



LEIKO IKEMURA DAS MEER IN DEN BERGEN  
THE SEA IN THE MOUNTAINS



BÜNDNER KUNSTMUSEUM CHUR

# Leiko Ikemura

## The Sea in the Mountains

Edited by Damian Jurt

Contributions by Leiko Ikemura

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- Distinguished Japanese artist Leiko Ikemura talks about her 1989 retreat in the Swiss mountains and the works she created there
- Reflects on the questions that preoccupied Leiko Ikemura at the time and how they are reflected in her current work
- Features previously unpublished sketches and drawings by Leiko Ikemura

In 1989, Japanese artist Leiko Ikemura, born in 1951 and living in Europe since 1972, came to Switzerland to work in the Grisons mountains for a full year. This retreat proved to be a period of radical artistic reorientation. Inspired by intense experiences of nature, her paintings of that time merge humans and their existential themes into an infinite cosmos.

In **Leiko Ikemura: The Sea in the Mountains**, published in conjunction with a solo exhibition at the Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur, Ikemura talks to curator Damian Jurt about the search for a new beginning that brought her to the Grisons, and about the artistic breakthroughs that actually propelled her work into new spheres. This lively dialogue is supplemented with photographs, reproductions of Ikemura's drawings and paintings, as well as photographic documentation of the exhibition.

Text in English and German.

**Damian Jurt** is a curator at the Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur.