

Press release

Warm invitation to the opening

## **The AST - Architekturarchiv Steiermark opens in Graz**

A cooperation between Graz University of Technology's Institute of Architectural Theory, Art History and Cultural Studies (akk), the HDA House of Architecture and the Graz University of Technology archive.



Photo: Bernhard A. Reismann

**On 30th November the AST (Architekturarchiv Steiermark) opens at Münzgrabenstrasse 36 in Graz. This newly founded independent and enlarged archive is based on existing architecture material in the archive of Graz University of Technology. The AST is the result of a cooperation between Graz University of Technology's archive and the HDA with the expert support of the Institute of Architectural Theory, Art History and Cultural Studies (akk) at Graz University of Technology with the aim of doing justice to the special significance of the region's architectural heritage.**

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**INVITATION TO THE OPENING:**

**30th November 2022 at 6 p.m.**  
**BMT lecture hall, Graz University of Technology**  
**Stremayrgasse 16, 8010 Graz, ground floor**

Speakers:

**Harald Kainz**, Rector of Graz University of Technology  
**Sandra Holasek**, member of the Styrian parliament (on behalf of State Governor Christopher Drexler)  
**Markus Bogensberger**, expert team Building Culture, State of Styria  
**Petra Petersson**, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Graz University of Technology

Founding institutions:

**Bernhard Reismann**, Director of the archive of Graz University of Technology  
**Beate Engelhorn**, Director of the HDA, Graz  
**Anselm Wagner**, Chair of the Institute of Architectural Theory, Art History and Cultural Studies, Graz University of Technology

Architects:

**Karla Kowalski**, architect, Graz  
**Konrad Frey**, architect, Hart bei Graz

**The talks will be followed by a tour of the archive rooms on the ground floor of Münzgrabenstrasse 36**  
**Drinks in the cafeteria, Stremayrgasse 9, ground floor**

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**BACKGROUND**

Post-war modernism in Graz has attracted much international attention. The building epoch between approx. 1960 and the 1990s, which became known as the “Graz School,” is particularly significant. Buildings from this period attracted interest from far beyond the borders of Austria and are still among the most stylistically influential works of their time in Europe.

The establishment of the ASt intends to ensure that sources of architectural production, which represent a central distinguishing feature of Graz and Styria, will be preserved in the long term for future generations, as well as being made accessible to researchers and the

interested public. Currently, the archive of Graz University of Technology manages the gifts and bequests of 34 Styrian architects and architecture offices, including those of Herbert Eichholzer, Anna Lülja Praun, Hubert Hoffmann, Karl Raimund Lorenz, Ferdinand Schuster, Karl Augustinus Bieber, Sokratis Dimitriou, Michael Szyszkowitz + Karla Kowalski, Konrad Frey, Heinz Wondra, Team A and the architectural photographer Peter Eder. Further premature legacies and bequests will follow and will be collected, indexed and made available to the public at Münzgrabenstrasse 36. It is already possible to consult around 70,000 image documents, 55,000 plans and around 50 architectural models.

The cooperation of the institutions at the newly founded AST brings together the necessary expertise: The archive will organise, catalogue and archive the documents and models in a professional and appropriate manner. The Institute of Architectural Theory, Art History and Cultural Studies (akk) will continue to ensure that the archival collections are the focus of systematic scientific research and that the results of this research are presented to the public in publications, exhibitions and symposia.

Cooperation with the HDA will enable the AST to benefit from the former's professional expertise, involvement in the regional and national architectural discourse, international reputation and, last but not least, its opportunities for presentation.

By securing and organizing the historical material collected in this way at the Graz location, the communication of building culture in Styria can be expanded by adding a further important area from the more recent history of architecture.

**We warmly invite you to visit the premises of the new archive at Münzgrabenstrasse 36 in Graz for the opening on 30th November at 6 p.m.**

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**Further information about Architekturarchiv Steiermark** at the HDA website: <https://hda-graz.at/baukultur/architekturarchiv-steiermark>

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