

VERONIKA SPIERENBURG «MUSKELSCHLOSS TRIFFT GEISSBURG»

Zurich-based conceptual artist **Veronika Spierenburg** (*1981) explores urban aesthetics in her multilayered body of work. Her videos, photographs and installations consistently investigate the relationship between people and architecture, as well as the formal and material qualities of everyday objects. At the heart of her practice lies an aesthetic sociology – a deep engagement with the built environment and its many influences on broader social issues.

As part of a commissioned project for **ART FLOW**, the growing exhibition in the Limmat Valley, Spierenburg undertook an extensive research investigation. Her focus lay on post-war modernist architecture and the typological qualities of buildings such as the Vilan in Baden, the shopping centre in Spreitenbach, the Würenlos motorway service station, and in particular the **Geissburg** building in Wettingen.

Spierenburg explains: "I collected historical documents, films and photographs of these buildings, which I want to use as source material for a new utopian vision of architecture in the Limmat Valley." Her research revealed the **Geissburg in Wettingen** as a particularly rich and compelling case.

"The Geissburg, designed and constructed by Metron in 1965–66, is a remarkable example of post-war modernism," says Spierenburg. "It stands out for its innovative design as a green oasis, featuring concrete planters affixed to its façades. The building was developed as a residential complex and was a pioneering project of its time."

Spierenburg conducted interviews with key figures connected to the building, including former owner **Helen Geissberger (93)**, former Metron employee **Susanne Gysi (73)**, resident **Karl Guyer**, and members of the first generation of children who grew up there: **Agnes Julia Geissberger (63)**, **Markus Lehmann (65)**, **Christian Lehmann (67)** and **Martin Muntwyler (68)**.

Based on this rich body of material – including many unpublished films, plans and photographs – **Veronika Spierenburg** developed an immersive, atmospheric spatial installation for the **Architekturforum Zürich**. The work evokes the spirit of progress of the 1960s while offering reflections on contemporary architectural and societal developments.