



**Press Release**  
**Sonia Leimer: "Perlen"**

**On 9 May, the 16th project of the growing exhibition "ART FLOW – Art in the Limmat Valley" will be inaugurated. The Vienna-based artist Sonia Leimer has developed a three-part sculptural ensemble for the village park in Turgi. "Perlen" (Pearls) is made of cellulose pulp and deinking sludge sourced from Switzerland's last remaining newspaper factory.**

The internationally recognised artist Sonia Leimer (\*1977, ITA) explores in her work the materiality of our immediate environment. Her practice aims to make history and the social transformations of places visible and tangible through spatial transformation. Trained as both an architect and an artist, she is particularly concerned with the perception, negotiation and reflection of lived spaces.

Leimer often adopts scientific methods in her artistic process: for example, she has collected tiny dust particles from rooftops that originated in outer space and "stranded" on Earth. She examined them under a 3D microscope, scanned their forms and monumentalised the digitised data as impressive bronze and aluminium sculptures. These works refer both to our connection with the universe and to questions of scale and the interplay between digital and analogue realities.

At the initiative of ART FLOW, **Sonia Leimer** engaged with the production processes of the Perlen newspaper factory in the canton of Lucerne. Once part of a thriving paper industry, and today the last of its kind in Switzerland, the factory stands symbolically for the deindustrialisation processes that have also characterised the Limmat Valley over the past 50 years. From recycled materials produced during newspaper production, Leimer has created a sculptural group now on display in the Turgi village park. "Perlen" evokes the playful handling of paper scraps and raises complex questions about our use of resources and media. With their coiled, circular forms, the sculptures speak of flow, movement and transformation – interweaving the history of papermaking with the current of water. At the Turgi site in particular, the works point to the potential of repurposed industrial halls.

**About ART FLOW:**

ART FLOW is an expanding art initiative engaging with diverse aspects of the Limmat Valley. By the end of 2025, around two dozen site-specific works will have been realised. The artistic interventions extend from Zurich's Bellevue to the Aargau water castle and are freely accessible to the public. ART FLOW is curated by Christoph Doswald and takes place as part of Regionale 2025.

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