

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Annual Program 2020 . SPACE-TIME-ODYSSEY**

**Exhibition: MODELL MIES**

**Curators: Albert Kirchengast and Jörn Köppler**

**Exhibition period: 19.01. - 05.04.2020**

**Opening: Sunday, 19.01.2020, 2 p.m.**



M I E S  
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H A U S

After the exciting Bauhaus 100th anniversary year, the famous silence after the storm follows. In this way, the programme can once again be geared more to the inner potential of the Mieschen space at Haus Lemke. The focus is on the contemplative atmosphere of the place, which allows space and time to flow practically into each other. With four exhibitions and two conferences, the annual theme **SPACE-TIME-ODYSSEY** will be a journey through the history of architecture and art, linking the Neue Nationalgalerie with the Mies van der Rohe Haus in artistic photographs and finally leading to Mies' dictum "less is more".

With the first exhibition in 2020 **MODELL MIES**, Mies's architectural thinking will be examined on the basis of terms that are translated back into abstract models. The curators, **Albert Kirchengast** (lecturer at the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz) and **Jörn Köppler** (architect in Potsdam), will create an arc of tension from antiquity, for example the temple of Zeus from the Greek sanctuary and oracle Dodona, through Mies' court houses to the present day. The exhibition will be accompanied by a symposium with representatives from various disciplines.

Mies van der Rohe's architecture is built on an ideal ground. It does not find its goal in sheer fulfilment of purpose, publicity or economic success. Its foundation reaches deeper. Mies' buildings are created with the help of many hand-drawn sketches, impressive collages and examining models - long before a project comes to fruition, they help to transform the "mental statics" of a design into reality. This exhibition deals with the illustration of Mies' architectural thinking in "thought models": six architectural models and a film enter into a dialogue with word and image and the space of the Lemke House. They follow the opposite path of the architectural design process, trying to "extract" the ideal content from the built work for today's debate. The "biography" of one of the most important architects of modernism, which emerges concretely as the exhibition passes through, represents a kind of compass to another, intellectual architectural art, illustrating the continuing relevance and overriding significance of this work: in a present whose materialism would have sharply criticized Mies for levelling everything.

**Albert Kirchengast** is an architectural theorist. He currently works at the Institute of Art History in Florence - Max Planck Institute and is a visiting professor at the Institute for Design Studies at the TU Vienna. He has published numerous articles in specialist media and the daily press as well as specialist books. The book "Franz Riepl baut auf dem Land - Eine Ästhetik des Selbstverständlichen" was awarded the "DAM Architectural Book Award" in 2018. In October 2019 his monograph "The incomplete house: Mies van der Rohe and the landscape" was published by Birkhäuser.

**Jörn Köppler**, architect, studied at the TU Berlin. Assistant at the Institute for Architectural Theory and Architecture at Graz University of Technology, dissertation 2007. Together with his wife Annette Köppler-Türk and Karsten Schubert, he runs the architectural office "Köppler Schubert Türk Architekten" in Potsdam and Berlin. Various realizations with a focus on residential construction. Since 2001 he has also been active in the field of architecture. Regular publications in the FAZ, taz, Bauwelt etc.. Most recently published: "Die Poetik des Bauens - Betrachtungen und Entwürfe" by transcript Verlag as a summary of a research stay at the Villa Massimo in Rome.

Further information: 030/97000618 and [info@miesvanderrohehaus.de](mailto:info@miesvanderrohehaus.de)

Open Tuesday-Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., including public holidays  
free entrance

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