



Croc e fasci - Der italienische Kirchenbau in der Zeit des Faschismus

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The period from 1919 to 1945 in Italy was marked by the political and social struggle for a new order. In the course of action, the ruling practice of the fascist regime installed by Mussolini in 1922 proved to be the metric of advances. Despite its heterogeneous ideology, Mussolini's fascism succeeded in establishing and consolidating a new reality that included an understanding with the Catholic Church. This understanding, in turn, created the conditions for an ecclesiastical expansion unprecedented in the Italian unitary state. At the same time, the debate about contemporary representative architecture determined both the building policy of the regime and that of the church. In the field of tension between heated debates, progressive and tradition-bound ways of thinking, the eventful history of the search for a new church building that would overcome the church's typical sensitivity to loss and can be read today as a mediator between the continuity of centuries-old traditions and the liturgically motivated awakening of the 1950s and 1960s that finally unfolded from previous developments.

The book is based on an approach that analyzes the history of architecture as well as weighing it critically, considering socio-political and organizational conditions and influencing factors. Through the inclusion of a large temporal and spatial framework of observation, the large number of church building events of the interwar period is made tangible and placed in a comprehensible, assessable context by means of synthesis and interpretation.

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