



For the 18<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition in Venice, the Biennale Architettura 2023, the Swiss Pavilion in the Giardini exhibits itself and the relations to its immediate surroundings. Neighbours is a conversation over the shared boundary of the pavilions of Switzerland (built: 1952; architect: Bruno Giacometti) and Venezuela (built: 1954; architect: Carlo Scarpa). Among all the pavilions in the Giardini, they are the only ones that directly touch. They share a wall. The artist Karin Sander and the art historian Philip Ursprung temporarily open this wall and dismantle the gates from the Swiss Pavilion. They reveal unanticipated connections between the two neighbours, both distant and close.

# Neighbours

A Manifesto,  
A Play for Two Pavilions,  
and Ten Conversations

Edited by  
Karin Sander and  
Philip Ursprung



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- Explores the neighbourhood between the national pavilions of Switzerland and Venezuela in the Giardini of the Venice Biennale and its history
- Ten conversations with architects, architectural historians, and photographers reflect on the work of the two pavilions' architects Bruno Giacometti and Carlo Scarpa as well as on architecture and architectural photography in Venezuela
- The official publication of the Swiss Pavilion at the 18th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale (May 20 to November 26, 2023)

The Swiss Pavilion at the 18th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale exhibits itself and the relations to its immediate surroundings. The exhibition is a conversation over the shared boundary of the pavilions of Switzerland (1952, designed by Bruno Giacometti) and Venezuela (1954, designed by Carlo Scarpa), the only two in the Giardini not fully detached: they share one wall. Artist Karin Sander and art historian Philip Ursprung temporarily open this wall and dismantle the gates from the Swiss Pavilion, thus revealing unanticipated connections between the two neighbours, both distant and close.

The complementing book offers a manifesto, a play with the two buildings as dramatis personae, and three brief topical essays. Ten conversations with architectural historian Kurt W. Forster, photographers Paolo Gasparini and Guido Giudi, and Venezuelan architects Elisa Silva and Margarita López-Maya round off this volume.

**Karin Sander** is a Berlin-based artist and a Professor of Art and Architecture at ETH Zurich's department of architecture. **Philip Ursprung** is a Professor of Art and Architectural History at ETH Zurich's Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture (gta).