

# **OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM**

## **Press release**

### **Urban Mining Design. Planning for the Age of Recycling**

**A lecture by Annette Hillebrandt, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, at the Oskar von Miller Forum on 14 June 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**

Building according to the Urban Mining concept means following a strategy of cycle-orientated planning geared towards the “circular economy”. It means enabling long-term multiple uses whilst at the same time employing building methods that facilitate the precise disassembly of structures into their component materials, hence creating efficient recyclability.

The deposits of raw materials worldwide have shifted: Today they are bound in new, anthropogenic deposits. Their major part is embedded in the building stock, and ends up being discarded in landfills. The Urban Mining Design paradigm shift seeks to enable recovery of building materials. It is based on cycle-orientated design approaches and cost considerations covering the entire life cycle of the structure.

The objective is to eliminate the concept of waste and to design tomorrow’s buildings as a recyclable material resource, thereby averting preventable raw materials shortages.

The segregability of structures and building materials plays a crucial role in this context.

In her lecture, architect Annette Hillebrandt will provide an overview of the Urban Mining design strategy as a factor contributing to the “material transition”.

As co-initiator of the Urban Mining Student Award, a student competition that was launched for the first time Germany-wide in the winter semester, Annette Hillebrandt is devoting considerable efforts towards including Urban Mining design in the curriculum for students of architecture. “It will be important to implement the goal of resource-efficient construction in the training of future architects and to supply as much information as possible to students and professionals alike. There is a massive knowledge deficit when it comes to resource-efficient building materials and construction methods, and this must be systematically reduced.” (Annette Hillebrandt at the IRBAU 2017).

### **About the speaker**

Univ. Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Annette Hillebrandt has headed the Institute of Structural Design, Architectural Design and Materials Science at the University of Wuppertal since 2013. From 2003 to 2013 she held the Professorship for Tectonics/Building Construction at the msa münster school of architecture, and from 2001 to 2003 she held the Professorship for Structural Design, Architectural Design and Building Redevelopment at the University of Applied Sciences in Kaiserslautern. At the same time she co-headed the ms ah architektur architecture firm in Cologne, together with Martin Schneider. Apart from memberships of various design-centred committees such as architectural committees or juries, she works for the DGNB (Deutsche Gesellschaft für nachhaltiges Bauen) with her main focus on disassemblability and recyclability.

In addition to several architecture awards, her efforts won her the Urban Mining Award in 2015. She is currently working on the "Recycling Atlas" book project to be published by DETAIL publishers.