

# DETAIL GURU URS SCHMID

## EXHIBITION INFORMATION

**DATES: 25<sup>TH</sup> Sept – 12 Oct 2018**

**Bringing together the young and old around the detail!!**



*“During the last 15 years in practice I have often been in conversation with architects and students on their personal learning of architecture. In almost all cases inevitable is the story of a technician relatively unknown in the architecture community that has taught us the fundamental tools and skills to Navigate the complex world of architecture. In my story as for so many in Cape Town that beautiful protagonist is a musician, a once aspiring clown and teacher and mentor Urs Schmid.*

*At the heart of this humorous, gentle warm hearted generous soul was his believe in self-learning. A means towards understanding the value in difference. A method lost over recent years and critiques they very method of architectural teaching and learning we are currently faced with. Millennial culture entitlement, lack of engagement, dissociation with reality all characteristics detrimental to the development of socially responsive architects.” (Clint Abrahams)*

In the spirit of collaboration and self- learning we celebrate the life and contribution of Urs Schmid, one of Cape Towns most beloved architectural detailer. Born in the year 1943 in Aurau, Switzerland, and came to South Africa in 1969. Through a series of drawings representative of the complete range of the architectural design process, Urs’ journey reveals the value of true commitment to the architecture product but most importantly the relations between concept and detail. An exhibition documenting some of Cape Towns most recognisable buildings will be hosted at the Cape Institute of Architecture from the 25 September until 12 October. Along with a series of talks and discussions concerning current architecture.

### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Architectural Apprenticeship at Frei and Mmoser Architect in Aarau from April 1959 to April 1962 worked another two years with the firm from April 1962 to March 1964.

### TYPE OF WORK

Full documentations for sozialer wohnungsbau (affordable housing) travel to Italy, Yugoslavia, England and France in the same period.

### WORKING IN SCANDINAVIA

Went to Scandinavia and worked for Sture FRÖLEN Architect in Stockhlo from May 1964 to September 1966 travelled extensively to Finland, Norway and Denmark during the same period.

### WORKING IN SWITZERLAND

Went back to Switzerland and worked at Frei and Moser Architects in Aarau on school of the deaf and a Station Concourse travelled to Spain, Tunisia and France.

### WORKING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Immigrated to South Africa in June 1969

Worked for Revel Fox and Partners Cape Town from March 1970 to March 1975 on working documentation for the BP Centre, Marina Da Gama Housing Development, Early Learning Centre Atlone.

Entokozweni pre-school Soweto and school Hostels for Fransshoek Hoerskool

Worked for L-Karol Architects Cape Town from April 1975 to May 1983 on Shell House, Golden Acre, Cape Sun and Diagonal Street in Johannesburg

Worked for Meyer Low Architects from June 1983 to March 1985 on Tiger Valley Shopping Centre.

Worked for Prinsloo Parker Flint Elliot and Van Den Heeven on the Lienberg and Standar Building, House Thorinton, UWC New since building etc.

May 1989-present Co-founder of CS Studio Architects with Carin Smuts in Cape Town.

**25 Sept 2018 - “Detail Guru”:  
04 Oct 2018 - First Thursday:  
11 Oct 2018 - Detail Debate:**

**Exhibition Opening-Memorial  
It’s all about the detail (open to the public)  
Debate around detail**



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