

DUPLEX

ARCHITECTS

RETHINKING HOUSING

01 Habitat, Student Housing

Anne Kaestle
Dan Schürch

02 WALO, Urban Living

03 Buchegg Neighborhood, Living with Noise

04 Limmatfeld, Living at the Edge of Town

05 Hunziker Areal, More than Housing

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Duplex Architects exemplify the possibilities of innovative residential architecture in Switzerland and what its contribution to the city can be. In this monograph, they provide an unfiltered view into their work process and approach to housing design. Five pioneering residential projects are used as case studies to illustrate Duplex's stance on urban planning, typology research, and materiality, as well as their unconventional office culture. It's about urban scale just as much as about the details, finding new forms of living, the value of community, and the deliberate organization of planning processes as part of the overall design. The editors Ludovic Balland and Nele Dechmann each shed light on Duplex Architects' work in their own way. Along with essays by the two founders, Anne Kaestle and Dan Schürch, the book also presents the personal perspectives of other prominent authors.

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With the gender degree symbol ° we aim to indicate that the full spectrum of gender identities is included. What could be better as a symbol of inclusion than a small circle?¹ We also settled on the gender circle for formal reasons: the symbol is distinct enough to not go unnoticed, but it still blends in well with the overall typeface.

1 The degree symbol ° is a mathematical unit from the sexagesimal system where the number 60 is the basis of the arithmetic system. It was first used over 5,000 years ago by the Sumerians and later by the Babylonians and we use it today mainly to measure time, temperature, and geometric angles. The degree symbol ° was also used in German-speaking countries to abbreviate the "Rute," a historical unit of length. Since its exact length was never standardized, different countries and professions have defined different lengths between three and nine meters for one "Rute." It is exactly this semantic imprecision that we think reflects well the diversity of the gender spectrum. At the same time, it is an expression of the balancing act between the desire for diversity and the need for simplicity.

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