

## FILM FESTIVAL: Architektur.Film.Sommer 2017

### Battle for the city

**Wed 09.08, 16.08., 23.08., 30.08, 20:30 | in the Az W courtyard**

In cooperation with wonderland – platform for european architecture, and with the MuseumsQuartier Wien

The fifth open air architecture film festival links current and historic struggles for cities worth living in and the appropriate architecture.

Under the title "Battle for the City" the Architektur.Film.Sommer makes a plea against architecture as a status symbol and in favour of an inclusive development of the city as a habitat for all. What are the impacts of urban design projects from the post-war era on our cities? As a resident how can you influence the development of the area around your home? Must urban development automatically involve moving people out of their homes? Vacant buildings, housing shortage and new nomads – how does all of this fit together? Documentary films, short films, experimental films and animated films selected from 125 international submissions are combined every Wednesday in August to create a varied programme.

Jury Open Call: Karoline Mayer, Marlene Rutzendorfer, Daniela Schulhofer

Location: courtyard of the Architekturzentrum Wien in the MuseumsQuartier Wien  
Alternative bad-weather location: Az W Podium

Tickets: admission is free

**PROGRAMME:****The Future of Yesterday****Wed 9.8.2017, 8.30 pm**

The opening evening is devoted to ideas on urban planning from the post-war era, some of which were implemented, some not. What would the city look like today if every city motorway, slum clearance and urban renewal project of the 1950s and 1960s had been carried out?

**every-one**

LV/AT 2015, 9:53 min, without speech, Director: Willi Dorner

Inspired by the book "The Practice of Everyday Life" by Michel de Certeau this film is dedicated to the "common man, the everyday hero, a widespread person, to the many who are on the move. These anonymous heroes have been on the move for long time. The protagonists who yesterday symbolised families, groups and orders are slowly vanishing. Now comes the number, the number of democracy, the big city, the administration and of cybernetics. An adaptable and coherent mass, a dense mesh like a fabric without tears or seams, a multitude of statistically recorded heroes who lose names and faces and become the mobile language of calculations and rationalities, who belong to no one. Coded traffic flows." (Michel de Certeau)

**Citizen Jane: Battle for the City**

US 2017, 92:00 min, EO, Director: Matt Tyrnauer

In 1960 Jane Jacobs sent shock waves through the world of architecture and town planning with her book "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" in which she analyses the impact of restructuring cities according to the principles of modernism. As an activist Jacobs was involved in a number of struggles in the mid-20th century, which aimed at hindering New York's hyperactive "master builder", Robert Moses. The film traces these struggles for and about the city, personified by Jacobs and Moses, at a time when urbanisation and the adaptation of the city to suit the motor-car were at the top of the global agenda. The film examines the city of today through the eyes of one of the people who knew it best and was one of its greatest advocates. A precise second look at Jacob's understanding of the city seems appropriate: many of the solutions to the dizzying number of urban questions we ask ourselves today are to be found in Jacob's forward-looking texts.

**Ginny**

AT 2015, 5:00 min, EO, Director: Susi Jirkuff

The animated film "Ginny" is based on the further development of a newspaper story. Four young people, the youngest around 14 years old, threw a cat out of a window of a high-rise building, four successive times. The film version of Ginny is based on a fictitious dialogue between a 14 year old girl and a psychologist.

**The Workers Leave the City****Wed 16.8.2017, 8.30 pm**

What effect does the disappearance of the working class from the city have on the way people live together or on holiday habits? Urban expansion and the increase in urban density often force established trades to move out, on the other hand new functions bring new activities into the city.

**The Flying Gardeners**

IT 2015, 9:00 min, no dialogue, Director: Giacomo Boeri & Matteo Grimaldi  
 Every four months Gilberto, Massimo and Giovanni abseil from the “Vertical Forest” of a planted high-rise complex in Milan, designed by architect Stefano Boeri. Botanists and mountaineers, only they have an awareness of the natural wealth to be found in the forest in the sky above Milan.

**STALINGRAD – Geschichten einer Innsbrucker Siedlung**

AT 2015, 58:09 min, GOV, Director.: Melanie Hollaus  
 From the late 1920s onwards, to the south of the Conrad Barracks in Innsbruck a housing estate was developed in several stages, which has been known unofficially as “Stalingrad” since the 2nd World War. When the National Socialists came to power the last barracks in this area were demolished and the remaining apartments were erected. This was an area of experiment for social housing where new house typologies and new materials were tested. In contrast to “better” social housing the housing blocks were intended for poorer sectors of the population, people who had lived in huts and those who had returned from the war. Outwardly the reputation of this estate was never particularly good, yet internally the level of neighbourliness was high and people stuck closely together. The people of Stalingrad generally felt very well in their homes and to the present day they are extremely proud of the estate.

**“The Show Must Go On”**

EE/AT 2016, 6:00 min, no dialogue, Director: Laurien Bachmann & David Wittinghofer  
 Behind a curtain an actor waits for his big moment which, however, is not going to happen, in the meantime the space around him develops gradually into a stage, in a certain sense becoming the main protagonist: a personal homage to Tallinn’s historical working class housing estate Kopli linid shortly before it disappeared.

**IRIS**

DE/LB 2016, 7:20 min, OwGS, Director: Manuel Rees & Lea Najjar  
 When Adnan was a small boy his father taught him how to fish off the coast of Beirut. Thy lived in a house and could look across green terraced gardens and trees to the sea. Today the gardens have vanished, Adnan has lost his house and a grey jungle of high-rise buildings blocks the access to the sea. Through the project IRIs, initiated by the Lebanese architect Karim Najjar, the fishers are trying to recover their access to the coast. IRIS offers them a platform, serves as a fishers’ pier and, through the power of the waves, supply the fishers’ houses with electricity. In this way the uprooted fishers, after having been swallowed up by the city, are gradually recovering the basis for their livelihood.

