

Crystallography and Art in Kiel, and elsewhere

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In the past few years we have striven for i) a popularization of the concepts of crystallography, and ii) fostering the dialogue between art and crystallography at Kiel. This happened in close cooperation between the University of Kiel and the Muthesius-Kunsthochschule.

One of the authors (WD) gave several public lectures at Kiel, Dresden and other places, thereby introducing the basic concepts of crystallography, pointing at its occurrence and importance in Nature, Science, daily life, technology – and Art. The other author (VE) has mainly been involved with the concepts, organisation and staging of various exhibitions to which she also contributes with own paintings. The exhibitions associate scientists – usually from crystallography or geosciences – and artists: painters, designers, sculptors, photographers. Some exhibitions of the past three years were: "Ecken & Kanten - Kristall zwischen Wissenschaft und Kunst" („Edges and Corners – Crystal between Science and Art“), Kiel, 2002; "Muster über Muster – Strukturen in Geowissenschaften und Kunst" ("Patterns on Patterns – Structures in Geosciences and Art“), Kiel, 2002; „Mineral(t)räume“ ("Space of Minerals, Dreams of Minerals“), Kiel, 2003, "Geometrie und andere Ordnungen" ("Geometry and beyond“), München, 2004. We will present the key ideas of the project and give an account of our experiences.

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