KARL HAGEDORN

BODE

Galerie

Biography

1922	Born in Güntersberge, Harz Mountains, Germany
1956-59	Studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich,
	Germany
	Designed and created mosaics
1959	Emigrated to the USA
1959-72	Lived in St. Paul, Minnesota
	Worked as a graphic artist,
	produced designs for stained glass windows
1960	Lectureship at the St. Paul Art Center
1962-65	Art editor of the Catholic Digest
1972-73	Visited Europe before moving to New York
1998	Moved to Philadelphia
2005	Died in Philadelphia



People and machines

The terms "human" and "machine" create the two main-contents in Karl Hagedorn's work. The artist's considerations about this topic – which is also philosophical – are based on a huge fundament. Contemporaneous to initially drawn and sketched thoughts about portraits, Hagedorn also starts to be interested in technical processes.

In 1953, Hagedorn first encountered contemporary artist and the art works of the European modern art era – especially with the art works and mind-set of the French artist Fernand Léger, who influenced Hagedorn in his ongoing career. Hagedorn's and Léger's attitude towards the enthusiasm for the idea of man on the one hand and the technical progress on the other hand accord with the artistic expression of the modern era in the 20th century. After his emigration to the USA in 1959, Hagedorn developed his contextual starting point and eventually achieved an abstract form repertoire – from then his compositions exist out of this repertoire.

Nowadays, art works from Hagedorn can be found in numerous collections and in museum all around Europe and in the USA – for example in the Goethe-Institut in New York/USA, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis/USA or the "Neue Museum" in Nürnberg, Germany.