



EUGEN WÖRLE (1909–1996) DIFFERENT FACETS OF A VIENNESE MODERNIST **19.03 – 06.04.2009**

Opening: Wednesday 18.03.2009, 6pm

— The Architekturzentrum Wien is honouring one of the great personalities of Viennese architecture with the exhibition to mark his 100th birthday. Trained at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna under Clemens Holzmeister, from 1934 – 1957 Wörle worked in partnership with the former Hoffmann student Max Fellerer. Both architects were proponents of the Second-Vienna modernism. Alongside functional criticism, elegant ease dominated their approach to architecture although they always reacted to the existing setting appropriately. These attributes characterise one of their first major building projects: the Hotel Tulbingerkogel. The architect duo received numerous major commissions during the period of postwar reconstruction in Austria — including the renovation of the Parliament building, which they conceived in the smallest detail and down to the interior design. One of their most significant projects from this period was, however, the reconstruction of the Am Gänsehäufel outdoor bathing facility.

Wörle continued to run his office on his own following the death of Max Fellerer, and worked in collaboration with various architects, for instance on the Haas-Haus and the Parkhotel Mirabell. Wörle completed pioneering work in later years with the Goldene Stiege housing estate complex in Mödling, which is considered the first terraced estate on steep ground in Austria. Wörle also achieved a significant reputation for his engagement during his presidency of the Zentralvereinigung der ArchitektInnen Österreichs, for instance for campaigning for the conservation of significant buildings such as the Loos Bar and the Wittgenstein House, which was threatened with demolition.

In 2007 the Zentralvereinigung der ArchitektInnen Österreichs, whose president Wörle was for many years, donated Wörle's archives to the Az W.

— The exhibition aims to provide an insight into the oeuvre of Eugen Wörle on the basis of selected projects, and so to provide an impulse for an updated engagement with his work.