

Up into the Unknown

Peter Cook, Colin Fournier
and the Kunsthhaus

23.09.2017–25.03.2018

Space01

Kunsthhaus Graz, Universalmuseum Joanneum

Lendkai 1, 8020 Graz

T +43-(0)316/8017-9200, Tuesday to Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

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Five questions for Barbara Steiner

The exhibition *Up into the Unknown* traces the genesis of the Kunsthaus Graz and in doing so looks at the relationship between visionary ideas and their implementation. The art education department has dedicated itself on different levels to this area between idea, planning and execution since the building was opened in 2003. So Monika Holzer-Kernbichler asked the new director of the Kunsthaus five questions about the exhibition.

Why are you putting on an exhibition about the Kunsthaus Graz?

The Kunsthaus building is very popular. People come from near and far because they are interested in the building. They know it as a baby hippo, a sea slug, a porcupine, a whale. The architects have called it a 'friendly alien'. Now it stands as the biggest exhibition piece itself in the centre of an exhibition. We are telling the unusual story of its genesis.

Does this exhibition give new insights into the Kunsthaus Graz?

The contributors' different ways of seeing things allowed for a multi-layered picture of the story of the genesis of the Kunsthaus. The insights are therefore diverse, yet the most important one may be this: the challenges could only be overcome as a result of a joint effort. The Kunsthaus is the result of interaction between planning and implementation, even if there were sometimes differences of opinion between planning and executing architects.

What, for you, is special about the Kunsthaus Graz as an institution in this city?

I would really like the Kunsthaus to be a place that the people of Graz and the Styrian region can be proud of and that they can show to guests—not just because of the building, but also because of its exhibitions.

What do the unique spaces in the Kunsthaus mean for the curating of exhibitions?

This is a challenging building with special qualities. I see it as a partner, it invites you to grapple with it. A number of artists have, in the past, developed very special exhibitions at and for this place. I am interested in working with the architecture as a basis; I will not set up white walls.

Why are all texts in the *Up into the Unknown* exhibition in English?

The Kunsthaus was planned in English. Peter Cook and Colin Fournier bid for the Kunsthaus in this language and made people enthusiastic about their ideas. Now we are making this information open to the public in the original. But of course we have also translated all the texts into German. They can be found in the German exhibition guide.

Supporting programme

Curator's tours with Barbara Steiner

Sun, 29.10.2017

Sun, 26.11.2017

Sun, 25.03.2018

at 11 am respectively

Further guided tours of the exhibition

Sun, 08.10.2017, 3:30 pm

Fri, 09.02.2018, 3:30 pm

Sun, 11.02.2018, 3:30 pm

Fri, 02.03.2018, 3:30 pm

Sun, 04.03.2018, 11 am

Fri, 23.03.2018, 3:30 pm

Architecture ... keep on drawing!

UNIQA family day at the Kunsthaus Graz 2017

with Gerald Hartwig and Clemens Luser

Sun, 22.10.2017, 10 am – 5 pm

Free entrance!

Concept, implementation, reality

A talk about the genesis of the Kunsthaus

with Niels Jonkhans, Herfried Peyker and

Katia Huemer

Wed, 15.11.2017, 5 pm, Space01

Further through the Unknown

A look through the hololens at the future of the Kunsthaus

with Niels Jonkhans, Gernot Stangl, Barbara

Steiner, Tristan Schulze, Wolfgang Walcher,

Urs Hirschberg, Constantinus Miltiades and

students of the Institute for Architectur and

Media

Sat, 24.03.2018, 5 pm, Space01

All events in German language.

For further information see:

www.kunsthausgraz.at

Curated by Barbara Steiner with Katia Huemer /
Exhibition design: Rainer Stadlbauer; Anna Lena von
Helldorff (buero total) / Questions: Monika Holzer-
Kernbichler / Translation: Helen Dixon / Layout,
proofreading: Karin Buol-Wischenau