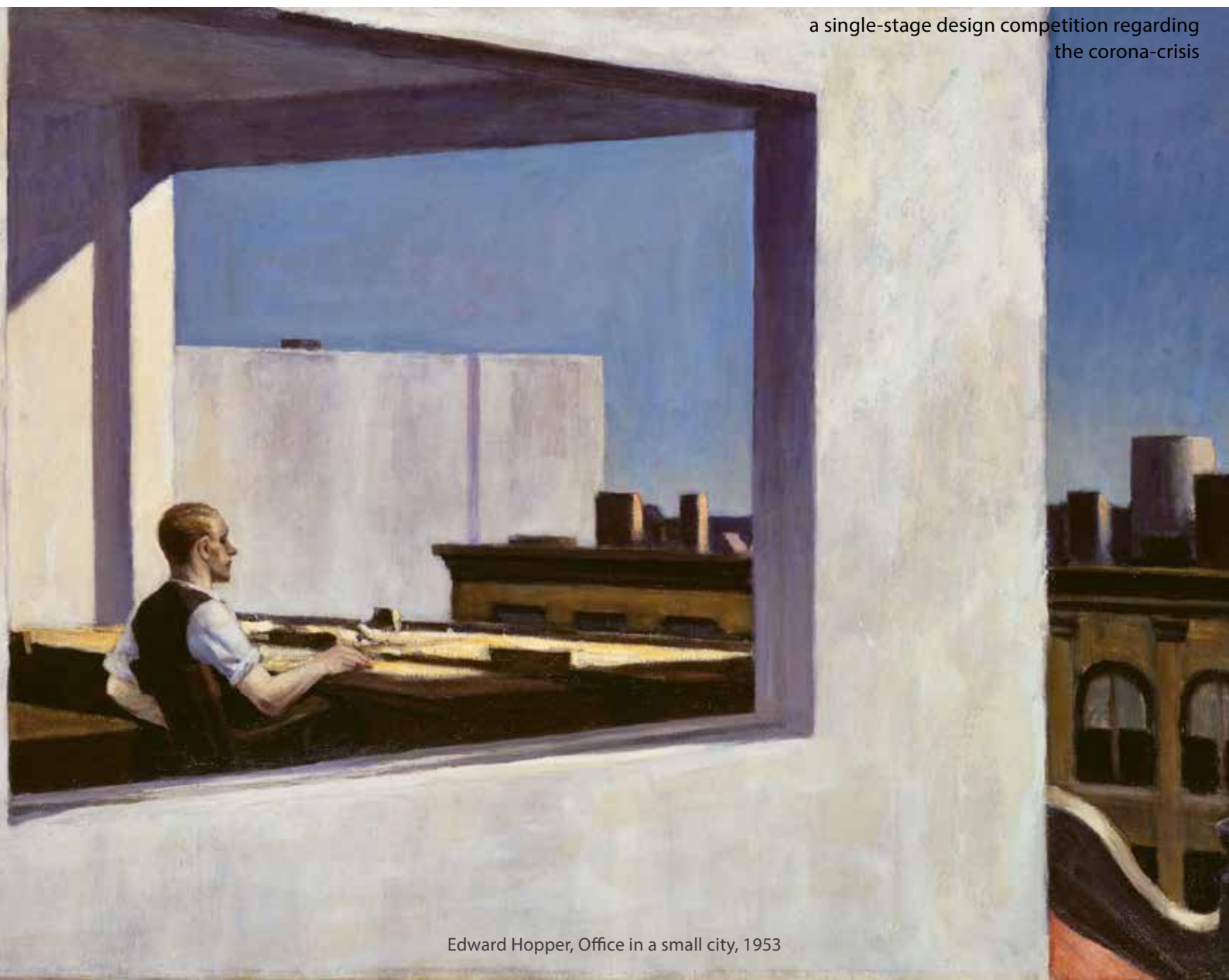


## LIVING IN ISOLATION

a single-stage design competition regarding  
the corona-crisis



Edward Hopper, Office in a small city, 1953

## INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the world with unprecedented challenges and is impacting our daily lives by restricting our personal movements radically. It almost goes without saying that this month has continued to see extraordinary, rapid and previously unthinkable changes to public and private spaces. As the virus continues to spread, countries around the globe have ordered citizens to retreat to their homes - and stay there. Social distancing measures drastically scaled down our personal range of movement to our 'own four walls'.

These drastic changes caught us, and our living environments, off guard. As we shelter in our own homes, the rooms where we once spent few waking hours now encapsulate our entire existence. However, our personal living space cannot absorb all facets of 'living', 'working', and 'leisure' activities. The new reality has to be looked at from a political and a spatial development angle, but more importantly it has to be seen in a sociological perspective which invites us to look at our familiar surroundings in a fresh way. It encourages us to take a new look at the world we have always taken for granted and to examine our very personal spatial environment with the same curiosity that we might bring to an exotic foreign culture.

How will the COVID-19 pandemic change our homes - and what does 'shelter' mean in the new normal?

(City-)dwellers never had to endure over months in their homes without contact to the 'outside'.

Our personal living space never had to meet all those additional needs that come with new architectural demands and requirements.

People have never been so tied to their 'own four walls'.

## TASK

In the light of the spatial restrictions that came into our lives within just a few weeks, and with the aim to rethink and to make spaces more functional and fluid in their purposes, Atelier Kopfhoch have launched an ideas-competition.

The basic challenge is to identify and explore essential design principles of an inner city multifamily dwelling, whose inhabitants may not leave for a period of several months. Work will be done from home, food will be delivered from shops and restaurants, and social contacts behind the 'own four walls' are being forced to move away from physical spaces.

Faced with the current new reality, how can fiction compete?

