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Arnold Koerte

Begegnungen mit Walter Gropius in »The Architects Collaborative« TAC

Emigré Walter Gropius started teaching at Harvard University in 1937. Eight years later he co-founded »The Architects Collaborative« in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Aged over sixty he played the role of a senior advisor in a team of seven younger architects. The architects' office soon achieved a high reputation. Arnold Koerte, the author of the book, worked at TAC between 1962 and 1964. After his leave he stayed in close touch with Gropius and his former colleagues. In this book Koerte gives a vivid account of his encounters with „Gropie“ who determined the ambiance at TAC by his ideas and affectionate nature. We gain insight into the every-day life of TAC, the working routines and personalities of the founding partners. Among others, Gropius established a celebration-tradition at Harvard that was reminiscent of the former „Bauhaus“ feasts: His birthday was regularly celebrated with kite-flying, stawberries, and champagne. A good reading about the late years of Walter Gropius.



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and 115 black and white illustrations
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The author: Arnold Koerte is an architect and lives in Berlin, Germany. Born in Rome, he earned his diploma from Technische Universität Munich and then went to the United States where he joined the Master of Architecture class of the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD). In the 1960ies he worked for Walter Gropius at TAC. Later on he moved to Canada where he did architectural research and eventually became a Professor of »Planning and Building in Developing Countries« at Darmstadt, Germany.

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