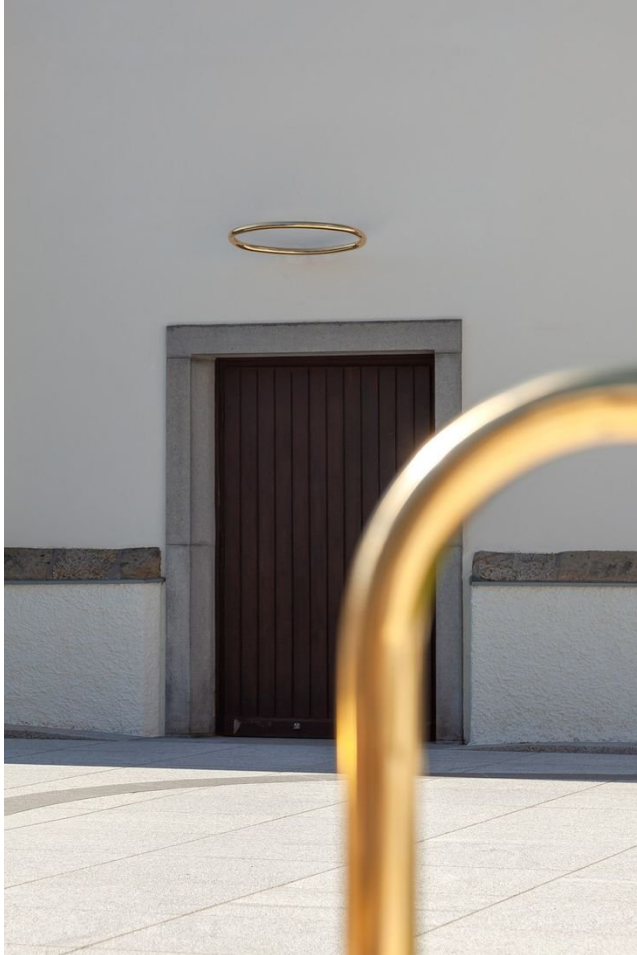


## STUDIO JUDITH HUEMER

### Our recommendation for autumn: a trip to the Mühlviertel

#### *Trilogie für Schönau*

Jakobskirche, Schönau im Mühlkreis, Austria



Judith Huemer *Trilogie für Schönau* · Photo: Ulrich Kehrer

This site-specific artwork for the forecourt and portal of the Jakobskirche in Schönau im Mühlkreis – a historic site along the pilgrim route – makes the stages of life's journey tangible: setting out, searching, arriving, and setting out anew. The trilogy unites opposites – grounding and upward movement, stability and dynamism – in a language that is spare, minimalist, contemplative. Its three elements – “Pilgrim's Staff,” “Ground Line,” and “Ellipse” —collectively embody this journey.

The artistic intervention emerged from an invited competition and was developed and realized in 2025/26. The dedication ceremony and blessing took place on 26 April 2026.

*“The starting point was the ritual of pilgrimage: the question of meaning, of inner and outer support, of what sustains us. The shimmering golden surface connects the uniqueness of life with the sacred space of the Jakobskirche. The work invites us to pause — and yet it is in motion: it changes with the light, with the time of day, with the people who touch it and pass through it.” — Judith Huemer*



Judith Huemer *Trilogie für Schönaau* Dedication ceremony and blessing, 26 April 2026 · Photo: Luis Schaar

## QUOTES ON THE WORK

### “An Impressive Interplay of Spirituality and Art”

At first glance, the interventions appear minimalist and restrained, yet they are compelling precisely because they directly incorporate the site’s existing conditions. With the organic form of the arc and the rounded elements, they provide a counterpoint to the building’s simplicity—while at the same time echoing it.

Martina Gelsinger, art historian and curator, Department of Art, Diocese of Linz

### “A Place of Rest and Encounter”

Our church square in Schönaau, with its pilgrimage garden and festival ground, is conceived as a resting place along life’s pilgrim path – a place that invites visitors and locals alike to linger, find peace, and reflect.

Martin Truttenberger, parish priest of Schönaau

### “Lightness and Movement”

The organic quality of the three elements does the place good. I keep observing it anew, and when I touch the staff, I feel its vibration, its momentum, its vitality – and take that with me.

Barbara Brandstätter, landscape architect, responsible for the concept of the pilgrim garden

