Judge's Commentary

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Paul Klees beidseitig bearbeitete Bilder

Time and again, Paul Klee would paint pictures on both sides of a piece of paper. Was there meaning in this action? To what degree was this intentional on his part? Further, there were cases where the paper used in these works was permeable, and in other instances, non-permeable paper was used. Thus, even though both were "two-sided works," surely there was some difference between these two types. This article is highly praiseworthy for the results gained from a thorough onsite survey at the Paul Klee Archive in Bern. It represents an enterprising experiment that shines new light on fascinating questions that surround these two-sided works of Paul Klee, a subject that has not been fully addressed in the past.

The author's analysis of the examples created on permeable media used iconographic and semantic methodologies, while on the other hand, the works on non-permeable media were examined in terms of production methodology and how they were perceived. This difference in approach sought to highlight the different character of the subjects, and should be understood as a conscious choice. In this regard, the author's stance, with the various art historical methodologies in mind, can be read as an attempt to investigate the ambiguous and multifunctional characteristics of Klee's two-sided works.

Thus, particularly in the latter type (non-permeable), the production motives were the stock function, representation and rediscovery of motifs. In this article the author takes up only one of each of the two types as examples, but, as noted by the author, there are more than 550 examples of two-sided works in Klee's oeuvre, and we must await further surveys and analysis for

an inclusive study of the type as a whole. We can anticipate that further research on the mutual effects opened by the front and back surfaces will clarify from a completely new vantage point the true meaning of Klee's art, expressed as "art works always in the process of becoming." This article reveals this rich potential. We hereby award the *Bijutsushi* Article Prize to this article.