**19:30**

AT 2016, 14:25 min, GOV, Director: Simona Reisch  
 In a mix of idyll and pedantic punctuality: Vienna’s municipal outdoor swimming pools close at 7:30 pm. At some places this is announced in an informal, spontaneous, partly also friendly way. In other places the announcement of the impending end of a summer day at the pool can recall times of war and emergency situations. Accompanied by associations with bomb attacks you quickly finish eating your ice-pop or dry yourself off. The visual language is recorded photographically and shows the architecture of bathing facilities from the previous century in Vienna. The excerpts focus not so much on the accidental protagonists and more on the spatial and architectural elements that surround the end of a summer day at the swimming pool.

**Slumbering Concrete - extended teaser**

HR 2016, 15:19 min, without dialogue, Director: Saša Ban

"Slumbering Concrete" is the title of a series of documentary films about the progressive ambitions and the controversial fate of modernist architecture in the region of former Yugoslavia. The theme of the first series is Croatian holiday architecture which – freed from the constraints of other contemporary projects – from the mid 1960s to the beginning of the 1970s represented an important field of architectural research. It still shows traces of a remarkable architectural culture, even though today many of these fascinating buildings stand empty and are decaying – disquieting evidence of loss of cultural memory and poorly managed post-socialist privatisation processes. "Slumbering Concrete - Extended Teaser" presents all the architectural protagonists of the series in their present-day condition.  
Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1ikSrNxsac>

### **Restless**

**Wed 23.8.2017, 8.30 pm**

A life in permanent motion, a minimal amount of private living space and shared infrastructure nodes – this is how the Utopians saw the future in the 1960s. And in fact today it is becoming increasingly possible find people who have adopted this way of living – either by choice or because they are forced to.

### **Rast**

AT 2016, 55:00 min, OwES, Director.: Iris Blauensteiner

The residents of a truck rest area and of a camping site near Vienna share their proximity to the same motorway and a common need: calm and rest between undertaking journeys – one group to go holidays, the other for their work. They have their private spaces with them – reduced to absolute necessities. Their daily rituals before and after taking a rest tell about the personalities and situations of people who in order to rest make small spaces into their home for a night.

### **Gente dei bagni**

IT 2015, 60:00 min, OwGS, Director: Stefania Bona & Francesca Scalisi

"Bagni" (baths) stands in big neon letters on a small red brick building. This is the last public washing facility in the city of Turin. During one of the most intimate moments of their daily routine – personal hygiene – in this microcosm the stories of people are told, who come from different social backgrounds and who, for various reasons, are dependent on this facility to wash themselves. It is a place of conflict, as in reacting to a sense of shame poverty often resorts to violence and anger. It is a place of integration, as where poverty is dominant altruistic values are reborn.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJe-lppBUa0>

### **Vacancies in the Growing City**

**Wed 30.8.2017, 8.30 pm**

Even in growing cities that are under enormous pressure to increase density it can happen that buildings or even entire complexes stand vacant. Many of these were originally built as status symbols and are the victims of speculation and structural change. The films focus on memory and resistance.

### **Sava Buildering**

AT 2015, 8:20 min, without dialogue, Director: Ulrich A. Reiterer

Starting from Belgrade in the 1970s a performative search for traces is undertaken. In expansive tableaux buildings are used by parcours runners. While crossing various

districts of Belgrade the breathing of the sporty actors grows more laboured, entering into dialogue with the existing buildings. Various positions of Marina Abramović and Neša Paripović, who place architecture, the body and city in a new relationship, serve as a reference.

#### **The March of the White Elephants**

BR/ZA 2015, 52:00 min, OwES, Director: Craig Tanner

The film shows the ignored legacy of the FIFA world football championships: fully equipped stadiums that were built for a four week championships now stand empty, absorbing funds that are actually needed for basic services in the areas of health, housing and education. The film makers visited the venues of the last two World Cups, Brazil and South Africa, and collected statements from social activists that make clear how global financial interests operate under the cover of football.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4-JDbqSn6g>

#### **Das Ihme-Zentrum – Traum Ruine Zukunft**

DE 2016, 45:00 min, GOV, Director: Constantin Alexander / Hendrik Millauer

In the 1970s the Ihme-Zentrum in Hannover was regarded as the future of the city: planned as a multi-functional city in the city it offered space for around 2000 residents and about 1000 office staff and provided 60 000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail space. Through mismanagement, speculation and communication failures over the decades the centre has gradually become a ruin for the most part. In 2014 sustainability expert Constantin Alexander moved in in order to analyse why this urban dream failed and to discover how the centre might possibly be revived. Together with filmmaker Hendrik Millauer he found a number of answers.

#### **Memory Reel**

RO 2016, 12:29 min, OwES, Director: Adela Muntean

The film store in Cluj Napoca, Romania used to be the warehouse of the central film distribution firm, which distributed reels of film to cinemas throughout the country. After 1989 it soon became out of date in both technological and economic terms. Small private companies were able to organise more economic distribution and the introduction of digital technologies soon made the entire process obsolete. In the documentary the film store, which has remained empty since the closing of the film distribution firm, served as a background for memories that relate to the cinema, recalled by inhabitants of Cluj.

The press release as well as high-resolution, rights free press images are available online [www.azw.at/press\\_architekturfilmsommer](http://www.azw.at/press_architekturfilmsommer)

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