



Freiluftschaltanlage Rheinkraftwerk Ryburg-Schwörstadt
Im Besitz der Direktion

Open air switchboard plant Rhine power station Ryburg-Schwörstadt
Owner: The Board of Directors

L I L I R É T H I

not be so fascinating as it is had not Lili Réthi approached her work with that genuine craftsman's enthusiasm which naturally belongs to the atmosphere of architectural construction. But her perhaps unexampled instinct for the essential, capable apparently of capturing the very essence of the matter at the first glance, is a still more determining factor than mere industry; the eye of this woman artist is not trained as we usually understand the training of a technical engineer. We hear that previous to this work, the artist made successful studies in old, fast-vanishing Prague and this confirms our impression that her genius must always succeed in mastering just such representations; for she never ceases work until she has mastered the full significance of her material in its every detail, however seemingly insignificant.

The giant barge lift at Niederfinow near Eberswalde will be put into action soon; he who saw it in statu nascendi in Miss Réthi's designs will have a better understanding of the finished work than others who had not that privilege. That is to say, his mind will be charged with memories of the mighty phases of the building and thus he will receive an intensified impression of the gigantic nature of the work. Most of Miss Réthi's drawings depict these monster constructions in their various stages of development. This is comprehensible from an artistic standpoint and as difficult to do as it is satisfactory to have accomplished.

This artist has rightly been styled "The Biographer of the Technical Giants". It is a remarkable feature of her work that she succeeds in giving it an entirely personal note without any coquettish concealment of the truth about the object; on the contrary, her peculiar angle of observation causes her to discover and disclose many a concealed aspect of beauty and strength. Trans. by E. T. S.