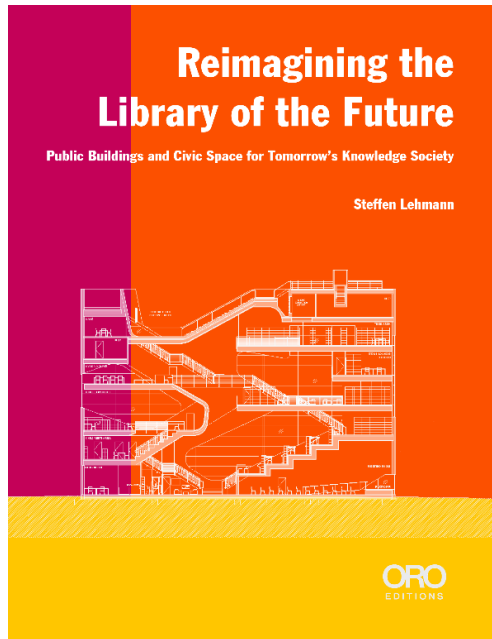# Reimagining the Library of the Future
Public Buildings and Civic Space for Tomorrow's Knowledge Society

Steffen Lehmann

Author: Steffen Lehmann
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The book features a Foreword by Kelvin Watson, a Prologue by Michelle Jeffrey Delk, an Epilogue by Keith Webster, and a Photo Series by Cida de Aragon.

The Book

The study *Reimagining the Library of the Future* investigates the various models of public buildings and civic space through the lens of the library. It takes a critical look at the history, presence and future transformation of this significant building typology that has recently emerged as a redefined community place, social condenser and urban incubator for knowledge generation, storage and sharing. In particular, the library has evolved as a vibrant and vital member of community development and as a basis for outreach efforts.

• The book presents a selection of historically significant as well as contemporary public and academic libraries, and identifies emerging trends relevant to the design of libraries.

• Among the highlights of the book are the statements by 12 leading architects and library designers specifically written for this publication.

• Richly illustrated with relevant examples, this reference book will be useful for practitioners, students, bibliophiles, librarians and everybody who has an interest in the future of libraries.

The book presents 40 recent public and academic libraries from around the world, with over 200 images. As the survey of precedents shows, the historical cases have informed the design of the recent libraries and the continuous development of the building type over time. Well-designed libraries are now in abundance, and the wider view of this study includes mediatheques and learning centres; the selection of contemporary projects focuses on urban libraries in Europe (Germany, Italy, Austria, Netherlands, France), the US, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Japan and China.

The Author

Dr. Steffen Lehmann, *AA Dipl., Assoc. AIA,* is a full Chair Professor of Architecture at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is founder and principal of the design studio *si_architecture + urban design* and has an extensive research and professional background. He has been for twenty years a chair professor holding senior roles at universities in the US, UK and Australia; and for 30 years a practising architect and urban designer.