



Susanne Tamborini

Living in a Small Space / Wohnen auf kleinem Raum

160 pp. with ca. 250 ill., 242 x 297,5 mm, hard-cover, German/English
ISBN 3-932565-01-0
Euro 58.00 (DM 113.44), sfr 108.00, £ 38.00, US \$ 68.00,
\$A 98.00

Glossy magazines like to show grand and spacious architecture – extensive floors, a sense of sweeping space. The large building is standard as far as taste is concerned. However: living-space is in short supply and it is also expensive. Many people still dream of their own four walls, even if it is only a mini-flat, a little house or holiday home, despite (or perhaps because of) the increasingly crowded quality of living spaces, it remains a central if privileged aim in life. Small buildings present a challenge for architects. Even in the smallest space the way in which people shape their personal lives, their individual possibilities for getting away from it all, is a big thing.

Living in a small space does not intend to provide any patent recipes for the minimum amount of living space. The number of square metres is relative. The minimum itself changes according to local conditions: city and country, landscape and climate. Architects in Europe and the Far East, the USA and Australia illustrate, ambitiously and at a high level of quality, that a subjectively positive sense of space is more dependent on light and sun, air and warmth than on a defined minimum number of square metres. And that it is dependent on clever organization of individual needs, optimum use of space and on functions that are precisely tailored to the dimensions of the limited space.

Architects like Martin Wagner or Luigi Snozzi, Claudio Silvestrin or Future Systems, Glenn Murcutt or Ernst Beneder open a new chapter of exemplary minimalist solutions, comparable with Le Corbusier's Villa Le Lac, 1923, Gerrit Rietveld's Schroeder House, 1924, or Gio Ponti's »Dream Project«, 1939, which show Modernism *en miniature*. The more recent architects also make coming to terms with a small space into a manifesto of their personal view of architecture. At all time and everywhere the skill has lain in implementing social and functional requirements ambitiously in terms of aesthetics. Japanese architects in particular have made this into a fine art. They are a particular focus of attention, with buildings by Tadao Ando, Waro Kishi, Kazuyo Sejima, Hirosho Naito and others.

Susanne Tamborini studied French and German literature and has been dealing with international trends in contemporary architecture for several years as editor of the specialist magazine *md – moebel interior design*.

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