

BRUNNGASSE 8

TIME TRAVEL TO ZURICH

Miraculously, magnificent wall paintings from the Middle Ages have been preserved in Zurich's Old City. The Jewish family that owned the house on Brunngasse 8 had commissioned them 800 years ago. The paintings shed new light on the coexistence of Jews and Christians. A film by Hildegard E. Keller.

It is a small sensation that they have survived: The depicted hunting and dancing scenes in the courtly (Christian) style of the time were painted on the wall inside the house at Brunngasse 8 around 1330. Its patrons came from a distinguished Jewish family that belonged to Zurich's elite: the widow Mistress Minne and her two sons had come into wealth as money lenders. But then, in 1348/49, the plague broke out. The Jews were blamed and persecuted throughout Europe.

The documentary by Hildegard E. Keller embarks on a journey through time with six people, a mouse and an elephant. The writer Silvana Lattmann, now 103 years old, lived in the apartment for a long time; the Ukrainian-born rabbi and medievalist Elijah Tarantul reflects on the role of women at that time and on his own migration experience; the former city archaeologist Dölf Wild tells about the discovery of the wall paintings; the scholar in Judaica Ingrid Kaufmann introduces the Talmud scholar Rabbi Moshe, son of Mistress Minne, who was killed in the pogrom. Jewish psychiatrist Daniel Teichman, who lives in the neighborhood, wonders if time can really heal wounds. Author Raoul Schrott explains why he can't imagine culture without migratory movements. They all reflect on history and its value for all of us who are living today.

With Silvana Lattmann, Ingrid Kaufmann, Raoul Schrott, Elijah Tarantul, Daniel Teichman, Dölf Wild. 62 minutes. 2022. Original languages: German, medieval German and Italian. With English subtitles.



Director and script: Hildegard Keller
Director of photography: Carter Ross
Assistant cameras: Dominik Keller, Benno Hofer
Editor: Mirella Nüesch
Narrator: Krishan Krone
Animation: Brigae Haelg with Hildegard Keller
Music: Olav Lervik
Cello: Ivan Turkalj
Singer: Max Schiendorfer
Sounddesign, foley, mix: Benno Hofer
English subtitles: Julia Karin Lawson
A production by Bloomlight Productions GmbH

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