



CONSULTING

NEWSLETTER 2020/3

Housing News

1| Bill Menking Dead

**3| Housing Conditions and
Corona Crisis**

4| Dietmar Steiner Dead

upcoming Events

Vienna, Austria

**5| IBA_Vienna
Intermediary
Presentation**

Recommended Reading

**6| Neues soziales
Wohnen. Positionen
zur IBA_Wien 2022**

Bill Menking Dead

Sad news reached us in April 2020. Bill Menking, founder and editor of The Architect's Newspaper, died after a long and courageous fight against his cancer, in his New York home on April 11, 2020. Bill was one of the strongest voices for innovative and socially- oriented architecture and housing internationally. He was also the co-curator of the exhibition and book "The Vienna Model" which has been shown in cities world-wide and continues to have an impact on housing programs in many countries.

To quote Matt Shaw in archpaper.com: "Bill was born at the Ramey Air Force Base in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in 1947 and raised in Stockton, a small town in California's Central Valley, where he worked as an air-traffic controller for crop dusters and once played football against O.J. Simpson. He attended UC Berkeley to study architecture and urban studies from 1967-1972, and we can only imagine the things he saw there (something about Governor Reagan bombing him and his friends or something). Clearly, this immersion in American counterculture helped shape



his excellent taste and avant-garde predilections, from radical architecture to social activism, to local clothing shops and DIY oyster shacks. In 1974 and 1975 he worked as an organizer for the United Farm Workers, helping establish labor unions in rural towns in central and southern California, before landing in downtown New York City at a time of heightened cultural production. Hanging among this vibrant art scene, he met Dan Graham, with whom Bill drove around New Jersey documenting suburbia. In typical Bill fashion, he got a job as a server at Studio 54, where he witnessed iconic moments like when Bianca Jagger rode a white horse through the club. He moved into his famous Tribeca loft space on Lispenard Street, which he built out into a classic downtown dream loft that he was always excited to offer up as a venue for fundraisers, or for meetings and holiday dinners with AN staff and friends” – friends from all parts of the world. We are therefore not only losing one of the most influential architecture experts, we are also losing a good friend.

For more info's see:
www.archpaper.com

Housing Conditions and Corona Crisis

Poor housing conditions have always influenced health: research has shown clear connections between low-quality housing and illnesses like respirational diseases. The current Covid 19 crisis proves this fact. In Italy thousands of illegal workers – many of them Chinese- live in crowded low standard housing with little access to hygienic or health services; another fact is the large proportion of young people who cannot afford a home of their own and continue to live with their parents or grandparents.

Some Spanish regions have similar difficulties. Not surprisingly both Italy and Spain are the two European countries most affected by Covid 19, along with the UK due to its poor National Health Service (NHS).

APHA, the American Public Health Association, is now calling for action. According to its recent report some 35 million homes in the US have at least one health or safety hazard, resulting in, among others, 21,000 lung cancer deaths annually.

For more information on the National Center for Healthy Homes, visit: www.nchh.org



NCHH

Dietmar Steiner Dead

For those who knew him personally, Dietmar Steiner was not only one of the leading experts of architecture in Europe but also a witty, well-informed, often provocative - and almost continually smoking - partner in conversation. Dietmar was known for always saying what he thought, and, naturally, this did not make everybody his friend... Steiner's often sarcastic remarks in public discussions or juries were admired and feared alike. In 1993 he founded the Architekturzentrum Wien (Architectural Center Vienna, AZW) which during his 23 years as a director he made one of Europe's leading architecture institutions. Consequently, Dietmar Steiner was elected President of ICAM (International Confederation of Architecture Museums) in 2006. He also taught history and theory of architecture at Vienna's Universität für angewandte Kunst (University of Applied Arts). Dietmar Steiner died after a heart surgery on May 15, 2020, at the age of 68.

For more info see, among others: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dietmar_Steiner



Vienna, Austria

IBA_Vienna Intermediary Presentation

IBA (International Building exhibition „New Social housing“), started in 2016 as a several years public process on innovative housing is now entering a new stage: From September 8 to October 22 IBA will present its ongoing projects – some 100 innovative housing estates -at WEST, a former hospital (Sophienspital) at 1070 Vienna, Stollgasse 17/Corner to Neubaugürtel. This marks also the beginning of a new era for this centrally located area where some 380 new – mostly subsidized affordable- apartments will be built around a new public park

with a number of public facilities
Subsidies for the housing area will amount to some 50mio. Euros. Admission to the exhibition is free.

For more info see:
www.iba-wien.at



Recommended Reading

Neues soziales Wohnen. Positionen zur IBA_Wien 2022

2022 (Hg.Future Lab, Jovis Verlag
Berlin)



With IBA_Wien 2022, “New Social Housing” started in 2016, the Austrian capital takes up the challenge of an International Building Exhibition for the first time after WW II. Focusing on social housing it connects to Vienna’s historic core competence in housing and relates to the currently most urgent question in the development of European cities: How can cities remain inclusive, livable, and affordable in the face of current changes, and how can a comprehensive neighborhood development contribute to it? The book contains articles of experts behind IBA_Wien describing the expectations, experiences and future developments of IBA_Wien which is going to open its “intermediary presentation” with some 100 innovative housing projects this September / October (German only, ISBN 978-3-86859-619-9, Berlin 2020)