The Atlier Kopfhoch competition seeks for utopian residential design concepts in a world that is facing unprecedented challenges.

## BUILDING SITE

An inner-city location in Vienna's sixth district was chosen as the site. As this is an competition for ideas, you can design freely – no building regulations have to be followed.

## SPATIAL PROGRAM AND SPECS

The design proposal should

- include a representative sample of the Austrian population with focus on demographics and cultural diversity,
- provide living space for 400 people, accommodating as many different living concepts as possible (for individuals, families, shared apartments, living clusters, etc.),
- not treat residents as 'infected',
- make space fluid in their purposes,
- manage to protect concepts of privacy and individual space, as well as open and public spaces,
- interpret the program freely.

There can be a level of abstraction as long as the overall conceptual idea stays clear.

## PROCEDURE

Start Registration: April 14, 2020

End Registration: 28.5.2020, 23:59

Deadline: 1.6.2020, 23:59

Announcement of Results 10.6.2020



## REGISTRATION

### TARGET GROUP

This single-stage design competition is aimed primarily at architecture students and beginning architects, as well as landscape architects and spatial planners. Nonetheless, all other design disciplines are welcome. Each team consists of a **max. three people** and all members have to be **under 40 years**. All teams get a registration number and remain absolutely anonymous to the jury. Submissions that contain logos, names or other possible identification information will not be processed and excluded from the competition.

### REGISTRATION

The competition is aimed at students and young designers. Jury members or other persons involved in the design of this competition are not allowed to participate. The **registration fee is € 30**. After registration and payment of the fee, you will be given a registration number. Teams are allowed to submit multiple projects, but each must have their own registration code. Team members may no longer be exchanged, added or removed after registration.

### PAYMENT

The payment-details of the participation fee will be sent by email after registration. All transfer fees or other bank charges are charged to the teams. Only a transfer received before the deadline is considered a valid deposit.

## SUBMISSION

### SUBMISSION

Submission requirements: **Deadline** 1.6.2020, 11:59 pm.

One 16: 9 landscape format file must be submitted.

The form and medium of the presentation (image, plans, video, etc.) is freely selectable.

Hence, the jury treat a classic architectural design and an animated sequence of images equally. The aim is to give a multidisciplinary range of designers the opportunity to participate in the competition.

The file size must not exceed **2 GB**.

The registration code must undoubtedly be linked to the submitted file. An explanatory text of approx. 200 characters must be added as a separate file, or integrated in the selected delivery format.

The file name may only contain the **registration code**.

Submission is via a wetransfer.com link to: [wettbewerb@atelierkopfhoch.com](mailto:wettbewerb@atelierkopfhoch.com)

The teams receive a confirmation of the submission within 72 hours after submission.

### PRIZE MONEY

The prize money is € 600 and will be distributed equally amongst the top three designs. The awarding authority reserves the right to honor further works, as recommended by the jury. In the case the amounts received through participation fees will exceed the prizemoney the surpluses will be distributed.



## JURY

Sybille Caspar  
Architecture  
[www.casparwichert.at](http://www.casparwichert.at)

Mark Neuner  
Architecture/Design  
[www.mostlikely.at](http://www.mostlikely.at)

Klemens Schillinger  
Product/Furniture Design  
[klemensschillinger.com](http://klemensschillinger.com)

Markus Spiegelfeld  
Architecture  
[www.werkstattwien.at](http://www.werkstattwien.at)

Ulrike Tinnacher  
Architecture  
[www.ulriketinnacher.at](http://www.ulriketinnacher.at)  
[www.tiburg.at](http://www.tiburg.at)

Marie Boltenstern  
Design  
[www.boltenstern.com](http://www.boltenstern.com)

Paula Brücke  
Architecture  
[www.miesmagazin.tv](http://www.miesmagazin.tv)

The members of the jury will rate all projects that meet the conditions. The jury will take their decision based on the expertise of its members, the form of submission and the consistency of the projects with the competition task.

The following parameters will serve as a basis for the jury's decision:

- originality and quality of the design
- answers to the task of the competition
- quality and clarity of presentation

## RULES

### Compensation:

Under no circumstances can a team reclaim their registration fee after successful registration.

### Copyright:

Unrestricted copyright and ownership remains with the authors of the submitted works. The organizing host "Kulturverein Kopfhoch" reserves the right to include and publish submitted works in its digital archive (print and online). After the entries have been made public, team members have the right to publish, print or exhibit their work as long as the title and organization of the competition are properly referenced and named.

### Disqualification:

All teams should be disqualified immediately if:  
any attempt will be made to contact a jury member  
your contribution will be submitted after the deadline mentioned  
your contribution should be given a name or logo  
the contribution does not meet the criteria above for proper submission

### Terms and Conditions:

When submitting a contribution to this competition, each team member agrees to the rules mentioned, as well as to the final decision of the expert jury. The organization reserves the right to change the schedule of the competition at any time. In this case, all teams will be notified by email.

This competition is an ideas competition without any claim to realization. Existing building regulations or other restrictions may be disregarded.

The organization reserves the right to award work that does not meet the above criteria should the quality of the contribution justify the interpretation of the criteria.

If the number of submissions falls short of at least three, the submitter reserves the right to withdraw the competition and refunding the participation fee.

Contact:

For all questions regarding the competition, we ask the participants to strictly adhere to the schedule.

The organization can be reached by email at [wettbewerb @ atelierkopfhoch.com](mailto:wettbewerb@atelierkopfhoch.com) until May 4th, 2020.

On behalf of the organization, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all participating teams and wish them the best of luck and success for their contributions!

Organization: Atelier Kopfhoch, Gumpendorferstrasse 51/41-42, 1060-Vienna

