



EXIT St. Pankraz – Kerbl Ltd.

A service area as a transnational hub of migration routes

Contribution for the 'Festival der Regionen 2007' Exits and Dead Ends.

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Route network diagram (40 m x 18 m x 0.40 m and 1 m resp.); unplanned spruce batten frame, painted MDF boards, yellow-green dayglo paint, 12 loudspeakers mounted on steel tubes, 12 MP3 players.



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The main focus of our research into mobility streams is the question of how supra-regional and global economic and political developments affect the micro-political and social experiences of individual actors, and vice versa. For instance, we investigate whether – and/or to what extent – locally bound value-added chains are dependent on transnational cooperation, and how actors' experience of mobility impacts their everyday lives – for example, whether mobility accelerates socio-spatial transformation processes, not only in the actors' source and target regions but also along their various routes.

The project EXIT St. Pankraz – Kerbl Ltd. has been realised in a specific region, namely the district of Kirchdorf an der Krems in Upper Austria. This formerly primarily rural, middle-class region is wedged in a tributary valley on the edge of the Alps, in a kind of dead end. Yet, owing to post-war commercial development that engendered ever-increasing traffic, extensions to the road network and the construction of a tunnel at the end of the valley, the region has been transformed gradually into one of Europe's most important transnational and trans-Alpine north-south links. This route, known colloquially as the *Gastarbeiter-Route* [the "guest-worker"-route], stretches from Holland and Germany to Turkey and the states of former Yugoslavia.



Michael Zinganel and Michael Hieslmair live and work as artists, curators and writers in Vienna. Since 2005 they collaborate in research and art projects about the impact of transnational mobility, migration and tourism on cultural change in urban, suburban and rural agglomerations. Both graduated at the faculty of Architecture at Graz University. Michael Zinganel holds a PhD in contemporary history.