Kunst Museum Olten

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Daniela Keiser (*1963)
Idea Store library, Whitechapel Road,
2017–2020
Heliogravure and chine-collé
© Daniela Keiser



Iwan Baan (*1975)
Grand Mosque, Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, The ancient natural wooden construction typical of Sudan-Sahelian architecture, of which Bobo-Dioulasso's Grand Mosque is one of the few remaining examples, 2021 Photography
© Iwan Baan

Photography - Architecture - Art

Iwan Baan - Momentum of Light

Daniela Keiser - London: Being in the Library

Kunstmuseum Olten, 25 August to 14 November 2021

Opening: Wednesday, 25 August 2021

Photography – Architecture – Art: The Kunstmuseum Olten will focus on this triad with its two autumn exhibitions. We will be simultaneously showing works by a photographer, Iwan Baan, and an artist, Daniela Keizer, who have each developed their own unmistakable artistic language from an intensive engagement with architecture and the possibilities of the medium of photography.

Autumn 2021 will mark a very special milestone for the Kunstmuseum Olten: after more than fifty years of waiting, with the conclusion of the architecture competition, we hope to finally have a winning project for the new building that will bring the museum into a new era.

On this occasion, we are featuring two artists who combine the related disciplines of photography and architecture and focus on the viewer's perception.

Iwan Baan and Daniela Keiser will present **brand new projects** as well as two **new publications**, both of which were developed in collaboration with a world-famous architect of African descent (Francis Kéré in the case of Baan, and David Adjaye in the case of Keiser).

Iwan Baan (*1974), one of the world's most renowned architectural photographers, will present his latest project *Momentum of Light* in his first institutional solo exhibition in Switzerland. Under this title, the Dutch photographer will show photographs from a trip to Burkina Faso which he took last March along with the internationally renowned architect Francis Kéré, who was born there, in order to learn about the character of the West African nation's traditional buildings, how light plays a role in these structures and to capture the living traditions of the local people.

Daniela Keiser (*1963), a Swiss artist and Meret Oppenheim Prize winner, deals with the dispersion of light into colors—unlike Baan, whose focus is the duality of light and darkness as an element of spatial structure. Her latest work, which is dedicated to the Idea Store, a London library building by the Ghanaian-British architect **David Adjaye**, is joined in the exhibition by two installations in which the original photographic images create an immersive spatial experience through their translation and presentation as prints.

Both Iwan Baan and Daniela Keiser are interested in people, their relationship to space and architecture, and their possibilities of using spaces, interacting in them, and shaping them. Using different strategies, both investigate the way in which built worlds impact people and how architecture can influence being and feeling.

Two New Publications

The latest projects by Iwan Baan and Daniela Keiser are each accompanied by a publication that variously reflects their respective subjects in images and text in cooperation with partners from the field of architecture.

Together with **Francis Kéré**, **Iwan Baan** has created a delicately materialized volume of photo essays on the role of light in the architecture of Burkina Faso, which will be published by Lars Müller Publishers in time for the exhibition at the Kunstmuseum Olten.

Baan and Kéré travelled to three exemplary locations: Communal compounds in Gando, the main mosque of Bobo Dioulasso and the terraced houses in Dano utilising pots to create skylights. Baan's pictures are accompanied by architectural sketches by Francis Kéré, who himself grew up in this light environment and whose architecture is inspired by it.

Daniela Keiser recently published a book with Park Books in collaboration with the internationally renowned architect **David Adjaye** as well as **Philipp Ursprung**, professor of art and architectural history at the ETH Zurich.

The project, which took shape during Keiser's fellowship at the Landis & Gyr Foundation in London, uses Adjaye's Idea Store library on Whitechapel Road to investigate how a public building impacts the lives of people in this underprivileged neighborhood and how built identities manifest themselves.

The Results of the Architecture Competition

The decisive factor for the selection of the two artists was the fact that the results of the **architecture competition for the new Kunstmuseum Olten** will be announced by 25 August 2021, and the fourteen submitted projects will be presented at the museum during the initial weeks of the exhibition by Iwan Baan and Daniela Keiser.

Detailed information on the architecture competition is available on the city of Olten's website: olten.ch/aktuellesinformationen/1178461

The **International Photo Festival Olten** (IPFO), which will take place for the third time in Olten from 25 to 29 August 2021, offers a welcome opportunity to learn more about the topic: <u>ipfo.ch</u>

New museum opening hours: Tuesday - Friday, 12 noon - 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.