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Die Nibelungen - the history behind the Saga

In 2004, I made 30 illustrations for the great story of the hero Siegfried, the dark knight Hagen, queen Kriemhild and queen Brunhild, king Gunther, a dragon and his treasure. Power and glory, love and passion, hate and revenge are the subjects of the great story - Viking stories, Game of thrones and Lord of the Rings wouldn't be the same without this predecessor of famous legends and tales. The origins of the story are based in the historic topic of the time of the end of the Roman Empire and the beginning of the migration of Germanic and Asian tribes through Europe in the 5th century. Even historic figures like Dietrich von Bern and Attila, King of the Huns, are figures in this big tale. Another main topic is the transition between the religions, old pagan tales of Odin and the old gods overcome by Christianity.

Reviews of my illustrations for the book „Die Nibelungen“ (2004)

“Regarding Linde Gerwin’s images, suffice it to say that they possess an unusual intensity—an archaic current that touches something deep within our hearts—and a vitality suggesting the legend is only a few years old.”

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(Thorsten Wiedau on amazon.de)

„The book is, of course, of great value not only in literary and mythological terms; thanks to Linde Gerwin’s superb illustrations, it is also a masterpiece of book design. A total of thirty large-format images depicting key scenes from the *Nibelungenlied* engage with the narrative in an astonishing and fascinating way, offering unique artistic interpretations of the Nibelung saga. (...) Linde Gerwin views paganism primarily as a nature-based religion, placing the heroes of the Nibelung legend within an aesthetic context rooted in the natural world: armor suddenly resembles the shells or carapaces of crustaceans and insects, shields turn into snail shells, garments transform into intertwining plant forms, and hostile armies roll in from the gloomy horizon bristling with menacing spikes—foreground and background, the figures and their destiny, are inextricably interwoven.“

(K. Wascher on amazon.de)