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## **jevouspropose#15**

**Doris Stauffer. Photography. Insights into the archive**

**Exhibition: 27 September – 25 November, 2023**

**Opening: 26 September, 6–8 pm**

### **Thematic talks**

**Photography. Reportage. Archive: Tuesday, 24 October, 6.30 pm**

**Political Engagement: Wednesday, 8 November, 6.30 pm**

**Art Education: Saturday, 25 November, 2 pm**

For jevouspropose#15, Marianne Burki (art historian and curator) proposes Doris Stauffer 1934–2017.

The work of artist, art educator, and activist Doris Stauffer (1934–2017) is incredibly diverse, a resolute combination of life and art that was often misunderstood. “I am a snowplow,” the artist declared. “I pave the way for those who come after me.” The Doris Stauffer archive, housed within the Swiss National Library’s Prints and Drawings Department, offers a comprehensive window into her deliberate fusion of disciplines. A photography graduate from the Zurich School of Applied Arts, Stauffer incorporated photography throughout her work in myriad forms. A search for traces.

Marianne Burki

### **Marianne Burki**

Marianne Burki is a freelance art historian and curator with a focus on art and society and cultural strategies. Since 2020 she is the director of TaDA - Textile and Design Alliance, which brings together artists and designers with the textile industry of Eastern Switzerland. Together with Li Zhenhua she holds the artistic direction of Sequerciani Arte Clima. In 2021, she has co-curated the exhibition “Balance. 1970–1990: Kunst, Gesellschaft, Umwelt” (Balance. 1970–1990: Art, Society, Environment) at the Solothurn Museum of Art.

From 2006 to 2019, she was Head of Visual Arts at the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and responsible, among other things, for the Swiss Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Previously, she was director of the Kunsthaus Langenthal and worked as project manager of the “Catalogue Raisonné Paul Klee” at the Paul Klee Foundation. She is the author of the film «Mariann Grunder, Bildhauerin» (Mariann Grunder, Sculptress).

### **Doris Stauffer**

Doris Stauffer (\* 1934 in Amden/CH, † 2017 in Zurich/CH) described herself as an “artist, photographer, activist, housewife and art mediator”. Her work often found expression in the form of happenings and performances, with Doris Stauffer often preferring public space to institutionalised exhibition formats. For her assemblages, she used everyday materials from her private environment such as discarded toys and sewing utensils and other objects - the proximity to life are important elements of her work at the time, which is characterised by an anti-patriarchal stance.

Stauffer was a co-founder of the F+F Schule für Kunst und Design (F+F School of Art and Design) as well as the Frauenbefreiungsbewegung (FBB) (Women’s Liberation Movement). She was committed to an education that also met the needs of women. Her unconventional teaching methods, such as the “Hexenkurse” (Witches courses), polarised in the 1960s and 1970s. In 2015, she received from the City of Zurich the “Preis für besondere kulturelle Verdienste” (award for special cultural merits) and in 2019, her first and only institutional solo exhibition entitled “Je peux faire disparaître un lion” opened at the Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris. Doris Stauffer’s archive was transferred to The Swiss National Library’s Prints and Drawings Department in 2019.

In this very archive the presentation at jevouspropose was developed.

### **jevouspropose**

jevouspropose is a curatorial series by Sabina Kohler and accomplices.

Several times a year, jevouspropose invites a personality to propose an artist with a specific group of works. The works will be installed in the space of jevouspropose, celebrated with an opening and remain on view for a while. At the same time, the respective presentation is expanded and continued in virtual space: the proposer and the artist will have a chat, a visual ping-pong on the works and themes on display ([instagram.com/je\\_vous\\_propose](https://www.instagram.com/je_vous_propose)).