

CHRISTOPH HÄNSLI SAUSAGE FEST

A few years ago, the Swiss artist Christoph Hänsli became instantly famous for his epic work, *Mortadella*, a series of 332 small paintings, all of which are life-sized depictions of a slice of sausage. Scientific detail and orderliness are blended with the latitude of painting and a refined sense of humor. The work leads directly to the heart of Hänsli's universe: using everyday objects, he devotes himself to the great themes of human existence in his extensive series of paintings.

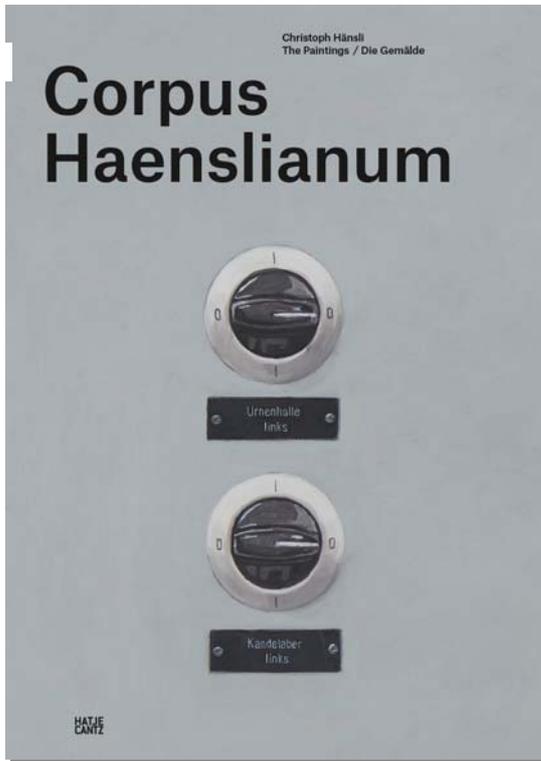
Berlin, December 6, 2018 — As trivial and ordinary as most of the motifs depicted by the Swiss artist Christoph Hänsli (*1963) may be, the context suggested by these images is profound. Using motifs such as screws, pretzel sticks, hotel beds, light switches, air vent covers, and beer glasses, Hänsli focuses on human mortality, our methods of creating meaning, and the resulting, thoroughly absurd distinctions between high and low culture.

“Although Hänsli's painting relies on simple, recognizable motifs—household appliances, slices of sausage, switches, beds—it fulfills its function as art and prevents us from seeing its subjects as simple illustrations, as ‘mere depictions of reality,’” write Ulrike Vedder and Erik Porath, discussing Hänsli's art in this volume.

Christoph Hänsli was born in Zurich in 1963 and attended the Schule für Gestaltung (School of design) in Lucerne from 1984-8. At the University of Zurich he studied film and the history of photography. He has exhibited his work regularly in solo and group shows since 1997.

The monography *Corpus Haenslianum* is now the first to compile a comprehensive overview of Hänsli's paintings from the last twenty-five years. Besides an extensive section of images, the book contains three essays that examine his oeuvres from various perspectives, including a literary approach by John Berger.

The exhibition *Der Generator* will be on display until February 16, 2019 at the Galerie Judin in Berlin.



CHRISTOPH HÄNSLI
CORPUS HAENSLIANUM

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Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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