Museum of the Future



Which is your favorite museum (not necessarily contemporary) and why?

The Philadelphia Museum of Art for its remarkable 19th-century collection and the ensemble of works by Duchamp and Johns in particular. Something about in particular. Something about the monumental neo-classical architecture with the intellectual and aesthetic finesse of the works on view, and the secming lack of ambition to be universal in its holdings, make it one of my favorites.

The Rodin Museum in Paris, for its secting in the beautiful Hôtel Biron, the domestic seale of its spaces that seem literally inhabited by the sculptures of a single and epic artist from an epic historical moment.

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The Solomon R. Guggenheim
Museum in New York, for the glamour of its architecture and the sense of promenade that it creates for viewing art, which is unlike any

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A questionnaire

Museums of contemporary art are expanding and in crisis. They attract ever-larger audiences, architects constantly redesign them, and the growing number of artists is producing more massively than ever; at the same time museum funds are dwindling in the economic crisis and an overheated art market. The question of which art is to be collected is also becoming a more openly discussed topic in a globalized art world. How do curators meet these challenges? What opinion do the artists have of their relationship to the museum? How do practitioners navigate between ideas, ideals, and realities?

This publication gathers together interviews with international artists, architects, and curators of the contemporary art world, such as John Baldessari, Ute Meta Bauer, Suzanne Cotter, Bice Curiger, Chris Dercon, Charles Esche, Liam Gillick, Michael Govan, Katharina Grosse, Yuko Hasegawa, Jacques Herzog, Thomas Hirschhorn, Philipp Kaiser, Rem Koolhaas, Lars Nittve, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Thierry Raspail, Tobias Rehberger, Beatrix Ruf, among others. Their different answers bring visibility to the complexity of the topic, but also to the deep pleasure and intellectual stimulation museums provide, as well as to their relevance to culture today.

The book is part of the Documents series, co-published with Les presses du réel and dedicated to critical writing.

Second printing.