

Zeitschrift:	Trans : Publikationsreihe des Fachvereins der Studierenden am Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich
Herausgeber:	Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich
Band:	- (2022)
Heft:	41
Artikel:	Pierre Zoelly's waste incineration plants
Autor:	Bruckmann, Ziu
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-1037224

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 14.08.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

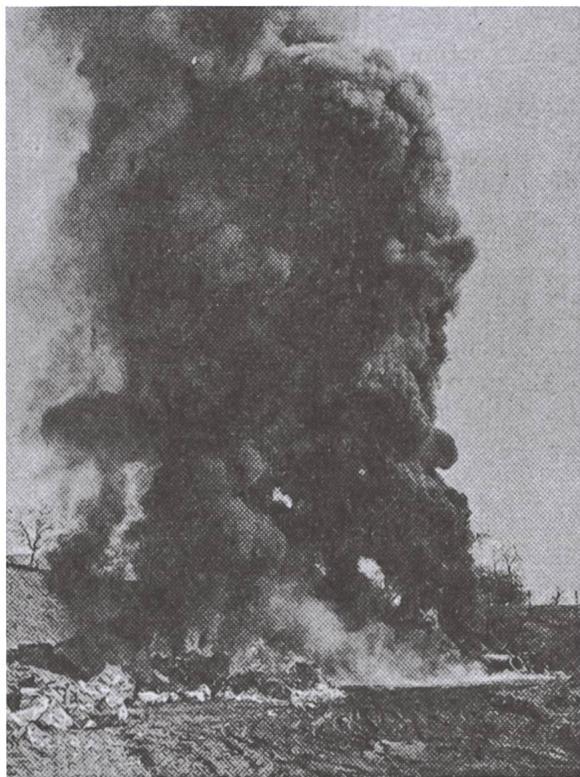
Pierre Zoelly's Waste Incineration Plants

Ziu Bruckmann

Fascinated by the elegance of anonymous industrial buildings, Swiss architect Pierre Zoelly (1923–2003) investigated the architecture of the waste incineration plant thoroughly. His œuvre comprised seven such planned projects, in Zizers GR, Zuchwil SO, or Zug. Two were executed: Kehrichtverbrennungsanlage Zürcher Oberland KEZO in Hinwil ZH and KVA Linth in Niederurnen GL. Zoelly's proposals are structural skeletons, pillars, walls and slabs cast in concrete, closely intertwined with a complex machinery made to incinerate. These architectural infrastructures are determined by fire, or rather, by the combination of its elements – flames, ashes, and smoke – that Zoelly composed virtuously into colossal sculptures. Formed by bunkers, furnaces, filters, and stacks they both celebrate the process of incinerating waste and monumentalize our society's handling of resources and energy. At these neuralgic points, where communities and territories are linked, the refuse of our society find their final destination.

Ziu Bruckmann, born 1996, is an architect who studied at ETH Zurich and the University of Melbourne. He is working as a scientific assistant both at the Archives of the Institute of History and Theory of Architecture (gta) at ETH Zurich and at the Lab for Theory of Environment and Materials in Architecture at EPFL Lausanne. Recently, his research assistance contributed to the exhibition «Beton» at the SA M Swiss Architecture Museum in Basel. Besides, he is studying Classical Archeology at the University of Zurich and is working on small renovation projects in Germany.

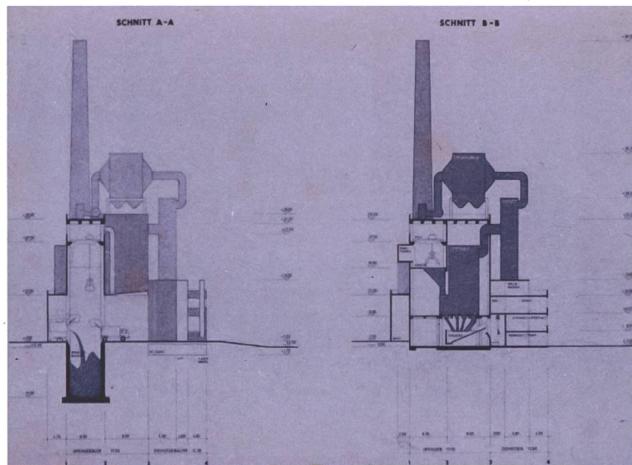
Incineration of industrial residues at a dumping ground, Betzholz near Hinwil ZH, March 1968. Image: Comet Photo AG (gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Ullin Streiff)



