

Esch-Alzette LU  
15→17.4.2022

YEAHI

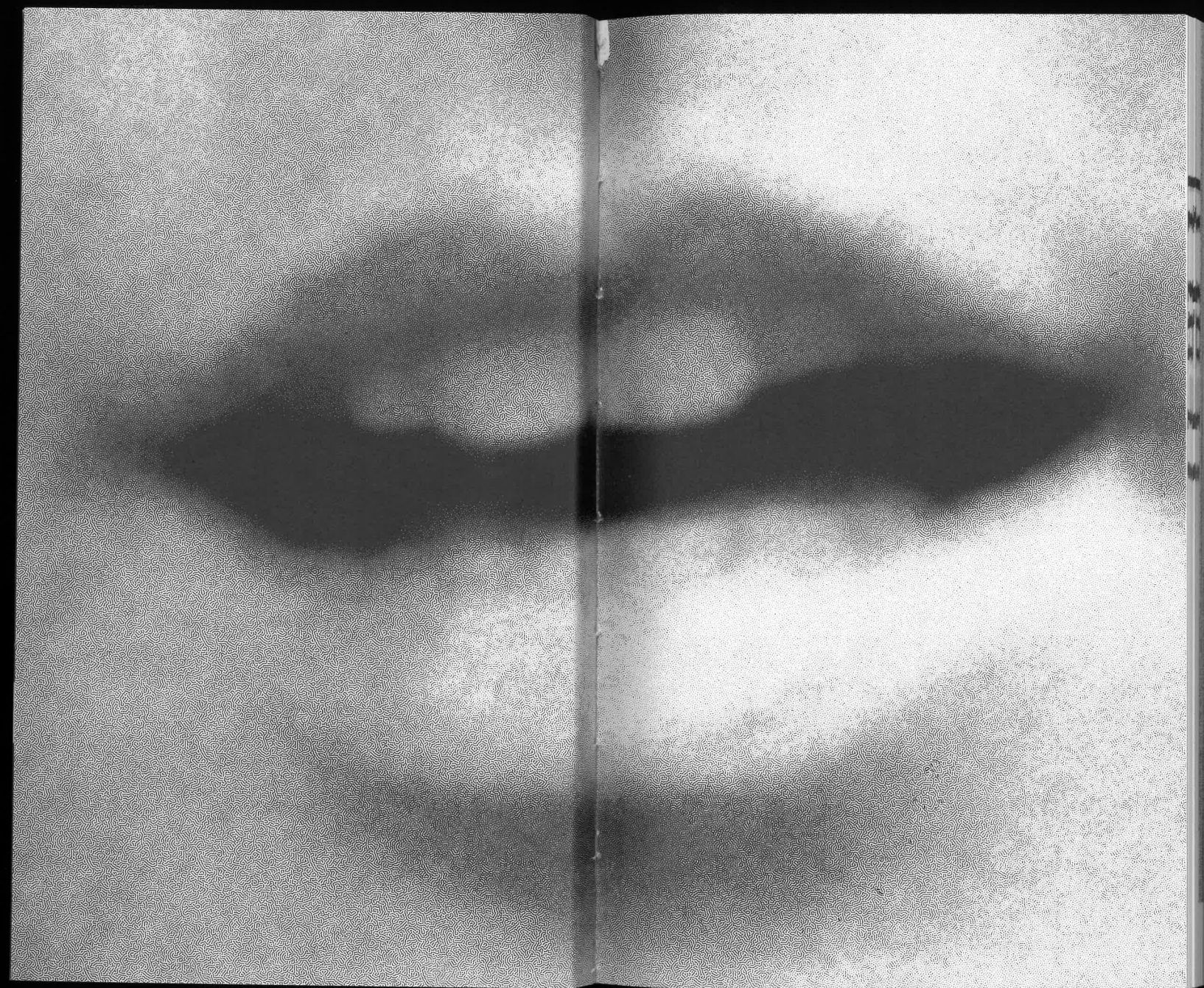
YOUNG EUROPEAN  
ARCHITECTURE HAPPENING

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ARCHITECTURE HAPPENING*

*YEAH!*  
Esch-Alzette LU  
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curated by  
Philippe Nathan-2001  
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STEFAN  
WÜLSER



**YEAH!**

Philippe Nathan  
Gianpiero Venturini

Much of our discipline's history is based on events of physical convergence and the ideological divergence occurring at these events. Manifestos, charters, mantras and dogmas have eventually become their product, consumed by generations of architects and planners thereafter.

