

**OZ**

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## Contents

<b>Editors</b>	4	World-Time, Life-Time and the Time of Architecture	<i>Karsten Harries</i>
Brent Crittenden			
Anders Henningson	10	Royal Theater: Copenhagen	<i>Sverre Fehn</i>
<b>Assistant Editors</b>	16	Twofold Meaning	<i>Steven Holl</i>
Garrett Cress			
Erin Hughey	20	Two Projects	<i>Michel Kagan</i>
<b>Staff</b>	24	Eine Klein(e) Kammer	<i>Kent Kleinman and Leslie van Duzer</i>
David Burns			
Carsten Boschen	28	Sports Stadium Chemnitz 2002	<i>Peter Kulka</i>
Kyle K. Creeden			
Sarah Gibson	32	Var och Vad (Where and What)	<i>Stefan Alenius</i>
Scott M. Gustafson			
Matthew Hamm	38	Vienna Housing	<i>Morphosis</i>
Robert Jamieson			
Jason Kersley	42	Tokyo Church of Christ	<i>Fumihiko Maki</i>
Seth Langton			
Jason Tippie	46	Architecture and Time—Time in Architecture	<i>Libor Monhart</i>
<b>Faculty Advisor</b>	48	Materializing through the Skylight	<i>Wayne Michael Charney</i>
Matthew Knox			
	54	The Space of Time	<i>Juhani Pallasmaa</i>
<b>Cover Images</b>	58	Point of Arrival	<i>Juhani Pallasmaa</i>
Sverre Fehn, sketches.			
Yves Klein in the “Void Room,” Haus Lange, 1961. Photo by C. Wilp, courtesy of Museum Haus Lange and Haus Esters.	62	Real Ugly, Dead Beautiful	<i>Raymond Ryan</i>
	68	Peace and Memory Monument	<i>Dominique Jakob and Brendan MacFarlane</i>
	72	The New Alexandrian Library	<i>Snøhetta</i>
<b>Inside Front Cover</b>	78	An Interview with Kenneth Frampton	<i>Oz Editors</i>
Cover of the inaugural volume of <i>Oz</i> , 1979.			
<b>Inside Rear Cover</b>			
Yves Klein in the “Void Room,” Haus Lange, 1961. Photo by C. Wilp, courtesy of Museum Haus Lange and Haus Esters.			

## Prologue

*The idea that there is one spirit to an age is a myth. Like it or not, we must face up to the reality of change. Creation is the pursuit of that which remains unchanged beneath the current, while we maintain a close relationship to that reality.*

—Hisao Kohyama

*When you want to pursue the past, you never reach it, only the the manifestation of the present can bring the past back to life.*

—Sverre Fehn

We are near the end of a century that has seen radical changes in the way buildings are conceived and constructed. The coming century promises to uphold and most likely outdistance this heritage. Design must, more than ever, address the dichotomy between the temporal and the infinite.

In a time labeled “the information age,” architecture must strive to (re)define itself in a reality where the relationship of buildings to humans and the human spirit constantly changes, while always seeking out the qualities that give buildings relevance to generations to come.

In the twentieth volume of *Oz*, we pose a question that can be interpreted as both simple and enigmatic: What gives a building substance in time?