COOP HIMMELB(L)AU's design for the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich/Germany (completed 2005) is based on the idea of transforming three different urban spatial systems which come together on the site: the axial system of Leopoldstraße / Akademiestraße with its stately buildings; the dense structure of the Schwabing neighborhood, developed over time with its small-scale, differentiated buildings; and the garden areas of Leopold-Park and Akademie Garten with their historical trees. An open configuration of functional building volumes, locked together, produces a sequence of transitory spaces between the park and dense urban zones: the glass facade as a media membrane, the gate to the Academy, the inner court which doubles as climatic buffer zone, the studio terraces as connecting links and gates to the park.

In contrast to this, the High School #9 Visual and Performing Arts in Los Angeles, USA, completed 2008, is situated in the strikingly different urban setting of Grand Avenue, one of the most widely used thoroughfares in downtown Los Angeles. Consequently COOP HIMMELB(L)AU responded to this design task by enhancing the prominent position on Grand Avenue with a landmark tower figure; a spiralling ramp in the shape of the number 9 is located on top of the school's state-of-the-art theater for almost 1000 visitors as a widely visible sign for the Arts in the city and a point of identification for the 1800 students.

The campus is comprised of seven buildings: the theater building, four classroom buildings, a library and a cafeteria. Each of the academy buildings is dedicated to another art “discipline”, distinguished by its own color code on finishings and furniture, which will help create unity in the group, but also individuality and differentiation between the groups. Strong and fresh colors are used – red, purple, yellow and green - to inspire a welcoming and positive atmosphere.

For further reference we would like to invite you to visit our website at http://www.coop-himmelblau.at where you can have a closer look at our presentation of Educational Projects.
With its projects COOP HIMMELB(L)AU has the ambition to create learning and research environments conducive to joyful yet efficient work, and which by its well organised structural and spatial composition advance the manifold and complex tasks of education all at the same time with the means of architecture: to efficiently teach, and manage the demanding challenge that an Arts Academy represents for academic and administrative staff; and to support the creative activity of the students. The architecture is the tool of empowerment, with dedicated or multifunctional spaces, formal and informal meeting areas which provide the functional conditions as well as the atmospheric ambience for learning and producing, thus setting the stage for the students to experience their school as a decisive phase in their life and education.

In open and generous but also secure and focused environments which provides a variety of opportunities to the students, they will see professional practice in action, will understand their place in society and how to argue for their beliefs and convictions in the reality of life, and will receive the tools to become self-confident and self-sustaining individuals and inspired professionals.

The Academy of Fine Arts in Munich/Germany, with its studio terraces with view on a park, abundant informal meeting zones which serve, along with the café adjoining the atrium, also as publicly accessible exhibition areas, and with its diagonal ramps and gangways connecting the functional areas of the various parts of the building, forms an energized and energizing complex corresponding ideally to the diversity of the needs of creative activity. The various gangways and bridges facilitate the exchange between painting studios, plastic workshop, sculpture studios, media workshop, photography studios and print workshop. The studio for sculptors lies on the ground floor in two sections of the building and spans across terraces to the park; those of the painters and the guest artists in residence are in the upper studio floors and are connected to the roof terraces. The dedicated or multifunctional spaces provide the functional conditions as well as the work-oriented ambience demonstrate how the projected alignment of the “Melbourne Model” with the established North American and European educational traditions could be brought one step further.

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A design studio itself, **COOP HIMMELB(L)AU** showed with its two art school projects, as well as with the House of Music project in Ålborg, Denmark, currently under planning, the differentiated approach which the office brings to the fascinating task of designing the ambience of creativity.

As can be noted with the Fine Arts Academy building in Munich as well as with the House of Music project in Ålborg, Denmark, currently under planning, it has been taken care of allowing the individual and uncomplicated control of lighting conditions and air supply by state-of-the-art building services technology, with operable windows for natural ventilation and roller blinds.

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Likewise with the Academy of Fine Arts project we succeeded to create an additional system of the concept of a huge central atrium as climate buffer, and a sophisticated climatic façade design. Collaboration with the best engineering consultants worldwide resulted in making feasible premises of the European Central Bank (currently in planning), where from the outset the back to the public network. Another example is provided by the project for the New Office Building in Vienna (120,000 m² gross floor area), which consumes less electrical energy than it produces, and thus earns a financial payback by selling the surplus energy to the grid. Such projects surpass national and industry standards, as can be illustrated by the project for the TTE Building in Munich (€90,000,000 budget, 17,000 m², 270 workers, 12 months), where the approach was to integrate an environmental control system as well as newly developed energy harvesting systems. These concepts are combined to arrive at buildings conceived of as highly efficient organisms, with an active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensuring maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The Law School is at the cutting edge of both technological and environmental design. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The Law School is at the cutting edge of both technological and environmental design. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The Law School is at the cutting edge of both technological and environmental design. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The Law School is at the cutting edge of both technological and environmental design.