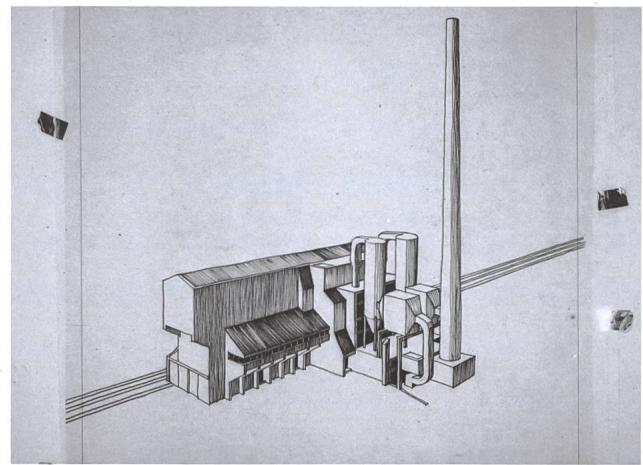
«Findlay, Ohio», 1950. Travel sketch. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



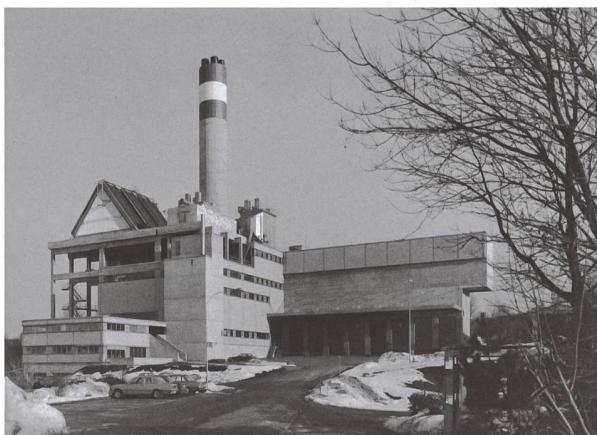
Waste incineration plant, Zizers GR, project 1966. Sections of waste bunker (left) and incineration unit (right). Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



Waste incineration plant, Zuchwil SO, project 1968. Perspective view. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



KEZO, Hinwil ZH, 1966–1976 (2 phases).
Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



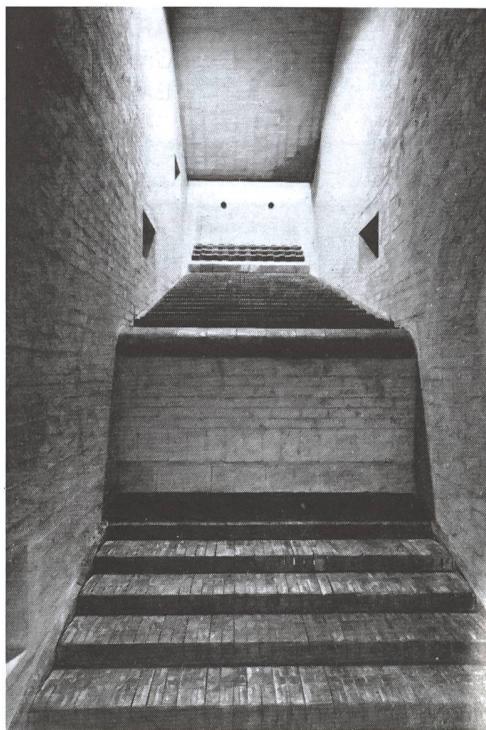
KEZO, Hinwil ZH, 1966–1976 (2 phases). Construction process, 1975. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



KVA Linth, Niederurnen GL, 1966–1973. Waste bunker with grapple, 1973. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



KVA Linth, Niederurnen GL, 1966–1973. Furnace interior with grate unit, 1973. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



KVA Linth, Niederurnen GL, 1966–1973. Façade detail, 1973. Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly



KVA Linth, Niederurnen GL, 1966–1973.
Image: gta Archives / ETH Zurich, Pierre Zoelly

