



# We Günther Domenig

## Reevaluation of a Legend

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- Explores for the first time the achievements of Austrian architect Günther Domenig as the result of his close cooperation with clients, partners, employees, construction firms, and supporters in politics and the media
- Takes a fresh look at Günther Domenig, freed of traditions in art and architecture history and the usual focus on his personal style and thought
- Highlights the significance of Günther Domenig's teaching at Graz University of Technology and the back-and-forth flux of knowledge and people between his studio and university
- Lavishly illustrated with photographs, plans, and documents from Günther Domenig's estate in the collection of Architekturzentrum Wien and private archives, many of which are published here for the first time

**We Günther Domenig** is an attempt to correct traditional biographies on architects. The case at hand is Günther Domenig (1934–2012), a towering figure of 20th-century Austrian architecture. This book does not question his outstanding ability to invent complex sculptural architecture, his obsession with total control of space, and his fighting power to enforce his ideas (with inevitable collateral damage). Yet, it does make clear: he was not on his own—Günther Domenig were many!

We Günther Domenig charts his career from the perspective of clients, partners, employees, and collaborators from other professional fields. Just as they were inspired by him, they also shaped the personality and designer Günther Domenig. They all sought, and found, in him an occasionally stubborn partner to realise their own visions.

The book showcases "his" buildings and unrealised projects, supplemented by short biographies of the key participants, reflecting their respective roles in joint undertakings. Moreover, it explores Domenig's two decades as a professor at Graz University of Technology's Faculty of Architecture (1980–2000). Teaching boosted his own career and induced a back-and-forth flux of knowledge and people—students and employees of different generations—between his studio and the university.

**Irénée Scalbert** is a French-born architect, historian, and critic based in London. His work critically examines post war European architecture and its intersections with landscape, ornament, and social meaning.