

RADICALLY SIMPLE

ARCHITECT FRANCIS KÉRÉ – FROM THE *OPERA VILLAGE* TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD

Hardly any other architect unites the constructive with the social aspect of building as Francis Kéré does. He made a name for himself with his designs for Christoph Schlingensiefel's *Opera Village* and received many international prizes for his building projects in his homeland of Burkina Faso—including the 2004 Aga Khan Award for Architecture. *Francis Kéré. Radically Simple* is the first book to provide an overview of his work.

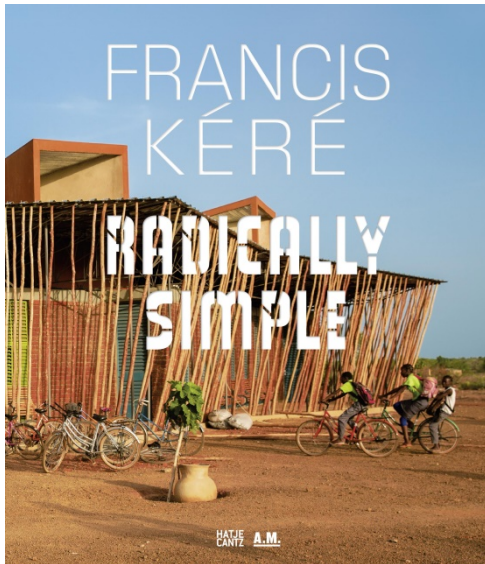
Berlin, November 15, 2016 – Born in Burkina Faso and based in Berlin since 2005, the architect Francis Kéré (*1965) is one of today's most prominent international representatives of the kind of architecture that is socially engaged. In 2004, with his very first building—the elementary school in Gando, Burkina Faso—he won the renowned Aga Khan Award for Architecture. Kéré was honored for his exemplary way of linking cultural and ecological ideas in his design.

Since then, he's won many other national and international prizes. Especially on the African continent, he's become an important role model for a coming generation, due to the persistent manner in which he connects ethical and aesthetic principles. It's the clever integration of local resources and a deep understanding of cultural dimensions that lend relevance to his designs and building projects. On today's architecture scene Kéré is considered an exceptional talent, because he's succeeded in uniting the profound cultural influences of his homeland with the experiences he had as a student at the Technical University in Berlin to create a new, innovative path. From 2009 onward Kéré has received special attention in Germany for his designs for Christoph Schlingensiefel's art project, *Operndorf Afrika* (African Opera Village).

Francis Kéré. Radically Simple is the first survey of Kéré's designs and construction projects. It's a guide that takes readers through the architect's unique personal and professional paths. Besides the buildings he's planned and executed in his own village of Gando, other buildings in Africa, China, and Germany are featured.

The book is also devoted to Kéré's many exhibitions at sites ranging from London and Humlebæk, to Milan, Bordeaux, Chicago, and Weil am Rhein all the way to Philadelphia and Venice. It's precisely through strongly sensual installations that the architect has managed to convey the fundamental principles behind his work in the context of museums.

Tomorrow, the Architekturmuseum at the Technical University in Munich will open the largest exhibition of his work to date, which will run until March 26, 2017.



FRANCIS KÉRE
RADICALLY SIMPLE

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Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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PRESS IMAGES



Francis Kéré
»Lycée Schorge« in
Koudougou, Burkina Faso,
2016
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Francis Kéré
Grundschule, Operndorf in Laongo,
Burkina Faso,
2016
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Francis Kéré
Erweiterungsbau der Schule in
Gando, Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Wohnanlage im Operndorf, Laongo,
Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Klassenzimmer in der Grundschule
im Operndorf, Laongo, Burkina
Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Luftaufnahme des Operndor-fes,
Laongo, Burkina Faso, 2016
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»Lycée Schorge« in Kou-dougou,
Burkina Faso, 2016
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Luftaufnahme des »Lycée Schorge«
in Koudougou, Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Luftaufnahme des Centre de Santé
et de Promotion Sociale, Operndorf,
Laongo, Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Erweiterungsbau der Schule in
Gando, Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Windfänge im Klassenzimmer der »Lycée Schorge« in Koudougou,
Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Fensterläden und Sitzelemente im zentralen Hof der »Lycée Schorge«
in Koudougou, Burkina Faso, 2016
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Francis Kéré
Berlin, 2016
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