

## PRESS RELEASE



### »Sustainable Thinking in Architecture and Art«

**A book about sustainable thinking in architecture and art. The many facets of the concepts concerned are illuminated and put in relation to each other in an informative way, with reference to selected design schemes, works and buildings. Arranged as a chronological catalogue raisonné, the book reveals trends and connections within and between the disciplines.**

The concept of **sustainability** has become a guiding principle for the 21st century. For Bob Gysin + Partner BGP, it represents not only an ecological premise, but also an incentive and a driving force in our architectural creativity, a preoccupation that lies at the heart of our book Sustainable Thinking in Architecture and Art.

Social needs, along with environmental problems linked with the supposed energy crisis, require new ways of thinking, interdisciplinary work and holistic approaches. There is a great danger that architecture will lose its way in the jungle of requirements, giving priority to technical solutions and ceasing to conceive of a building as an organism in a web of relationships.

In a variety of texts illustrated with current design schemes and completed buildings, the book presents ways of addressing the issue of sustainability in architecture in a holistic manner. It also provides an opportunity to consider what happens when architecture and art are worked upon simultaneously under one roof, as BGP and GBG have been doing for the last forty years. Our unstinting exploration and discussion of specific topics in art has allowed us to gain a better understanding of the cultural and social contexts of both art and architecture.

The book is published as a bilingual (German and English) edition by Hatje Cantz Verlag and is edited by Gerhard Mack, the cultural affairs editor of NZZ am Sonntag. Clearly written, perceptive articles by **Gerhard Mack, Hubertus Adam, Angelus Eisinger, Köbi Gantenbein** and Manfred Hegger illuminate aspects of sustainability from different angles, while experienced book designers **Bruno Margreth** and **Laura Vuille** have created an innovative look that allows the content to come across in a coherent manner.

## Authors and Texts

The introductory editorial by Gerhard Mack provides an overview and focuses on the book's subject, the authors' articles and the philosophy of BGP and GBG. The articles themselves examine individual aspects of sustainability in architecture. Additional texts by BGP complement the view from outside and create a fully rounded picture.

**Gerhard Mack** | Dr. Phil. | Cultural affairs editor of NZZ am Sonntag

"Networked thinking, sustainable designing. On the architecture of Bob Gysin + Partner BGP" – essay on the contents of the book and the philosophy of BGP and the gallery GBG.

**Hubertus Adam** | Art historian and architecture critic | Director SAM Basel

"Genius loci: Place and placelessness" – a cultural examination of place and identity.

**Angelus Eisinger** | Prof. Dr. | Historian of urban design and planning | RZU

"Sustainable urban development. Some thoughts on the urban planning of Bob Gysin + Partner BGP" – a theoretical treatment of the current discourse.

**Köbi Gantenbein** | lic. Phil. sociologist | Editor-in-chief of *Hochparterre*

"On the woods, the table and living in old age" – a text on sustainability as a social contract.

**Manfred Hegger** | Prof. Dipl.-ing. M.Sc. Economy | TU Darmstadt

"The building as a self-contained system" – the challenges and opportunities of a holistic approach.

**Bob Gysin + Partner BGP**

"Sustainable building. Thoughts on the responsibility of architecture" – a reflection on the practice's work.

## Biographies Team BGP and GBG

**Bob Gysin + Partner BGP** stands for forward-looking architecture since the office's founding in 1976 and count among the pioneers of sustainable building in the European architecture scene. Creativity and innovation are as important as a holistic approach that attends to all aspects of sustainability – social, environmental, economic, and energy-related – including the entire life cycle.

Lectures, jury activity, consultancy work, as well as the Energiesalon – a platform for discussing issues related to architecture, art, and sustainability – document our interest in combining social involvement with cultural relevance. BGP have received numerous national and international architecture awards.

Since its founding in 1971, the **Galerie Bob Gysin GBG** has established itself in the Swiss art scene as a visionary gallery. It represents young, lesser-known artists as well as nationally recognized names. In terms of content, the theme of space – be it built or mental – occupies an important position.

Numerous Swiss artists whose reputations are now well established have received long-term support from the gallery – including Roman Signer, Adrian Schiess, and Carmen Perrin – to achieve their international breakthroughs.

## Bibliographical Information

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