

## Jorinde Voigt JOB TIME SHEETS<sup>1</sup>

In 2001, while traveling privately and professionally, Jorinde Voigt began to collect administrative documents from different contexts, typical of each country, in order to use them as drawing paper for her current reflections. She brought these job time sheets from Sydney, Australia, to Berlin and began her series **Territory**.

The content of the drawings is kept within the context of the relevant area of administration and its function. In the case of the Australian documents, this concerns work and the concept of territory.

The eleven sheets reveal a seamless development, connected in formal terms by the continental border.

The first sheet in the series, which is labelled with a break in pattern as number I/1, prepares the topic. The parameters used are **position 1, identical position 2, construction, deconstruction** and **continental border**. The thematic constellation of parameters is extended on sheets I-X with **centre, territory, rotation of direction (north-south-east-west axis), construction, deconstruction, identical external position, time pattern, loop** and **continental border**.

Using a means of notation resembling a diagram, Jorinde Voigt puts onto paper a model of thought which should be read on both physical and metaphysical levels.

The parameter of **position**, for example, should not only be understood as a territorial point of location, but also as an inner attitude. The parameters **construction** and **deconstruction** are forces which make an impact on the **centre** or the **positions** (in I/1) and define them as something in a process of change. In each case, the impact of these two mechanisms on the **centres** develops dynamics within the series, which reaches its graphic climax on the eleventh sheet with the growing increase of **centres**, and thus of **territories** and **positions**.

However, the series of eleven is only an exemplary excerpt from a process that could be declined further and further *ad infinitum*.

Jorinde Voigt describes the double connecting line between **position** and **centre** – or more simply between two **positions**, as depicted on I/1 – as **identical**. In this way, she draws a dual method of looking at the same thing, which often re-appears in her works as the representation of viewing angles. It is thus a fixed constant within the system of alternating standpoints and at the same time a possible way of contemplating a **territory** from both outside and inside.

As already indicated, the **positions** are therefore physical on the one hand, and due to their double arrangement they display a dualism which has an either/or and a both/and character. On the other hand, this dualism is mental-psychical, describing two inner attitudes. The identical connecting line, which describes two **positions** in turn because of its double linearity, thematises the changing as well as the empathic relation of the positions towards each other. The line also stands for the relationship between individual and collective attitudes. During the progress from sheet I to sheet X a shift from the individual to the collective becomes more and more obvious.

From sheet I to X, freely delineated areas are labelled as **territories** with a **centre** in the middle. The **centre** is the central point of a **north-south-east-west axis**, which runs through each **territory**. The **territory** is also labelled as a field of change by the forces of **construction** and **deconstruction** – also depicted graphically – along the **axis of directions**.

In the top left-hand corner one finds a note which refers to the rotation of the direction. By rotating the north-south-east-west location that is familiar to us, Jorinde Voigt makes our way of viewing the sheet and the **territories** it describes rotate on its axis, so lifting the viewing angle above the sheet of paper and challenging the viewer to

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<sup>1</sup> **Territorium/ Kontinentalgrenze (Job Time Sheet) I/1, I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, IIX, IX, X**

(Territorium; Zentrum; Norden, Süden, Osten, Westen; Konstruktion; Dekonstruktion; Position; Kontinentalgrenze)

reposition him- or herself geographically.

Jorinde Voigt describes the component of time (job **time** sheet) with the aid of a **loop**, the pattern of which shows the return to a starting point within a specified period of time. As a result of her scheme, *1 day* is defined as a declinable variable (*after 1 day, after 2 days, after 3 days, etc.*).

The topic of time is also taken up in the administrative field: on the individual sheets, the declination becomes a **loop**, as the last information concerning time points back to the first. The growing number of **territories** leads to the **loop** becoming a *count up* and so describes three simultaneous movements: one rising upwards (declination), one returning (loop), and one that slows down with increasing complexity (the duration of the time difference in days).

Thus, the dynamics described above can only be understood with the help of the time parameter. Viewing from specified points, Jorinde Voigt declines the variables which she has defined; when viewed overall, however, the simple majority of variables create an organism. The upwardly striving declination becomes a construct of its own dynamics.

The link between the metaphysical and the physical level is the **continental border**. In formal terms, this should be understood as a pure demarcation, but its pattern is oriented along all the parameters used to equal degrees, meaning that a kind of semantic alignment is evoked.

Text by Luise Müller-Hofstede  
Translation by Lucinda Rennison