



The collectors and their connection to Brazil

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The idea for the exhibition **ANATOMY OF PRESENCE** at SCHAUWERK Sindelfingen, which features three Brazilian artists, was inspired by the collectors Peter Schaufler (1940–2015) and Christiane Schaufler-Münch (1934–2025).

As the owner and CEO of the BITZER Group, Peter Schaufler considered it his life's work to connect entrepreneurship with support for art, science and research. BITZER is the world's largest independent manufacturer of refrigeration compressors with sales companies and production sites all over the globe. In the 1970s Peter Schaufler and Christiane Schaufler-Münch moved to Brazil to strengthen BITZER's presence and build closer relationships with the local market. His commitment to the country was so profound that he became a Brazilian citizen. BITZER's history in Brazil dates back to the 1950s, when the first low-speed open-type compressors were introduced to the country. By the 1990s, Brazil had evolved into the hub of BITZER's Latin American operations, laying the foundation for the company's continued growth across South America. Today, BITZER Brasil employs around 150 people and serves as a key pillar of the BITZER Group's activities in the region.

For the couple the years they spent in São Paulo were formative. The city's cultural diversity, vibrant arts scene and urban dynamism left a lasting impression on the couple that was a contrast to their everyday lives in Stuttgart. They discovered their passion for the Brazilian way of life and experienced a time that they described in retrospect as the happiest of their lives.

ANATOMY OF PRESENCE carries over this special attitude towards life in the SCHAUWERK Sindelfingen, opened by the couple in 2010. The unique architecture of the museum, which was once a manufacturing hall and warehouse of the Bitzer company, provides an ideal backdrop. The room-filling works by Vivian Caccuri, Lucia Koch and Henrique Oliveira were designed especially for the exhibition and respond to the situation on-site. They transform the museum's large sawtooth hall and former high-rack warehouse into atmospherically dense spaces of experience.