



Château St. Germain – CH-1663 Gruyères – Suisse  
Tel. +41 26 921 22 00 – info@hrgigermuseum.com

## COMMEMORATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HR GIGER'S PASSING

12 May 2024 marks the tenth anniversary of Hansruedi "HR" Giger's passing. This is still a very emotional topic for all of us who were close to him. For this reason, we have decided not to organise any special event on that day. Instead, we will adorn the museum and bar – and of course HR Giger's grave below the museum – with roses for the weekend.

From 4 May 2024, our gallery will again be exhibiting images of HR Giger's life. The collection will be complemented by a number of new photos found at the Giger family's holiday home in Flims.

\* \* \*

As a special commemoration of the tenth anniversary of HR Giger's passing, Charly Bieler, Mia Bonzanigo (HR Giger's ex wife) and Walter Schmid have created the book

## HR GIGER – The Early Years

As the title suggests, the book contains many photographs of HR Giger's childhood and youth. A publication that completes HR Giger's vita.

The second launch of this book (the first occurs on 3 May 2024, at HR Giger's Birthplace, Chur) will take place on

**SATURDAY, 25 MAY 2024, FROM 1 PM TO 4 PM**

at the Museum HR Giger.

We warmly welcome you!



*Illustration from the book "HR Giger – The Early Years", by Charly Bieler.*

*HR Giger once said: "Upon encountering a new creation by a person, the person behind it interests me almost as much as the work itself".*

*To mark the tenth anniversary of HR Giger's passing, the Museum HR Giger is hosting a temporary exhibition in honour of the artist as well as a book signing of the book "HR Giger – The Early Years" by Charly Bieler.*

## **HR GIGER – LIFE AND WORK**

Born in Chur on 5 February 1940, Swiss artist HR Giger is recognized as one of the world's foremost representatives of fantastic realism. After attending art school, he moved on to fine art. While also working with oil, ink and sculpture, he discovered, via the airbrush, his own unique freehand painting style, expressed through his surrealistic Biomechanical dreamscapes, which formed the cornerstone of his fame.

His first major film assignment earned him the 1980 Academy Award for Best Achievement in Visual Effects for his design of title character in director Ridley Scott's *Alien*, including the transmutation of the creature and the film's otherworldly environments. Giger's other film work includes *Poltergeist II*, *Alien 3*, and *Species*.

Giger extended his vision to total environments, establishing Giger Bars in Chur and Tokyo as well as the museum bar in Gruyères, Switzerland. The Museum HR Giger is the permanent home of the world's largest permanent collection of the artist's main body of work, including paintings, sculptures, film design, and furniture.

During the final decades of his life, Giger was increasingly granted the honour of exhibitions and museum retrospectives in Switzerland, France, Austria, Finland,

Germany, Spain, the Czech Republic, and elsewhere. Giger lived in Zurich with his wife, Carmen Maria Giger. He died on 12 May 2014.

### **THE BOOK "HR GIGER – THE EARLY YEARS"**

Countless books focusing on HR Giger's work are presently available. It therefore seemed exciting to delve into the artist's youth from 1940 to 1962, before he was a recognised master. Author Charly Bieler strove to find out what the world of the now world-famous artist looked like during his childhood and youth. The book "HR Giger – The Early Years" therefore closes a gap in HR Giger's biography.



*Illustration from the book "HR Giger – The Early Years", by Charly Bieler.*