While we seem to have lost the gusto to exchange ideas and experiences, to confront the debate, to articulate or stutter a vision for tomorrow, new specialists, consultants, managers (you call them) today package strategies about futures of the built environment and sell them in our name.

However, the risks and responsibilities, the pains and pleasures of planning, plotting and building, and the value of such economical, technical, social and political experiences is only difficultly equaled.

Harbored by post-pandemic all-in European comforts, war at the gates, gathering for the sake of sharing experiences and cultures is not merely an option, it's a responsibility for an upcoming generation.

A generation that is assisting professorships or starting own academic positions in notorious institutions, conducting research and publishing essays but also and foremost designing and building first seminal projects. Trans-European networks of colleagues, fellows, friends, a web of equally

fascinated and envious followers suddenly become identifiable.

Luxembourg merely is a satellite to this web, for its young and precarious Master program is pulling hard on the strings of the network but seemingly without succeeding (yet) in implanting the grains of emerging practices. Nevertheless, the high pressure on the planning and building sector, the frenetic (hyper)activity of the market, the recent past experiences and upcoming challenges make it a nurturing ground to discover and discuss alternatives in architecture. Supply and demand.

Festival, congress, conference:

*Young European Architecture Happening!* gathers an unestablished and/or upcoming generation of architects, makers and thinkers of the built environment on the European scale, in order to exchange ideas, visions and experiences with the larger public in a casual setting.

*YEAH!* is both a pretentiously sophisticated acronym and a deliberately simplistic affirmation.

## OTTO

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# OTTO HABITATS

↪ With major societal  
transitions ahead,  
how will we redefine  
the domestic spaces  
of the future?

moderated by  
Chris Luth *NL*

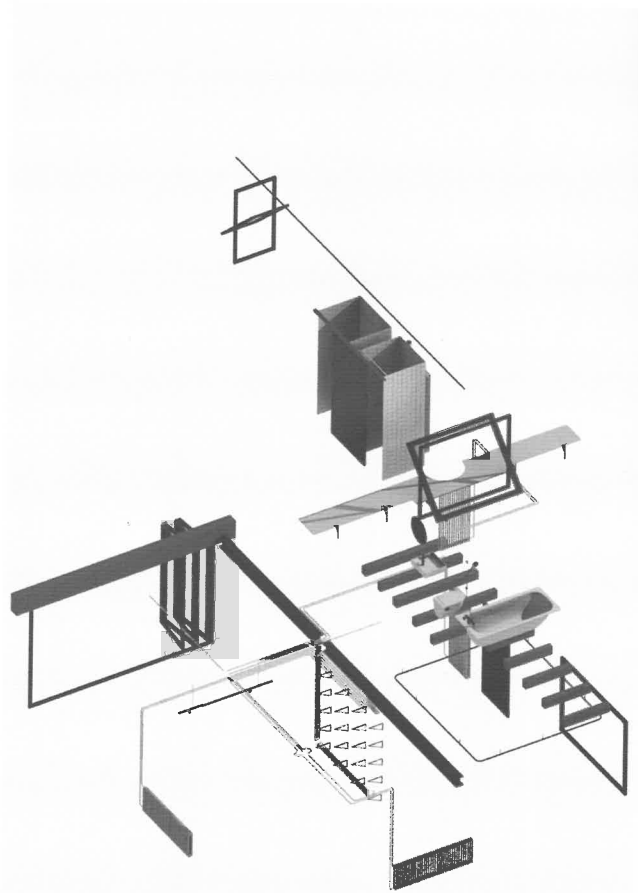
Access to decent housing has rarely been as challenging as nowadays\*, especially for young adults. If it seems to be a contemporary shared western phenomenon, many European countries, including Luxembourg, are literally facing a housing crisis. However, the last big financial meltdown of 2008–2010 should constantly remind us both the scope and dangers of a mismanaged housing market.