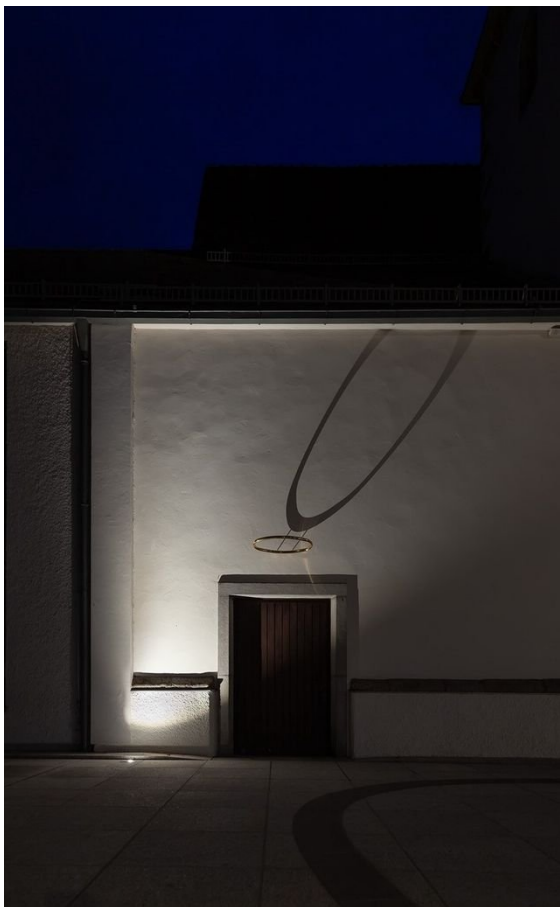
### “A Wealth of Interpretations”

Form, surface, and the interplay of shadows—both in sunlight and in darkness—leave room for a wealth of interpretations—a quiet and, precisely because of that, powerful answer to the question of site-specific artistic design.

Peter Schneider, architect, Schneider Lengauer Pühringer Architekten ZT GmbH, responsible for the concept of the church square



Judith Huemer *Trilogie für Schöna* · Photo: Ulrich Kehrer



Judith Huemer *Trilogie für Schöna* · Photo: Ulrich Kehrer

## AN AUTUMN OUTING

### GETTING THERE

From Linz, about 40 km or a good 30-minute drive via the Mühlkreis motorway (A7) towards Pregarten / Bad Zell, then onto the B124 to Schönau im Mühlkreis.

### ON SITE

The newly designed church square, with its pilgrim garden and festival ground, invites you to linger – the trilogy stands right at the forecourt and portal of the Jakobskirche.

### NEARBY

Prandegg Castle ruins with its museum, the “Herrgottsitz” viewpoint, and numerous hiking trails through the autumn forests of the Mühlviertel.

### WHERE TO EAT

For example at Gasthof Schmalzer, at the Café-Konditorei-Bäckerei Palero on the new village square in Schönau, or at Gasthaus Stoaninger Alm.

We are happy to answer any questions about the work.

With warm regards,

**Studio Judith Huemer**



Judith Huemer *Trilogie für Schönau* · Photo: Ulrich Kehrer

Realized 2025/2026 on behalf of the Verschönerungsverein and Tourism Forum Schönau, in collaboration with the parish of Schönau im Mühlkreis and the Department of Art of the Diocese of Linz. Photos: Ulrich Kehrer (artwork), Luis Schaar (ceremony).

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Tel. +43 7261 7268  
<https://www.dioezese-linz.at/schoenau>

## WORK DESCRIPTION

# Judith Huemer

## *Eine Trilogie für Schönauf*

Three Works. One Place. One Life's Journey. — Jakobskirche, Schönauf im Mühlkreis, Austria

Judith Huemer created *\*A Trilogy for Schönauf\** as a site-specific artwork for the Jakobskirche in Schönauf im Mühlkreis – a historic site on the pilgrimage route that once led to Santiago de Compostela. The composition, consisting of "Pilgrim's Staff," "Ground Line," and "Ellipse," takes up the tradition of pilgrimage as an artistic and spiritual guiding idea. Together, the three works symbolize the human journey through life: setting out into the unknown, searching for meaning and direction – and finally, arriving.

### **Pilgrim's Staff**

The sculpture stands without a pedestal, directly connected to the ground – like a walking stick that provides support without weighing one down. Simple and minimalist, it evokes one of the fundamental attitudes of pilgrimage: shedding excess, making do with little. The vertical line represents grounding and stability, while the gentle curve into the horizontal reads like a handrail – a sweeping arc, balance, upward movement. The brass-gold surface responds to the sacred surroundings and underscores the character of this particular place.

### **Floor Line**

The ground ornament traces a curved path across the square in front of the main entrance. Powerful in gesture, calm in effect, it follows the guiding motif of being on a journey and intuitively points toward the church's main portal. The result is a generous, open space – contemplative and harmonious.

### **Ellipse**

The object above the main portal completes the arc of the trilogy: it symbolizes wholeness, unity, and eternity. Illuminated from below, it shines as a glow visible from afar – a sparkling jewel that draws the eye to the entrance and invites reflection and contemplation.

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*"It was important to me to create a total work of art that makes the stages of life's journey tangible – in reference to the pilgrim tradition of the Jakobskirche: setting out, searching, arriving, and setting out anew, time and again. The work invites one to pause – and yet it is in motion: it changes with the light, with the time of day, with the people who touch it, follow its path, and pass beneath the golden, luminous form above the portal." — Judith Huemer*

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Realized 2025/2026 on behalf of the Verschönerungsverein and Tourism Forum Schönauf, in collaboration with the parish of Schönauf im Mühlkreis and the Department of Art of the Diocese of Linz.

Technical assistance: T. Sandri · Production: W. Prohaska – Kunsthandwerk