



## **MEDIA INFORMATION**

Munich, 25 May 2022

### **THE OLYMPIC CITY OF MUNICH. RETROSPECT AND OUTLOOK**

**MEDIA CONFERENCE: 06 JULY 2022, 11.00 A.M. | TOGETHER WITH THE MEDIA CONFERENCE**

**“DESIGNING FOR THE OLYMPICS“ OF DIE NEUE SAMMLUNG – THE DESIGN MUSEUM**

**OPENING: 06 JULY 2022, 07.00 PM**

**EXHIBITION DURATION: 07 JULY UNTIL 08 JANUARY 2023**

Munich's staging of the 1972 Summer Olympics and the construction of the Olympic sports facilities, the Olympic Village, and the Olympic Park are among the most important events in the history of both Munich and the Federal Republic of Germany. The exhibition at the Architekturmuseum of the TUM provides insights into Munich's bid to become an Olympic city, explains the planning process, and provides an outlook on the impact of the Games on urban development.

Since the early 1960s, Munich had been undergoing rapid urban redevelopment: the Mittlerer Ring road as well as subways and suburban trains were built. The awarding of the major sporting event to Munich in 1966 triggered further impetus, and from 1970 the pedestrian zone designed by Bernhard Winkler was realized. With the Games, the city wanted to distance itself from the misappropriation of the 1936 Games in Berlin by the Nazi regime and convey the image of a changed Germany to the world. This was achieved in particular through the visual image designed by Otl Aicher. However, unfortunately the September 5th assassination attempt, which ended with the death of all eleven Israeli hostages, overshadowed the Games. The Olympic facilities by Behnisch and Partner and Frei Otto, Heinle, Wischer and Partner and the landscape design by Günther Grzimek received international recognition as outstanding architectural achievements.

The facilities were already planned with a view to their use after the Games. The Men's Olympic Village and the Women's Olympic Village became a modern residential complex and a student housing estate. The radio and television center was transformed into a university sports facility for the TUM, the press city into a residential complex with a shopping center, and the Olympic landscape developed into a sports and recreation paradise for Munich's residents.

At the beginning of the exhibition, Alexander Kluge, a member of the art committee for the cultural program of the Games, reveals his thoughts on the essence of the Olympic concept in a cinematic prologue. Subsequently, a dense and colorful outline of the events is traced on the basis of seven themes: Munich on the Move / Munich Becomes an Olympic City / The Olympic Buildings and the Olympic Park / Visual Appearance / Olympic Summer: Architecture, Culture, Terror / The Legacy of the Olympic Park, Sustainable Urban Development / Munich in Comparison with Other Olympic Cities. The topics are accompanied by contemporary criticism of the Olympic Games as well as current problems of urban society today, such as housing shortages, sustainability, and gentrification. A film installation by Nicole Huminski brings the Olympic Park into the exhibition and allows visitors to experience the unique atmosphere of the site, which was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 1997.



Numerous contemporary documents, including models of the competition for the Olympic facilities in 1967, cinematic statements by some of the protagonists, namely Fritz Auer & Carlo Weber, Jochem Jourdan, Peter Lanz, Frei Otto, Karsten de Riese, as well as a depiction of the failed reconstruction of the Olympic Stadium from the year 2000 convey a dense and colorful picture of Munich's emergence as a "international city with a heart" and strengthen the self-image of the young Federal Republic. Contemporary photographs by Karsten de Riese, Sigrid Neubert, and Verena von Gagern-Steidle complete the exhibition.

The Architekturmuseum's collection includes almost the entire Olympic planning by Behnisch and Partner. A significant selection from this rich treasure will be shown in the exhibition, including the only surviving original model of Behnisch and Partner's Olympic sports facilities from 1967.

Curator: Irene Meissner, Architekturmuseum der TUM

Exhibition architecture: CURIOUS ABOUT

Graphic design: PARAT.cc

Sponsors: PIN. Friends of the Pinakothek der Moderne e.V., Wüstenrot Foundation, Schnitzer& GmbH, Ernst Böhm, B&O Group | B&O Stammhaus GmbH & Co. KG

An accompanying book will be published specifically for the exhibition.

Die Neue Sammlung—The Design Museum will be showing the exhibition "Designing for the Olympics" at Pinakothek der Moderne from 8 July 2022 to 3 October 2022:

[www.pinakothek-der-moderne.de/ausstellungen/design-fuer-olympia/](http://www.pinakothek-der-moderne.de/ausstellungen/design-fuer-olympia/)



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## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **ARCHITEKTURMUSEUM DER TUM**

Simone Bader | Architekturmuseum der TUM  
at the Pinakothek der Moderne  
Arcisstraße 21 | 80333 München  
T +49 (0)89 289 28334 | F +49 (0)89 289 28333  
E-Mail: [bader@architekturmuseum.de](mailto:bader@architekturmuseum.de)  
[www.architekturmuseum.de](http://www.architekturmuseum.de)

### **PRESS DEPARTMENT**

Tine Nehler M.A.  
Head of Press Department  
Alte Pinakothek, Neue Pinakothek, Sammlung Schack und Staatsgalerien  
&  
Pinakothek der Moderne (Kunst | Graphik | Architektur | Design)  
T +49 (0)89 23805-253  
[presse@pinakothek.de](mailto:presse@pinakothek.de)  
[www.pinakothek-der-moderne.de/presse](http://www.pinakothek-der-moderne.de/presse)

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