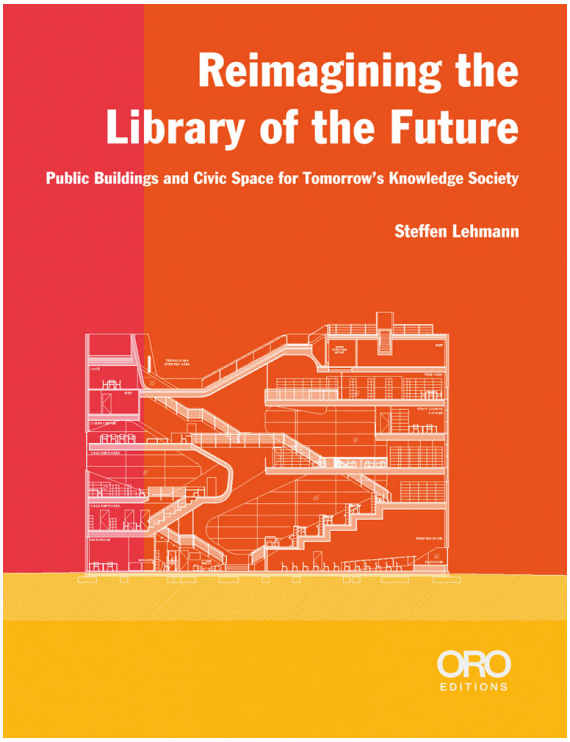
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Reimagining the Library of the Future

Public Buildings and Civic Space for Tomorrow's Knowledge Society

Steffen Lehmann

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- The book presents a selection of historically significant, as well as contemporary, public and academic libraries, and identifies emerging trends relevant to the design of libraries
- Among the highlights of the book are the statements by leading architects and library designers specifically written for this publication
- Richly illustrated with relevant examples, this reference book will be useful for practitioners, students, bibliophiles, librarians, and anyone who has an interest in the future of libraries

The study ***Reimagining the Library of the Future*** investigates the various models of public buildings and civic space through the lens of the library. It takes a critical look at the history, present, and future transformation of this significant building typology that has recently emerged as a redefined community place, social condenser, and urban incubator for knowledge generation, storage, and sharing. In particular, the library has evolved as a vibrant and vital member of community development and as a basis for outreach efforts.

This book presents 40 recent public and academic libraries from around the world, with over 200 images. As the survey of precedents shows, the historical cases have informed the design of the recent libraries and the continuous development of the building type over time. Well-designed libraries are now in abundance, and the wider view of this study includes médiathèque and learning centres. The selection of contemporary projects focuses on urban libraries in Europe (Germany, Italy, Austria, Netherlands), the US, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Japan, and China.

Dr. Steffen Lehmann, AA Dipl., Assoc. AIA, is a full professor of architecture at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is founder and principal of the design studio si architecture + urban design and has an extensive research and professional background. He has been, for 20 years, a chair professor holding senior roles at universities in the US, UK, and Australia. The book features a foreword by **Kelvin Watson** and a preface by **Michelle Delk**.





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