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Cover picture
August Walla

One can call August Walla the "universal artist" within the group of artists emerging from the Gugging House of Artists, which is nowadays part of the Art / Brut Center in Maria Gugging, Austria. Born in 1936, Walla began early to express himself artistically in various media, regardless of any existing art movement. In his oeuvre painting, drawing, writing, objects, photography, environmental art and performative elements can be found. His artworks give insight into a very individual worldview: including a private mythology of goddesses and gods from various confessions, a language consisting of neologisms with multilingual background and a highly complex system of signs and symbols, each of them with a very personal meaning. In 1990 Walla, together with the group of *Gugging Artists*, received the "Oskar-Kokoschka Prize". Walla passed away in 2001. August Walla left behind a wide-ranging artistic oeuvre with universal power – not only among the *Gugging artists* but the art world in general. Walla's artworks are today part of several renowned collections and frequently shown in international exhibitions.

For further information please visit: www.gugging.com / www.gugging.org
Creditline: August Walla, 2000, untitled, acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm © Art Brut KG. Author: Maria Höger

Additional thanks to Maria for composing the text for the cover images in September, October and November 2018.

We are always looking for interesting and visually appealing images for the cover of the Journal and would welcome suggestions or pictures, which should be sent to Dr Allan Beveridge, British Journal of Psychiatry, 21 Prescot Street London E1 8BB, UK or bjp@rcpsych.ac.uk.