Yet beyond the arithmetic of the housing shortage, the current pandemic and upcoming socio-economic and climatic transitions challenge us to rethink our current habits, patterns, contexts and definitions of dwelling. Beyond housing: *HABITATS!*

HABITATS

\* The Economist, "Global average house prices, real terms 1870–2012"

## House in Richterswil



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OTTO

## Stefan Wülser Architektur CH

While architecture today is developed in an increasingly rational and mathematically justifiable way, projects that deal with housing are ultimately decided by a trend, the zeitgeist or personal, non-argumentative preferences. Images are created that detach themselves from the design and essence of the houses: makeup on a technically correct framework.

The House in Richterswil reduces the new elements to the absolutely necessary and gives character to the quite ordinary things of building: the pipes, the structure, the openings, etc., therefore we transform them into exalted and unusual actors in space and let them become the cornerstones of the architectural expression. Measurable performance of the buildings core components and playful, eventful and surprising living spaces come together.

If we as a society want to accept the challenges of our time and move forward, everything we produce as designers should say goodbye to counterproductive values and courageously seek the new: trust ideas as much as examples.

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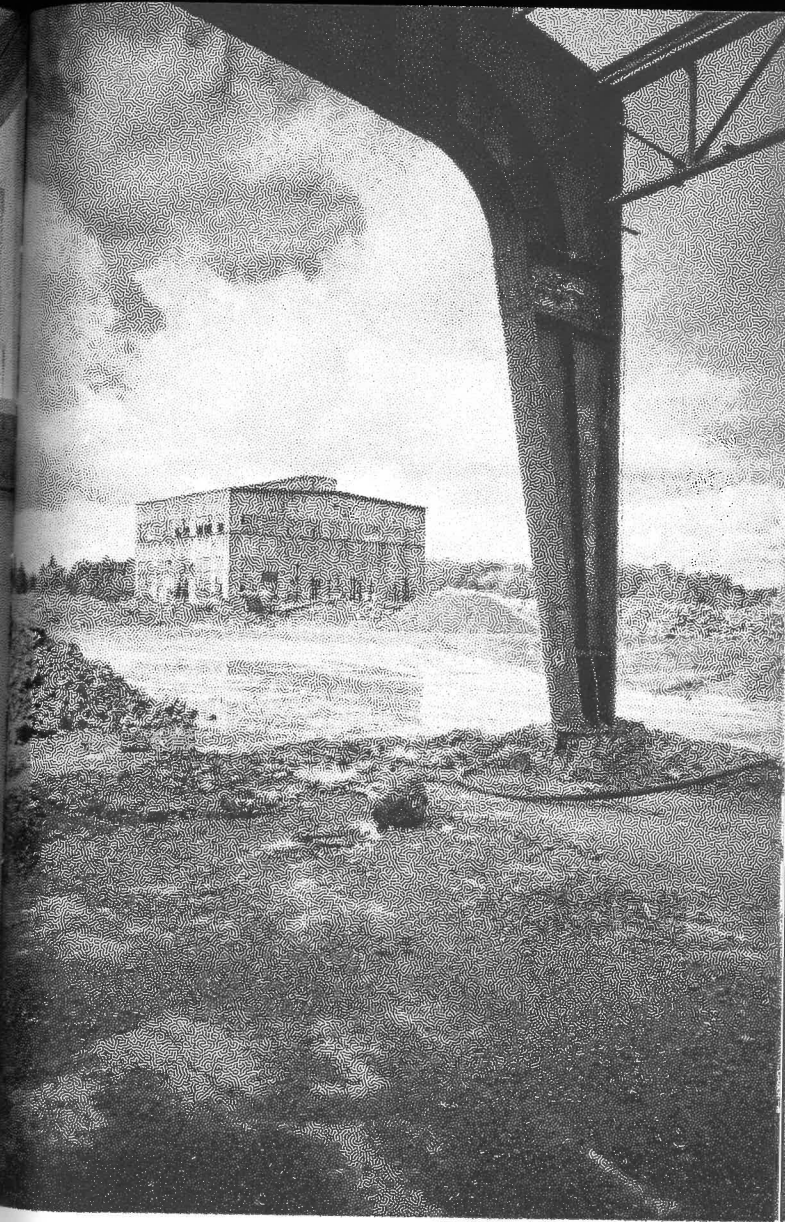
HABITATS



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