



THE GIANT'S BELONGINGS

The art objects in this Chamber of Wonders - the Giant's gigantic accordion, ring and walking stick – come from the childhood fantasies of Kristallwelten creator André Heller. Heller had always imagined that giants (active by night and sleeping, hidden away by day) roamed the grounds of Vienna's Schoenbrunn and that he was the only one who could see them. The personal belongings of the Giant are wondrous and mysterious things that can now be seen at the Swarovski Crystal Worlds, along with the historical art rooms and Chambers of Wonder.

André Heller comments: "One of these giants, like so many of us, travelled over the entire world and finally settled in Wattens, to charm the people there. In the Giant's room there is a mysterious picture, which first appears to be a mirror, but then becomes transparent. Then we see the Giant in Tyrolean costume, with an accordion, walking stick, ring and gloves standing in New York. The stick was manufactured by the Austrian woodcarver Rudi Hirt from Styria; even the gloves are beautifully handcrafted. The closed accordion resembles a caterpillar, which opens into a butterfly. It plays a song, written by Roland Neuwirth of the Extremschrammeln. The Giant is also reflected in the ring by means of a video installation.

There are the gloves of a 7-year old, the walking stick of a 12- year old and the ring of a 35-year old Giant. When one comes across the giant's belongings in the crystal realm of fantasy, one can imagine how and where the Giant really lived."

Biography André Heller

André Heller was born in Vienna in 1947 and is considered to be among the most successful and influential multimedia artists in the world. His works not only include garden art and sculptures, firework spectaculars and mazes, but also projects such as the avant-garde amusement park Luna Luna.

André Heller has published prose and sold millions of records of original chansons. He has breathed new life into circus and musical theatre and created plays and shows that have been celebrated on all continents. His recent spectacular Afrika! Akfrika! is a tribute to that continent and has received wide public acclaim. When he is not travelling the world, André Heller lives in Vienna and in Lombardy.