A new awareness towards the problems of energy consumption, and the need for energy consciousness and efficient planning has been in practice for many decades now and leads the world in effort and sophistication – a fact mirrored by the ESD and Green Star in Australia, the LEED certification in the USA, or the HQE certificate in France, as a minimum which are the standards for our planning all countries where COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is planning and building.

An energy efficient, environmentally intelligent building design is a long standing ambition of COOP HIMMELB(L)AU; this goal has led the practice to implement and develop further the available technology in its projects in close collaboration with local and international engineering partners, considering them as integral parts of the design idea for buildings from the conceptual stage to completion. This helps to achieve solutions that surpass national and industry standards, as can be illustrated by the project for the TTE Office Building in Vienna (120,000 m² gross floor area), which consumes less electrical energy than it produces, and thus earns a financial payback by selling the surplus energy back to the public network. Another example is provided by the project for the New Premises of the European Central Bank (currently in planning), where from the outset the collaboration with the best engineering consultants worldwide resulted in making feasible the concept of a huge central atrium as climate buffer, and a sophisticated climatic façade system. Likewise with the Academy of Fine Arts project we succeeded to create an additional atrium space by covering the building’s central inner court with a glass roof – a space which integrates the conglomerate of different spaces into a unified whole and at the same time allows the building complex to be more economical in terms of energy efficiency. The minimal extra costs brought about by the spacious hall are more than offset by optimization of energy consumption over the middle and long term. The inner court opens up through a glass façade to the city in the south and to the park in the north.

We approach all of our projects with the aim of introducing both proven and innovative low energy systems, as well as environmental control systems as integral parameters of the design. From the design perspective, these dynamic systems are not simply added layers to our projects, but rather are used as fundamental virtual forces to shape the forms of our buildings.

All of our design solutions employ ideas appropriate for the project based on climate, location and economic resources ranging from basic passive solar and ventilation principles utilizing available sun, earth mass and wind, to state of the art technological solutions for building envelopes, heating, cooling, ventilation and power generation, as well as environmental control systems and newly developed energy harvesting systems. These concepts are combined to arrive at buildings conceived of as highly efficient organisms tailored to the specific circumstances of site, program, building type, construction type and economy, and most importantly designed to minimize consumption of natural resources and reduce the impact of the man-made environment on nature.

fjmt recognises that environmental sustainability is one of the most important issues facing contemporary society. Accordingly great emphasis is placed on integrating best practice environmental design into each project and analysing the impact on our environment, and most importantly the effects that buildings have on the well being of its occupants. The Law School is at the cutting edge of both technological and environmental design. The buildings active double layered façade with an integral operable louvre system ensures maximum flexibility for the occupants to individually control their environment. The mixed mode building offers excellent access to natural light with the iconic light monitor creating a inviting communal study space within the subterranean library, while overtly displaying the schools commitment to the environment.

With the Surrey Hills Centre fjmt establishes one of Sydney’s greenest buildings, setting an Australian excellence standard of environmental sustainability, while creating a welcoming public facility with a strong connection to its setting. This challenging project features a highly innovative and visually prominent biofiltration atrium, labyrinth and bio mass air filtration system. The highly sophisticated façade reacts to environmental conditions adjusting the ventilation and heat loads, controlling light and shade. Coupled with a BMS that switches on and off lights as required recording both electrical and hydraulic services, this maximises environmental efficiencies.
are strongly involved in global research and teaching in their respective fields through the knowledge and innovative creativity of its Architects and Engineers who valued at 2,2 Billion AUD. The planning and construction of international building projects totaling 716,960 m² and the realisation planning. At the present time COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is responsible for premises of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt, Germany and are in the middle of Ohio, USA. we recently won the internationally acclaimed competition for the New parts of the world, namely the BMW Welt in Munich, Germany, or the Akron Art Museum in Ohio, USA. COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is practiced in team-building with local architects and engineers who add to the core knowledge their respective local and technical know-how necessary for a smooth and successful execution. We believe that a very carefully crafted team of specialists is best able to address the more and more complex issues of our time. As the ease of global communication has increased, this team of specialists is no longer bound to cultural or geographic limits, but potentially composed of the best and most suitable individuals and team members from all over the world. Distance is no longer a disadvantage but rather a necessity and a strength because through crossing cultures and fields of knowledge, unique and innovative solutions are found at their intersections.

Fundamental to the team’s methodology is the close and effective working relationships that reflect the vision of its users and of the community of Melbourne. Both practices have extended experience with educational projects and realised with great success some highly acclaimed schools and university facilities. The Vienna based team brings a European sensibility with an international profile and extensive design management experience to the project, while the Melbourne based partner will bring local knowledge, both cultural and practical. This team has extensive experience in international team work and management and therefore staff are able to collaborate efficiently with other disciplines to achieve a highly coordinated and effective design solution.

COOP HIMMELB(L)AU and francis-jones morehen thorp (fjmt) have joined forces in pursuit of a shared ambition to provide excellent design services to the University of Melbourne, and in order to develop a landmark building for the Faculty of Architecture that reflects the vision of its users and of the community of Melbourne. Both practices have extended experience with educational projects and realised with great success some highly acclaimed schools and university facilities. The Vienna based team brings a European sensibility with an international profile and extensive design management experience to the project, while the Melbourne based partner will bring local knowledge, both cultural and practical. This team has extensive experience in international team work and management and therefore staff are able to collaborate efficiently with other disciplines to achieve a highly coordinated and effective design solution.

