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Press information

New from DOM publishers:

Fritz Neumeyer (ed)

The Lost, Last Words of Mies van der Rohe The Lohan Tapes from 1969

In the final weeks before Ludwig Mies van der Rohe passed away, his grandson, the German-American architect Dirk Lohan, began to record his conversations with him, thus managing to capture some of his famous grandfather's last words.

The tapes, which were recorded in Chicago during the summer of 1969, were sent to the Mies van der Rohe Archive of the Museum of Modern Art in New York after his death, where they went missing under unknown circumstances. All that remains as a testimony to the conversations is an incomplete transcript. The legacy of one of the most important modern architects of the twentieth century is now presented in its entirety for the very first time in *The Lost, Last Words of Mies van der Rohe. The Lohan Tapes from 1969.*

The conversations relayed in the transcript reveal a mostly unknown side of Mies. The famously reticent architect speaks not only about his own life with an impressive level of detail and precision, but also with a sense of humour and great candour. These conversations between Dirk Lohan and his grandfather were not held as "interviews" intended for a specific audience. They were more of a personal, "familiar" nature in front of a professional background, in which Mies talks about aspects from his life to a degree found nowhere else.

This book features a foreword by Dirk Lohan and an introductory essay by Fritz Neumeyer, one of the world's most eminent scholars on Mies. Neumeyer's commentary and analysis provide keen insights into how Mies developed his architectural thinking during his early career.

Some 30 years ago Fritz Neumeyer published *The Artless Word*, in which Mies's written records were made accessible to the public for the first time and which emphasised the architect's intellectual debate with his discipline. Through Mies van der Rohe's last words the author now focuses on the spoken word as a key to his philosophy of construction and the comprehension of his buildings



Fritz Neumeyer (ed) **The Lost, Last Words of Mies van der Rohe** The Lohan Tapes from 1969 210 x 230mm, 112 pages 70 pictures, Softcover ISBN 978-3-86922-767-2 (English) EUR 28.00 / CHF 34.80 June 2020. DOM publishers, Berlin Schillerstraße 20 D-79102 Freiburg T +49 761 791 99 09 F +49 761 791 99 08 contact@gisela-graf.com www.gisela-graf.com