

Cities are under pressure

China is nowadays one of the most interesting architectural playgrounds in the world. In an interview with the magazine Spiegel, Meinhold von Gerkan says that in China one can experiment and do things that are no longer possible in Germany. That is because conditions in Germany are quite different. However, there is no local authority in Germany that does not consider these issues in a serious and fundamental way. One would be judging the German cities unfairly if one would accuse them of doing nothing. They are acting because the impact on cities, especially in the overcrowded areas is demanding action. People are faced with the gridlock and the ecological consequences of urbanization everyday. The persons in charge are challenged to solve these problems. Only masterminds like Orville Simpson or architects like Meinhard von Gerkan are able to strike a new path. Perhaps they will be able to meet people outside of China with whom they could realize their plans of building cities of the future.