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International Symposium on Garden Architecture **public spots on private plots** and
International Competition **best private plots 07 – Die besten Gärten 2007**
September 28, 2007, at the Loisium – Langenlois – Austria

private plots & public spots 2007 focuses on the cultural and societal significance of contemporary garden architecture, and particularly on private outdoor space. Which concepts characterise the gardens? Which themes are manifest in the gardens? What kind of space do the gardens provide? What are essential qualities in the design of private open space? Do ecological criteria play a role?

The event is a forum which fosters discussion of the design of outdoor private space. This encounter with contemporary garden architecture will be held at the Loisium in Langenlois, a setting which provides - with its modern architecture and the surrounding vineyards - a stimulating atmosphere.

International Competition

The international competition **best private plots 07 – Die besten Gärten 2007** is being held for the second consecutive year. The prize honours exceptional achievements in the design of private outdoor space and gardens. The jury's criteria encompass: design concept, artistic quality, use of plants and materials, linkage of indoors and outdoors, spatial definition and structuring, technical implementation, and ecological interrelationships. Emphasis will also be placed on individual potential for varied use. The outdoor space or garden must clearly be a private habitat.

Prizes

First prize: € 7,000

Second prize: € 5,000

Third prize: € 3,000

This is an open competition. Landscape architects, architects, garden owners, designers, florists, gardeners, artists, nurseries and landscaping firms, as well as teams including a combination thereof, are eligible to submit private outdoor spaces and gardens which were completed after January 1, 1997.

Kick-off: April 1, 2007

Deadline for entries: June 4, 2007

Entry forms and competition brief: www.privateplots.at

The award ceremony **best private plots 07 – Die besten Gärten 2007** will be at 7:00 p.m., September 28, 2007, at the Loisium Visitors' Center, Langenlois, Austria; Representative Wolfgang Sobotka will confer the prizes.

Symposium

The speakers at the symposium **public spots on private plots** - internationally acclaimed landscape architects and a cultural studies scholar - are also the jurors of the international competition **best private plots 07 – Die besten Gärten 2007**. They will present their own designs for outdoor spaces and will shed light on their respective approaches to the topic. In addition, the gardens' significance will be explored from the cultural theory perspective.

Jury Members and Speakers

Christopher Bradley-Hole (England)

Topher Delaney (USA)

Eelco Hooffmann – GROSS.MAX (Scotland)

Gisela Steinlechner (Austria)

Guest Jurors:

Assai (France): Cecile Daladier and Nicolas Soulier - Winners of best private plot 06

The symposium **public spots on private plots** will be held on September 28, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Loisium Hotel, Langenlois, Austria. The registration fee for the symposium is €50, and registration at www.privateplots.at, info@privateplots.at is required.

Catalogue and Exhibition

The catalogue "**best private plots 07 – Die besten Gärten 2007**" presents the thirty nominated outdoor spaces and gardens. It will be presented at the award ceremony, and can also be ordered at www.privateplots.at.

The thirty nominated projects will be on display at the Loisium Visitors' Center from September 28 to November 5, 2007.

The catalogue, in English and German, documenting last year's competition "**best private plots 06 – Die besten Gärten 2006**" (€15 plus shipping) may be ordered at info@privateplots.at.

Host

The private plots & public spots concept was established by the landscape architect Karin Standler, the horticultural scientist Andrea Heisteringer, and the architect Robert Froschauer, and stems from an interdisciplinary debate on private outdoor space. The host, the government agency *Verein Lebensqualität* of the province Lower Austria, elevates the discussion to an international level, and promotes linking nature and aesthetics in the design of private outdoor space to enhance quality of life.