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COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is a design-oriented architecture and urbanism firm specialising in providing unique, landmark buildings and masterplanning of visionary urban designs for public and private clients and communities with ambitions for iconic world-class design of the highest caliber, integrating sophisticated engineering and sustainability principles. The office has realised some of the most innovative buildings in various parts of the world, namely the BMW Welt in Munich, Germany, or the Akron Art Museum in Ohio, USA. We recently won the internationally acclaimed competition for the New Premises of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt, Germany and are in the middle of the realisation planning. At the present time COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is responsible for the planning and construction of international building projects totaling 716,960 m² and valued at 2.2 Billion AUD.

COOP HIMMELB(L)AU will bring to the Architecture Faculty building at the University of Melbourne the knowledge and innovative creativity of its Architects and Engineers who are strongly involved in global research and teaching in their respective fields through academia. In addition, as professionals who execute commissions all over the world, COOP HIMMELB(L)AU is practiced in team-building with local architects and engineers who add to the core knowledge their respective local and technical know-how necessary for a smooth and successful execution. We believe that a very carefully crafted team of specialists is best able to address the more and more complex issues of our time. As the ease of global communication has increased, this team of specialists is no longer bound to cultural or geographic limits, but potentially composed of the best and most suitable individuals and team members from all over the world. Distance is no longer a disadvantage but rather a necessity and a strength because through crossing cultures and fields of knowledge, unique and innovative solutions are found at their intersections.

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FRANKFURT/M., GERMANY, 2003 - 2014

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COOP HIMMELB(L)AU
WOLF D. PRIX / COOP HIMMELB(L)AU

05.1.6 MERIT

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE / NEW BUILDING FOR THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE BUILDING AND PLANNING

Awards
Preis des Deutschen Stahlbaus 2008, Mainz, Germany 2008, HBW Award 2007
RIBA European Award 2008
London, UK, 2008: Project: BMW Welt
RIBA International Award 2009
International Architecture Award 2007
The Chicago Athenaeum, 2007: Project: Buxus Complex, Buxus, South Korea
Arc et Colloque pour l’architecture et l’urbanisme, Paris 2008
International Fellowship of the Royal Institute of British Architects, RIBA, London, UK, 2006

American Architecture Award 2005
The Chicago Athenaeum, 2005: Project: Alon Art Museum
Annie Spirk Award for Excellence in Architectural Education
USA 2005
Goldem Ehrenzeichen für Verdienste um das Land Wien (Gold medal for merits to the federal state of Vienna), Vienna, Austria 2002
Officier de l’ordre des arts et lettres (Officer of the order of arts and letters), France 2003
Anerkennungspreis für Architektur des Bundeslandes Niederösterreich (Recognition Prize for Architecture in Lower Austria), St. Pölten 1999: Project: Water Tower, Donau-Auen-Nationalpark
Architecturpreis der Österreichischen Zentralvereinigung der Bauherren (Award of the State of Carinthia for “Superior Architecture”), Austria 1989: Project: Fundier Factory 3
Bundespreis der Bauwirtschaft Österreich (Award of the City of Vienna for Architecture) 1998
Preis der Stadt Wien für Architektur (City of Vienna Architecture Prize) 1996
P. Award (Progressive Architecture) New York, USA 1991
P. Award (Progressive Architecture) New York, USA 1989: Project: Museum of Contemporary Art (Ed.)
P. Award (Progressive Architecture) New York, USA 1986
Preis der Stadt Wien für Architektur (City of Vienna Architecture Prize) 1986
P. Award (Progressive Architecture) New York, USA 1985: Project: Roofing Remodelling Falkestraße 1985
P. Award (Progressive Architecture) New York, USA 1983: Project: Blue Box 1983

Monographs
Ferrans, Kristin (Ed.): COOP HIMMELB(L)AU. Die Faszination der Architektur Österreichs, Birkhäuser Verlag, Berlin 2000.
Geraldes, Sandro, Lisbon: The Himmelb(l)au Disassembly of thetowering City, Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit 2002.
Geraldes, Sandro, Lisbon: The Himmelb(l)au Disassembly of thetowering City, Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit 2002.

Newspapers and Magazines (selected)
Los Angeles Times, Schooled in Iconoclasm, High School #6, USA, 2006
Architectural Review Australia, Wolf Prix, Architectural record, COOP HIMMELB(L)AU, USA, 2006
Architectural Digest German, Militätsarchiv. Villa Sorosa, Germany, 2006
The Washington Post, One Smashing Smashing Architect, Alon Art Museum, USA, 2005
Chicago Tribune, Radical design in Akron? Yes, Akron, Alon Art Museum, USA, 2007
Paradise Cage.

Nomination: The Plan, High School #9, Los Angeles, USA 2009
Architectural Digest: High School #6, Canada 2009