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a+u's February issue features the work of Bernardo Bader, who has stayed close to his roots in Austria's picturesque Vorarlberg region his entire life. Since establishing his studio in 2003, the architect has rapidly accumulated a stunning oeuvre in the villages and valleys of the Bregenzerwald. While his buildings may look ordinary at first sight, they exude contemporaneity, lightness, and youth. The experience of being in and around Bader's buildings is to feel its "dialogue with the history of the area," and "reaction to the landscape and architectural context," as described in the opening essay by Arno Ritter. Florian Sauter further observes in his essay that it is "not an aesthetic aim," but "the consequence of this progressive peeling off of the excessive and unimportant to gradually reveal the indispensable and important" that creates the "resolute calmness, clarity," and perhaps, "anonymity." Sixteen projects are presented alongside contextual photographs and detail drawings to capture the placeness and character of each building.

Text in English and Japanese.

a+u - Architecture and Urbanism – is a monthly architectural magazine established in 1971 that highlights a broad range of the work and activities of top contemporary architects from around the world in a well-presented format.