



Wilhelm Holzbauer – Buildings and Projects / Bauten und Projekte

With an introduction by Friedrich Achleitner and an interview by Vera Purtscher. 248 pp. with 400 ill., 242 x 298 mm, hard-cover, English/German

ISBN 3-930698-13-7

DM 148,00, S 1080,00, sfr 136.00, £ 58.00, US \$ 98.00

O: ... For me Holzbauer was and is a stabilizing element in Austrian architectural development since 1955, a steamer that has held its course, as it were, even if it has occasionally been severely tossed about by heavy seas. Of course Holzbauer's concept of architecture is a markedly Austrian one; it has no theoretical sharpness, it's bulky, even culinary, somehow it manages to include almost everything. ... Holzbauer's qualities as a designer have been described often enough; even as a student he was stood out because he could translate very complicated functional and space programmes into spatial, easily comprehensible concepts at the speed of a computer. In other words a »master of large, easily remembered form«, as young people who reject such qualities at the moment mockingly say today. ...

Y: Let's drop this subject. Suggestions in either direction aren't helping. Perhaps we ought to think whether the »Holzbauer model« does not compel one to think the architect's role through again from the very beginning. For what »minor artists« (to use Holzbauer's disrespectful expression) bring off in the various niches and protected workshops of building, is perhaps like – despite the highest artistic claims – a »discontinued model« in terms of architectural design. Architecture is being increasingly forced out of the really large spheres of activity, and so is increasingly an appendage of the packaging industry.

O: And does one there not have to concede that Holzbauer always brings architectural strategies into play on this »front«, and defends their cultural role with any means at his disposal? And is part of the criticism about him not linked with the fact that almost nobody follows him into these spheres, thus producing the impression that once you are past a certain building volume there is no one but Holzbauer in Austria?

Friedrich Achleitner (**O**) und Wilhelm Holzbauer have known each other since their youth in Salzburg. Achleitner is Professor at the Hochschule für angewandte Kunst in Vienna and probably Austria's most eminent architecture critic. Vera Purtscher works as an architect and architecture critic in Vienna.

Distributors

Brockhaus Commission
Kreidlerstraße 9
D-70806 Kornwestheim
Germany
tel. +49-7154-1327-33
fax +49-7154-1327-13
menges@brocom.de

Buchzentrum AG
Industriestraße Ost 10
CH-4614 Hägendorf
tel. +41-062 209 26 26
fax +41-062 209 26 27
kundendienst@buchzentrum.ch

Gazelle Book Services
White Cross Mills
Hightown
Lancaster LA1 4XS
United Kingdom
tel. +44-1524-68765
fax +44-1524-63232
sales@gazellebooks.co.uk

National Book Network
15200 NBN Way
Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214
USA
tel. +1-800-4626420
fax +1-800-3384550
custserv@nbnbooks.com
fax +61-2-99755599
info@towerbooks.com.au