# democratic art a concept

Democratic Art uses public space and goes beyond the traditional understanding of Art in Public Space. It's flexible and reacts to social areas outside the art system, respects democratic facts but also uses forms of civil disobedience for the democratic process. With its methods it opens the art system and deliberately involves people outside the field of art in artistic processes. It assumes that art can also be carried buy a public that is not part of an experienced art audience but shows interest in it. The public can be involved in artistic processes without knowing that it is part of such a process; Democratic Art, however, dictates discussion. It cannot predefine a given opus; it's open and comes into existence through a process of growth which has to contain a gain of knowledge and recognition for all involved. Democratic artists understand themselves as participating active members of society, as citizens actively participating in democracy, seeking integration instead of exclusion. They understand themselves as catalysts and respect democratic processes. Democratic Art interacts between art and society. It extrapolates new areas of attention to be able to act democratically. It doesn't have an owner or possessor but belongs to the public who takes part in it. The public and not the art market determine its value; therefore promotional instruments have to be carefully considered as a matter of principal. It is open to influences from the public and exposes itself to democratic forms of art evaluation. Democratic art needs the support of a democratic system in order to come into being.

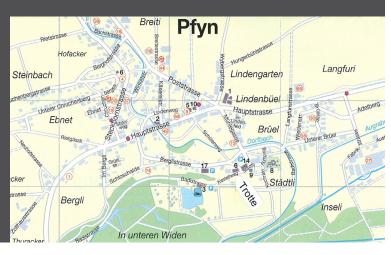
## **Directions Trotte Pfyn**



#### Accomodation:

www.thurgau-tourismus.ch

# In Pfyn





democratic art?
Demokratische Kunst?

# democratic art weeks conference, Trotte Pfyn 27. – 29. April 2012

#### Friday 27.4.

Arrival day

8 pm Meet the Artists, Trotte Pfyn

### Saturday 28.4.

9 am coffee & croissants

9:30 am welcome of the mayor Jacqueline Mueller and

the hosts Alex Meszmer & Reto Mueller

9:45 am introduction Alex Meszmer

10 am presentation of the

democratic art weeks projects

discussion

12 am break

2 pm Art and democracy

Input by Markus Landert,

director of Kunstmuseum Thurgau

discussion

4 pm Presentation of kidswest/kidsost

project by Meris Schüpbach Street Theatre / suitcase theatre

reception

8 pm Meet the locals, Trotte Pfyn

#### Sunday 29.4.

9 am coffee & croissants

9:30 am Democracy and Art

Input by Nationalerat Andi Gross

discussion

12 am break

2 pm forming history?

Stefan Keller (historian and journalist) &

Prof. Dr. Beat Näf (historian)

discussion

3:30 pm Closing panel and resume

4 pm private view and Apéro

presentation of

projects of democratic art weeks

exhibition tour









