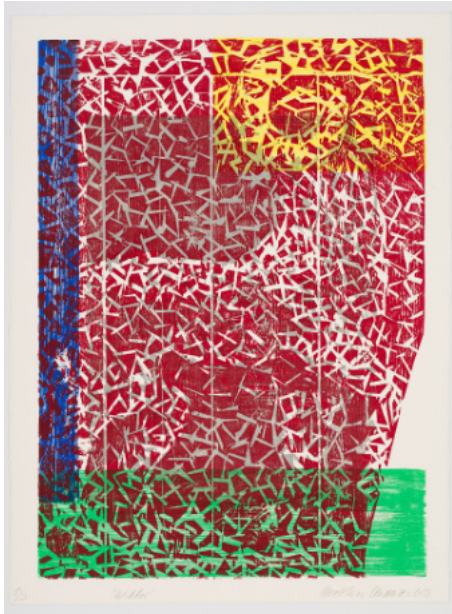


## Matthias Mansen

### Signs of the Zodiac

August 31 - September 3, 2003



Matthias Mansen, *Aries*, 2023  
Colour woodcut, 76 x 56 cm  
Ed. 5 plus 3 AP



Matthias Mansen, *Leo*, 2023  
Colour woodcut, 76 x 56 cm  
Ed. 5 plus 3 AP

### Signs of the Zodiac - Walking and Remembering

The series of *Tierkreiszeichen* (*signs of the zodiac*) extends the *Potsdamer Strasse* series from 2012-2017. Some motifs such as Capricorn, Aries and Taurus were already developed in *Potsdamer Strasse*. They represent micro-sections of the facades, which found their way into the series of *Potsdamer Strasse*. Here Matthias Mansen observed the street and its facades in the role of the flâneur.

Dorit Schäfer describes this attitude as follows: "The multifaceted cutouts show Potsdamer Strasse as a synthesis of multiple realities with the potential for complex recollections, ranging from individual experience to historical events, from fleeting impressions to that which is shared by all. In *Peintre de la vie moderne*, Charles Baudelaire analyzed the art of his fellow-flâneur Constantin Guys and explained how Guys revealed „the poetry that resides in its historical envelope“ and distilled „the eternal from the transitory“. “ The sculptural facade decorations, familiar to Matthias Mansen, become a new phenomenon through close observation and inspired Mansen to create the series of *Tierkreiszeichen*.

All twelve motifs were created in three versions: color woodcuts in an edition of five copies (76 x 56 cm) b/w woodcuts in an edition of three copies (112 x 76 cm) these as a combination of woodcut and monotype in five unique copies each (112 x 76 cm)

\* Dorit Schäfer, *Alles ist Ausschnitt!*, catalogue accompanying the exhibition at Staatlichen Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, January 26 - March 31, 2019  
Wienand Verlag, Köln, 2019, p. 24