

Realstadt

Wishes Knocking on
Reality's Doors

PRESS INFORMATION

Successful launch of Realstadt.Wishes Knocking on Reality's Doors

Around 2,500 people took part in launching the great exhibition of urban architecture, Realstadt.Wishes Knocking on Reality's Doors, at its venue, the disused power station Berlin Mitte, on 1 October. They included representatives of diverse municipalities, planning practices, universities and civic initiatives and many of the artists who have submitted their models for display. On the exhibition's very first weekend no less than 1,500 visitors turned up in Realstadt, the temporary city built from wishes.

Realstadt.Wishes Knocking on Reality's Doors is the first exhibition to be staged in the huge Turbine Hall of Power Station Mitte, which was built in 1961. 250 architectural and urban planning models from all over Germany and 65 exemplary projects, presented in words and pictures, coalesce into a huge, temporary urban entity over the power station's two levels. The projects tell stories about the kind of urban reality that is familiar to the majority of visitors and about the ubiquitous wish for change.

The remarkable resonance this exhibition is creating is proof for the organizers that there is no need to limit debates on urban-planning issues to small circles of experts. It also proves that even complex content can be given a form that is a pleasure to view.

The exhibition is accompanied by a series of events organized by its many partners and by the „Date Wish“ List. These are guided tours of the exhibition given by well-known personalities from diverse walks of public life. They will be speaking about the impressions they have formed of Realstadt, about their own wishes and their opinions on what defines a city.

The first 'date wish', a date with publicist Jenni Zylka, is scheduled for 13 October 2010, 6 pm. The series continues with Jochen Sandig, of RADIALSYSTEM V; Uli Hellweg, the CEO of Internationale Bauausstellung Hamburg; Dr Volker Hassemer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Stiftung Zukunft Berlin; the art historian and author Dr Paul Sigel; Vera Tollmann; and Jan Turowski, from Kunstinitiative Neue Auftraggeber. More dates will be announced shortly.

The exhibition has been organized by the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development (BMVBS) and realized by Heller Enterprises, Zurich.

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