



PACIFIC STANDARD TIME PRESENTS: MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN L.A.

EXHIBITION: *THE PRESENCE OF THE PAST: PETER ZUMTHOR RECONSIDERS LACMA*

ON VIEW: JUNE 9–SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

LOCATION: RESNICK PAVILION



(Los Angeles-January 14, 2013) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents *The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA*. This exhibition about the proposed future of LACMA's campus is part of the Getty's Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in L.A. initiative. The exhibition will be divided into three sections, with the first devoted to an exploration of the museum's buildings within the complicated history of Hancock Park—a unique site with explicit ties to Los Angeles's primordial past. For the first time in an exhibition, LACMA will analyze the development of its campus and explain how financial restrictions, political compromises, and unrealized plans have impacted the museum's architectural aesthetic and art-viewing experience. This section will include rarely seen materials relating to unrealized master plans for LACMA by Renzo Piano and Rem Koolhaas, as well as new insights about the designs by William Pereira, Bruce Goff, and more.

Swiss architect Peter Zumthor has been commissioned to rethink the east campus at LACMA by addressing challenges raised by the original structures, and to present a different approach, one that posits a new relationship to the historic site as well as examines the function of an encyclopedic museum in the twenty-first century. The exhibition will display Zumthor's preliminary ideas about housing LACMA's permanent collections, including several large models built by the architect's studio.

The exhibition also includes highlights of Zumthor's career that are most relevant to his vision for LACMA, buildings that have resulted in Zumthor winning the highest accolades in the field of architecture: The Pritzker Prize (2009) and the Royal Institute of British Architects Gold Medal (2013). They include the Therme Vals in Switzerland, Kunsthaus Bregenz in Austria, and the Kolumba Art Museum of the Cologne Archdiocese in Germany. Together, these examples elucidate key aspects of Zumthor's practice - his interest in the geologic history of the site; his passion for materials, craftsmanship, and sensory experience; and his commitment to an architecture of total integration.

*The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA* is co-curated by Michael Govan, CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director and Wendy Kaplan, Curator and Department Head, Decorative Arts and Design, LACMA.

**Credit:** *The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA* is part of Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in L.A. This collaboration, initiated by the Getty, brings together seventeen cultural institutions from April through July for a wide-ranging look at the postwar built environment of the city as a whole, from its famous residential architecture to its vast freeway network, revealing the city's development and ongoing impact in new ways.

*The Presence of the Past: Peter Zumthor Reconsiders LACMA* is organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and major support for the exhibition has been provided by the Getty Foundation. This exhibition was also made possible in part by LACMA's Wallis Annenberg Director's Endowment Fund.



Support provided by



#### About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, LACMA has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography-and represent Los Angeles's uniquely diverse population. Today, the museum features particularly strong collections of Asian, Latin American, European, and American art, as well as a contemporary art museum on its campus. With this expanded space for contemporary art and innovative collaborations with artists, LACMA is creating a truly modern lens through which to view its rich encyclopedic collection.

**Location and Contact:** 5905 Wilshire Boulevard (at Fairfax Avenue), Los Angeles, CA, 90036 | 323 857-6000 | lacma.org

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 11 am-5 pm; Friday: 11 am-8 pm; Saturday, Sunday: 10 am-7 pm; closed Wednesday

**General Admission:** Adults: \$15; students 18+ with ID and senior citizens 62+: \$10

**Free General Admission:** Members; children 17 and under; after 3 pm weekdays for L.A. County residents; second Tuesday of every month; Target Free Holiday Mondays

**Image caption:** Aerial view of Los Angeles County Museum of Art, c. 1965; William L. Pereira and Associates, photo © 2013 Museum Associates/LACMA, photographic archives

**Press Contact:** For additional information, contact LACMA Communications at press@lacma.org or 323 857-6522.