

Series or personality – on the understanding of technics by Rudolf Schwarz

Abstract

The architect, city planner, country planner and architectural writer Rudolf Schwarz (1897–1961) is chiefly known as a master of modern Catholic church-building. This became his main field of action, where his Christian world view could be transformed into the arrangement form of architecture. In his later years more and more isolated, not least provoked by himself due to his personal attack against Gropius during the so-called „Bauhausdebatte“, Schwarz was not rediscovered until the eighties, nineties of the past century. Since then he has been described as „Architect of a different Modernity“.

His achievements as a city planner, but also his planning-philosophy in general and his understanding of technics have not been as much in the main focus of research as his building of churches, but even his attitude towards technics which is a central point in his writings and design, should be more analysed and questioned in matters of nowadays problems. This concern will be the main issue of this article und it covers shortly some statements on the person Rudolf Schwarz, his oeuvre, his influences and intellectual background, which constituted his world view and also – to use an expression of the researcher Ludwik Fleck, his „style of thinking“.

Keywords

Building of churches, Ludwik Fleck, Neues Bauen (New Building), Rudolf Schwarz, Technique.