



HR Giger

The Early Years

Charly Bieler

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Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
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- First book on the childhood and youth of the world-famous Swiss artist and designer HR Giger
- With more than 230 previously unpublished family photos, children's drawings and early works of art by HR Giger
- The pictures are accompanied by short texts and reports from friends and other contemporary witnesses
- Offers intimate insights into HR Giger's early years and the cultural environment of his Swiss hometown Chur in the 1950s and 1960s

HR Giger (1940–2014) is one of the outstanding figures in Swiss art and design history, celebrated around the world for his design of the fantastic creatures and eerie environments that terrified moviegoers in Ridley Scott's 1979 science fiction film *Alien*. Yet very little is known about Giger's childhood and youth in his native town of Chur. A trove of photographs, drawings by the young boy Hansruedi, and early art works that already reveal the future HR Giger's artistic force, recently unearthed in the Giger family's former holiday home in the Grisons, now offer intimate insights into his early years until the early 1960s.

Richly illustrated with more than 230 images from that collection, ***HR Giger: The Early Years*** tells, for the first time, the story of those two decades before Giger decided to move to Zurich and train as an architect and designer in 1962. Supplemented by brief texts as well as by statements from his schoolmates, friends, and others, these images form a lively picture of that period: family episodes; the Mickey Mouse adaptations Giger created at the age of ten; his growing love of jazz music, photography, and weapons; the trips around Europe he took together with his friends; and the youth culture of Chur of the 1950s and 1960s that shaped him. The volume will appeal to any fan of the extraordinary art and the fascinating personality of HR Giger.

Text in English, German and French.

Charly Bieler is a journalist and writer based in Chur, Switzerland.

