

Concept

The Flörsheim society Raabekazze e. V., together with the people of the town, have erected a memorial to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the 'Day of Commitment'. The memorial's central theme is the vow made 350 years ago by Pastor Johannes Laurentius Münch and the people of Flörsheim and which is observed to this day:

"As long as stone stands on stone in Flörsheim" a procession of thanksgiving should take place annually in praise of the Most High.

As plague monuments across Europe are generally dedicated to the Trinity, the Raabekazze have also placed the number three at the heart of this memorial to the vow made in the context of the plague.

And so an approximately 8-metre metal stele with three attached panels made of Main sandstone has been erected beside the river Main. The three sandstone panels symbolise on the one hand the idea of "stone on stone" and, on the other, the three periods of Past, Present and Future.

The orientation of the sandstone panels follows the course of the river: the panel symbolising the past points downstream to the river's mouth; the panel representing the present is directed towards Flörsheim; while the uppermost panel, symbolising the future, points upstream. The panels each have a different format in order to distinguish the three periods, and have differing surface structures.

The metal structure and the concrete foundations go down deep in order to withstand possible flooding and freezing of the river. For the base of the stele, a curved platform of railings and balustrades, recalling the bow of a ship, was transported to the river. This area, freely accessible and with seating, encourages passers-by to linger. Information boards have been erected nearby, explaining the background to the 'Day of Commitment', its meaning and its place in the history of Flörsheim.

The memorial was consecrated on Sunday 28th August 2016 following the morning service in St Gallus church, at 11.30.