

In 1983 the international art magazine "Kunstforum International" in Cologne dedicated an entire edition to the art scene in Switzerland. As a twenty-two year old art student of the Düsseldorf Kunstakademie, Baltiswiler was still too young to get in, but he absolutely wanted to be among his Swiss colleagues. This is why he "forced" himself into the magazine by making an ad covering a whole page, where he was posing as Wilhelm Tell the Swiss legend symbol for freedom, and a crossbow in his right hand the symbol for highest Swiss quality. The other students in the art academy felt mostly provoked by the ad, for example his fellow student Katharina Fritsch a world-famous artist today. In Switzerland the reaction was completely the opposite: Peter Fischli approached and congratulated Baltiswiler in the Kontiki artist bar in Zürich, Fischli seriously thought Baltiswiler had become a world famous artist several years before he himself became world-famous.