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Presences de l'histoire

Peter Zumthor

Mari Lending

ISBN	9783858818126
Publisher	Scheidegger & Spiess
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
Size	195 mm x 110 mm
Pages	80 Pages
Illustrations	14 b&w
Price	£25.00

- Peter Zumthor reflects in conversation on time and history's reverberations in his work and has informed his attempts to emotional reconstruction of space
- His counterpart Mari Lending is a renowned scholar of history and theory of architecture
- Beautiful book design with photographs by Hélène Binet

While completing the Almannajuvet Zinc Mine Museum in southern Norway in 2016, celebrated Swiss architect Peter Zumthor asked Norwegian scholar Mari Lending to engage in a dialogue about the project. Departing from the ways in which Zumthor's pavilions frame the barely visible traces of the industrial exploitation of zinc in the 1890s, the conversation took unexpected turns.

In meandering, impressionistic style and drawing on Zumthor's favourite writers, such as Johann Peter Hebel, Stendhal, Vladimir Nabokov, or T.S. Eliot, their exchanges explore how history, time and temporalities reverberate across the famous architect's oeuvre. Looking back, Zumthor ponders on how a feeling of history has informed his continuous attempts of emotional reconstruction by means of building, from architectural interventions in dramatic landscapes to his design for the redevelopment of Los Angeles' LACMA on a grand urban scale.

This small, beautifully designed new book records the conversation between Zumthor and Lending, illustrated with photographs by the renowned Swiss architectural photographer Hélène Binet.

Text in French.

Peter Zumthor works with his Atelier of around 30 people in Haldenstein, Switzerland. His best known buildings include the Kunsthaus Bregenz, Therme Vals, Museum Kolumba Köln, and the Steilneset Memorial in Vardø. **Mari Lending** is a professor at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design. Her latest book is *Plaster Monuments: Architecture and the Power of Reproduction* (2017).

Published 13th Jul 2018