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The Viennese artist Ilse Haider created a spectacular portrait of the US politician.

A work of art for Kamala

Art meets politics. With her new work “KAMALA HARRIS / We are not going back” (2024), renowned Austrian artist Ilse Haider offers her own personal commentary on the election campaign between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump.

The portrait (82 x 60 x 20 cm, photo emulsion on wood / acrylic paint, original: K. Harris, 2024, KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI / AFP / [APA-PictureDesk.com](https://www.apa-picturedesk.com)) was deliberately created before the election decision in the USA. But it's not just the title that makes it clear on whose side the artist's sympathies lie. Ilse Haider: “Kamala Harris is a woman on whom the hopes of millions of women and men rest, both in North America and around the world. Commenting on her political goals and her actions with an artistic work was a very special concern of mine.”

Ilse Haider, born in Salzburg, studied under Arnulf Rainer at the Vienna Academy of Art from 1983 to 1988. It was then that she developed her personal style, which quickly made her an internationally sought-after newcomer. Her pictures are usually based on photographs (often of prominent contemporary personalities), whereby the photos are given a cinematic, three-dimensional touch through the use of cleverly mounted wooden arrangements.

In addition to her works for museums and galleries, the Vienna-based artist has always been particularly interested in art in public spaces. Ilse Haider's best-known works in this sector include the photo sculpture “Venus and Antinous”, which provided a spectacular eye-catcher at Vienna Airport from 1996 to 2001. The stage-like “Mr. Big”, which watched over the Leopold Museum in Vienna's MQ from 2012 to 2013, also caused a sensation both inside and outside the art world.

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As far as the Kamala artwork is concerned (the US election result was not yet known at the time of completion), Ilse Haider is now dreaming her own private American dream: “I will be celebrating my 60th birthday in San Francisco in February 2025 and would be delighted to meet and personally hand it over to the new President Kamala Harris.”

<https://www.ilsehaider.com/>

Ilse Haider is available for interviews.

With kind regards,

Bina Köppl

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