



# Protest Architecture

## Barricades, Camps, Spatial Tactics 1830–2023

Edited by Oliver Elser  
Edited by Anna-Maria Mayerhofer  
Edited by Sebastian Hackenschmidt  
Edited by Jennife Dyck  
Edited by Lilli Hollein  
Edited by Peter Cachola Schmal

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**Protestarchitektur.** Proteste müssen stören, sonst wären sie wirkungslos. Wenn Protestbewegungen in den *→ öffentlichen Raum* ausgreifen und sich dort festsetzen, wenn sie ihn blockieren, schützen oder erobern, dann entsteht *→ Protestarchitektur*. Die Strategien reichen vom *→ Körperinsatz* der Protestierenden, die Räume besetzen oder Formationen bilden, bis hin zur Errichtung von *→ Protestcamps*. Diesem breiten Spektrum raumgreifender Protestformen widmen sich das Deutsche Architekturmuseum (DAM) in Frankfurt am Main und das Museum für angewandte Kunst (MAK) in Wien mit dem Ausstellungsprojekt *Protest/Architecture*. Erstmals werden Proteste aus baulicher und räumlicher Perspektive miteinander verglichen, u.a. die *→ Barrikaden* von *→ 1848*, die *→ Türme* der Atomkraftgegnersinnen der „Republik Freies Wendland“ in *→ Gorleben*, die zahlreichen Ereignisse des Protestjahres *→ 2011* und die am Reißbrett entworfenen Protestsiedlungen in Washington und São Paulo (*→ Resurrection City*, *→ MTST*). Die Ausstellung und diese Publikation wurden gefördert durch die Kulturstiftung des Bundes (*→ Grußwort*). Ein Teilprojekt zur Architekturvermittlung entstand in Kooperation mit der Wüstenrot Stiftung. Die Recherche zum Thema Protestarchitektur ergab ein weitverzweigtes Feld an Bezügen und Verweisen; für die vorliegende Publikation wurde deshalb die Form eines Lexikons gewählt.

**Protest Architecture.** Protests have to be disruptive to be effective. When protest movements extend into *→ public space* and take root there, when they blockade, defend, or seize these spaces, they produce *→ protest architecture*. The strategies used can range from the *→ body deployment* of protesters occupying spaces or arranging themselves into formations all the way through to the establishment of *→ protest camps*. *Protest/Architecture* is a joint exhibition project of the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) in Frankfurt and the Museum of Applied Arts (MAK) in Vienna, which seeks to shine a light on this broad spectrum of spatial forms of protest. The project provides a unique perspective on protest movements, comparing and contrasting them in terms of their architectural and spatial qualities, whether it's the *→ barricades* of *→ 1848*, the *→ towers* of the anti-nuclear activists of the “Free Republic of Wendland” in *→ Gorleben*, the numerous protests and revolutions of *→ 2011*, or the protest settlements of Washington and São Paulo (*→ Resurrection City*, *→ MTST*), which were drawn up at the drafting table. The exhibition and this publication were supported by the German Federal Cultural Foundation (*→ Foreword*). The project was also accompanied by an educational program, which was produced in collaboration with the Wüstenrot Foundation. The research into the topic of protest architecture produced an intricately ramified field of interconnected references, which led to the decision to structure this publication as a lexicon.

Hg. (Eds.)  
Oliver Elser  
Anna-Maria Mayerhofer  
Sebastian Hackenschmidt  
Jennife Dyck  
Lilli Hollein  
Peter Cachola Schmal



- First book ever on architectural manifestations of protest movements
- Features a chronology of some 80 protest movements and their mostly temporary structures between 1830 and 2022, an encyclopaedia with around 170 entries, and 14 detailed case studies
- Demonstrates the diversity of activists' approaches to public space over more than 190 years

“How did UK activists outfox 700 police? Why was Hong Kong traffic stopped by ‘mini Stonehenges’? And could an octagonal treehouse and a crow’s nest really have saved a German forest? Our writer enjoys a 200-year history of resistance architecture.” — **The Guardian**

Protest movements shape public space not only through their messages, but in many cases also through their – mostly temporary – buildings. Frankfurt’s Deutsches Architekturmuseum DAM and Vienna’s MAK – Museum of Applied Arts are exploring this thesis in a joint exhibition project. The exhibition and the book coinciding with it explore the topic based on examples spanning from 1830 to 2022.

**Protest Architecture** is the first-ever international survey of the architecture of protest and presents it in all its manifold forms and, in some cases, ambivalence. It is conceived as an encyclopedia with around 170 entries, supplemented by 14 more expansive case studies. A preceding chronology portrays some 80 protest movements and their architectural manifestations through concise texts and one image each, including examples from all over the world, such as the 1830 July Revolution in Paris, the 1848 March Revolution in Berlin, the 1911 Sugar Workers Strike in Queensland (Australia), the 1936–37 General Motors Sit-down Strike in Flint, MI (USA), the 1969–98 Troubles in Northern Ireland, Freetown Christiania in Copenhagen since 1971, the 1986 People Power Revolution in Manila, the 1999 WTO Protests in Seattle, WA (USA), the 2011 Arab Spring revolutions on Cairo’s Tahrir Square and Manama’s Pearl Roundabout, the 2013–14 Euromaidan uprisings in Kyiv, the 2015–16 #FeesMustFall student protests in Pretoria, the 2019 Acampamento Terra Livre in Brasilia, the 2020–21 Indian Farmers Protests, and the 2022 Freedom Convoy in Ottawa.

Text in English and German.

**Peter Cachola Schmal** is the director, **Oliver Elser** is a curator, and **Anna-Maria Mayerhofer** and **Jennife Dyck** are members of the curatorial team at Deutsches Architekturmuseum DAM in Frankfurt. **Lilli Hollein** is the director and **Sebastian Hackenschmidt** is a curator at Vienna’s MAK—Museum of Applied Arts.

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