



Tchoban Foundation
Museum for
Architectural Drawing

Press release

Berlin, 30.07.2021

Mark Fisher: Drawing Entertainment

Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin
Christinenstrasse 18a, 10119 Berlin

Exhibition duration: 11 September 2021–16 January 2022

Opening hours: Mon–Fri: 2–7 pm, Sat–Sun: 1–5 pm

Admission: €5; reduced: €3

Press tour on 10 September at 6 pm:

Please register at newsletter@tchoban-foundation.de

Opening on 10 September 2021, 7 pm

The British architect Mark Fisher (1947–2013) was the greatest entertainment architect of rock sets and spectacles. When Fisher began designing rock music stage sets in the late 1970s, audiences were still watching bands play on bare stages with perhaps a few flashing lights and a bit of film flickering behind them. Fisher, with his flare for the fantastic and technical expertise, transformed the whole experience, for band and audience, into sensational theatre.

Fisher's imaginative productions sprung from his radical training at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London under the tutelage of the avant-garde Archigram group, who were agitating for technological mobile cities, which is exactly what



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Fisher's giant rock shows became as they moved en masse around the globe. The members of Archigram such as Peter Cook and Ron Herron, were famous for unbuildable fantasies that existed only in their architectural drawings. Fisher also came to explore his architectural ideas through drawing, but with designs of great workable practicality, and of such beauty and artistry that he ranks amongst one of the greatest creators of architectural drawings of his generation.

In Germany, Fisher is celebrated as the designer who, working with his engineer partner Jonathan Park, conceived the giant stage set for Roger Waters's legendary *The Wall – Live in Berlin* concert, which took place on the night of 21 July 1990, nine months after the fall of the Berlin Wall, amidst the ruins of the former no-man's-land between Potsdamer Platz and the Brandenburg Gate.

An extensive section of the exhibition is devoted to *The Wall – Live in Berlin*, beginning with Fisher's initial idea in 1978 for a giant 'slug', an inflatable structure to tour the Pink Floyd experience in the countryside. The band's 1980–81 tour was famous for its gigantic inflatables such as the menacing 'Teacher', created by the illustrator Gerald Scarfe, that rose during the performance from behind the across the stage. When the end of the show the wall came down the crowd went wild, shouting 'Tear down the wall'. Along with masterful pencil perspectives of the performance, Fisher furnished striking and easy-to-understand drawings illustrating the technical aspects of achieving such a feat.

Fisher was of the generation that moved faultlessly between the hand drawing and the advent of computer-aided design (CAD). He may have been the master of the sketch and presentation drawing, works of bravura that seduced the likes of Mick Jagger, Tina Turner and Janet Jackson, but he was also quick to pick up and build upon the techniques of new computer programmes. From more than one hundred drawings in the exhibition, which are supplemented by photographs and films of the actual performances, it is possible to trace Fisher's seamless method of architectural communication from analogue to digital.



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A catalogue of the exhibition is published.

The exhibition is based on the loans from the Mark Fisher collection, courtesy of Cristina Garcia/Stufish Entertainment Architects. The curator of the exhibition is Dr Neil Bingham.

Dr Neil Bingham is a historian of architecture and design. He was an architectural drawings curator at the Royal Institute of British Architecture, Royal Academy of Arts and Victoria and Albert Museum. He is a professor at New York University in London. His numerous published works include *100 Years of Architectural Drawing, 1900–2000* (2012), *Masterworks: Architecture at the Royal Academy of Arts* (2011), *Fantasy Architecture: 1500–2036* (2004) and *Modern Retro: Living with Mid-century Style* (2000).

Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing

The Tchoban Foundation was founded in 2009 by Sergei Tchoban, a passionate draftsman and collector of architectural drawings. Comprising a considerable collection and an extensive reference library, it offers experts and interested visitors the opportunity to conduct research on the history and nature of architectural draughtsmanship. Through its exhibitions, the Foundation aims to familiarise broad audiences in the digital age with the fascinating and emotionally charged worlds of architectural drawing.



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Exhibition program:

Festival of Lights

10–12 September 2021, from 8 pm

Tchoban Foundation is proud to be a part of Festival of Lights 2021 taking place in Berlin.

A spectacular video mapping installation designed for the museum on the basis of the beautiful drawings by Mark Fisher will be shown on the façade of the building.

Panel event

11 September 2021, 4 pm

A talk and a panel discussion about the work by Mark Fisher and his design for Roger Water's *The Wall – Live in Berlin* on 21 July 1990. Speakers: Dr Neil Bingham, Dr Michael Rauhut,

Cristina Garcia. Moderator: Tim Renner

Language: English

Contact

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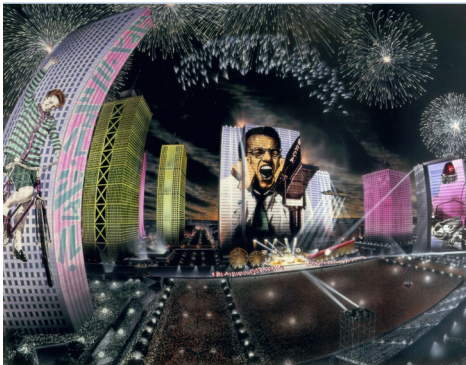
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Illustrations



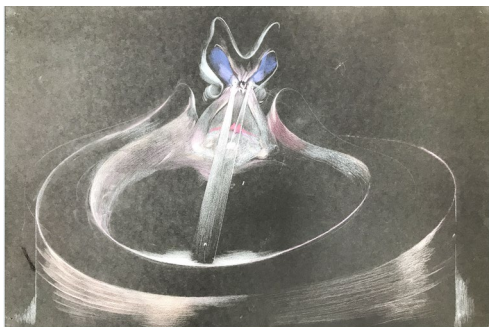
Jean-Michel Jarre, *Tokyo Shinjuku*, 1986

Fish-eye view showing central stage, fireworks display and projections on surrounding buildings

1986

Ink, gouache, printed paper collage and gouache airbrushing on paper

725 x 910 mm



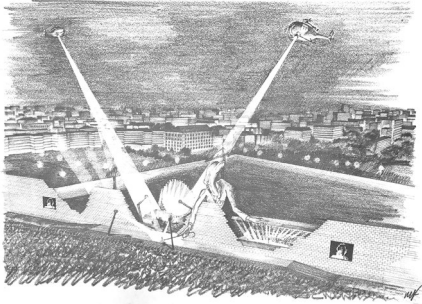
Pink Floyd, *The Wall* 1980

Fisher's interpretation of Gerald Scarfe's character illustrations for the show

The 'Mother'

Chalk on black card

520 x 780 mm



Roger Water's *The Wall—Live in Berlin*, Berlin 1990

Aerial view of the wall

1990

Pencil on paper

555 x 760 mm



Rolling Stones, *Steel Wheels Tour*, 1990

Stage set view

1989

Ink, gouache and coloured washes on paper

375 x 560 mm



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Seville Expo'92, 1992

Floating stage for opening ceremony

1991/1992

660 x 980 mm

Gouache, chalk and gouache airbrushing on black card



U2, *Pop Mart*, 1997

Stage set view

1997

CGI print on photographic paper

All images

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