

FOURTH DOOR



These issues are particularly embodied in the work of Shigeru Ban, (200) who is from a small town in Japan. Ban has become an architectural icon for his dedication to school, health and social housing projects in his home country and abroad. Ban's work is also featured in this issue, alongside other notable architects such as Shigeru Ban, (200), and his work in Japan, Africa, and Europe. Ban's work is also featured in this issue, alongside other notable architects such as Shigeru Ban, (200), and his work in Japan, Africa, and Europe.

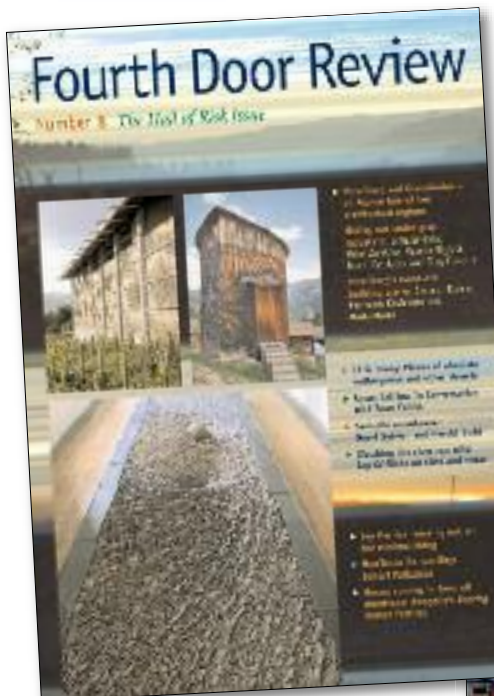


Shigeru Ban's life-long exploration of weak materials. In the first of a two-part interview with Shigeru Ban, Fourth Door focuses on the Japanese architect's well-known absorption in 'weak' and non-traditional materials, including paper, bamboo, wood and containers, where this fascination comes from, and how it has been at the heart of his post-graduate work in different parts of the planet.

Fourth Door Review issues 8 and 9

The new *Fourth Door Review* no 9 includes features on the Japanese architect, Shigeru Ban, the land artist David Nash and the musician Richard Thompson. There are two special feature sections in this new edition, on Humanitarian Architecture with contributions from

Anna Heringer and Peter Clegg, and on the electric folk music of Fairport Convention, with further interviews with and features on Joe Boyd and Vashti Bunyon. The previous edition of *Fourth Door Review* no 8, was published in 2009, including a special in-depth feature on Regionalist architecture from Austria and Switzerland, including an interview with Pritzker prize-winning architect, Peter Zumthor. Other features included land artist Chris Drury, musician David Sylvian and new media artist Susan Collins as well as contributions from writers Jay Griffiths and Jay Merrick.



A tale of two regions
Vorarlberg and Graubünden
Alpine sources of a new architectural regionalism

So close, yet so far, Vorarlberg and Graubünden are the two Alpine brothers of European regionalist architecture. Less than sixty minutes drive-time separates the West Austrian county from its Swiss neighbour. In various ways very similar, their geographic proximity provides an on-the-ground case for examining the roots of how, why and in what ways architectural regions are different. As such each community offers a tacit lesson in how grassroots and regional architecture emerge, grow and can continue to develop; a decentralised and in the broader sense, environmental message.

This Architecture is therefore devoted to these two regions communities, featuring a tapestry of architects and architectural cultures from these two Alpine architectural shinghtals. Along with the environmental dimension of architecture growing from place, the themed sections look both at Vorarlberg's highly respected practical sustainable building culture set in relation to Graubünden's more poetic, though everyday,

Buildings from Graubünden and Vorarlberg. Opposite page from left: Christoph Kalb's Wolfurt housing, Peter Zumthor's Bergara Kaufhaus from Lake Konstanz, and Gahleitner's cultural centre in Hofstaun. And this page (clockwise from top left): Kurtz & Rappold's Red House in Matten, Herman Kaufmann's Ludwin community centre, Maria Oigati's Earth House in Schwane, and Maria-Maria's Duffin house.

the voices of many of those involved in both Vorarlberg and Graubünden's respective architectural communities. While the Vorarlberg section primarily aims to show this small part of western Austria has become one of the leading European neo-architectural regions, as well as pioneering the resurgence in wood in building culture. It begins with Austrian writer, Otto Kapprigger's essay on Vorarlberg's young Turks Maria-Maria, (198) who have become the regions best-known young studio to emerge in recent years. From the older generation Vorarlberg's best-known architectural timber advocate, Herman Kaufmann, is interviewed in Gafhorn County (204) a piece which also profiles Kaufmann's families influence on this wood culture revival. The sustainability theme is also underlined in both Vorarlberg writer Robert Fabach's Christoph Kalb's Wolfurt housing scheme contribution (200) and in the first piece on how Vorarlberg has played so central a role in the emergence of postwar building culture (203).

Real Presence: An architecture of presence is an increasingly influential strand of the middle European architectural world. Here, threaded through this Alpine Architects section, pieces on those of the practices are also identified as part of this architectural current. These are the Red Phoenix: I, II and III pieces - Peter Zumthor, Valerio Oligitti and Maria-Maria.

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