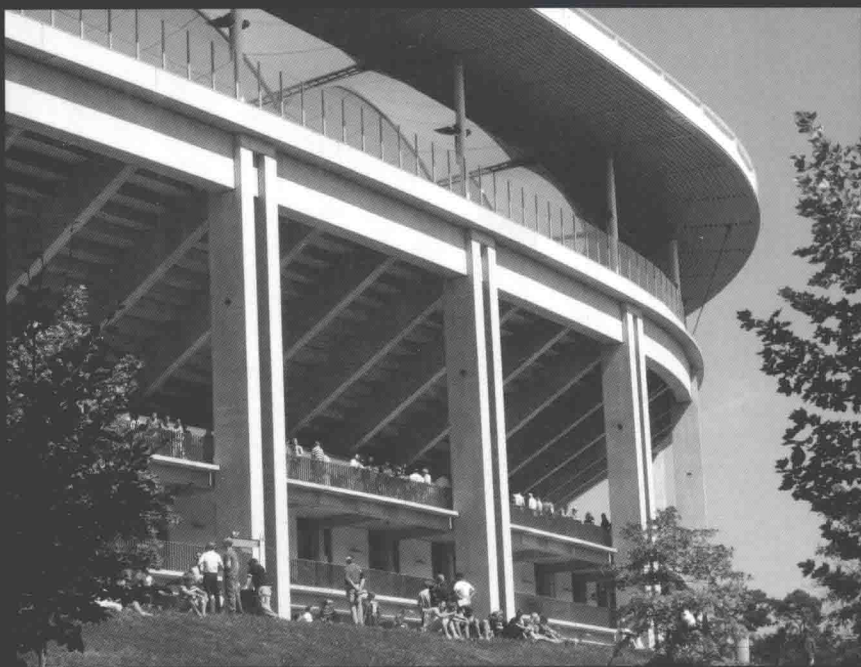


Edited by

**Sybille Frank and Silke Steets**

## **Stadium Worlds**

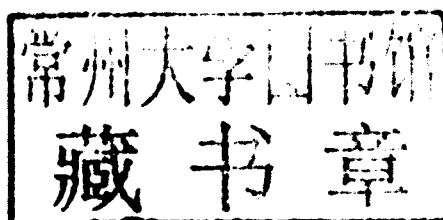
Football, space and the built environment



**Edited by Sybille Frank and  
Silke Steets**

## **Stadium Worlds**

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environment



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## Stadium Worlds

Analysing football as a cultural practice, this book investigates the connection between the sport and its built environment. Five thematic sections bring together an international multidisciplinary range of perspectives on football's built environment, with particular focus on the stadium which often embodies the sport beyond its immediate performance.

Offering an analysis of the interplay of football and its sociocultural spaces, the chapters draw on examples from architectural design, politics and media studies to address a wide variety of issues: amongst others, migration, advertising, fandom, identity, emotions, gender and the sociology of space. Some contributors use the stadium to draw conclusions about contemporary economic, social and cultural developments; others, as a place to investigate particular themes: the transgression of social rules, the formation of communities, gender construction and the making of identities.

Texts and case-studies based on the editors' lecture series 'Stadium Worlds – Football as a Gateway to Society' are used to enhance this useful book for lecturers and researchers in sociology, cultural studies, geography, architecture, sport and environment as well as architects and urban or regional planners.

**Sybille Frank** and **Silke Steets** are sociologists working at the Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany.

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Football, space and the built  
environment  
*Edited by Sybille Frank and  
Silke Steets*

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# Preface and Acknowledgements

*Sybille Frank and Silke Steets*

*are you ready to forget  
your family and your job  
world cup oh oh  
football round the clock  
(woog riots, 2006)*

The idea for this book arose from an interdisciplinary lecture series, which we organized in the summer of 2006 at the Institute for Sociology, Darmstadt University of Technology parallel to the World Cup football competition in Germany. The focus of the lecture series was the football stadium. This is not only the scintillating venue of the match, but also the place where violence, community, the joy of the crowd and the sorrow of football fans is experienced. The stadium has also increasingly become a location-supporting representational building, a multi-functional arena for different events, and a much envied global advertising opportunity and site.

The response to the lecture series was as impressive and gratifying as the quality of the speakers' lectures. They spoke as fans as well as academics. In contributing to the *Architext* series – the result of a serendipitous coincidence – we wanted to transfer the spirit of the lecture series into the more permanent pages of a book and, reinforced by a few additional authors, make the outcome available to an international readership.

Our thanks go to the authors for their commitment, their expertise and their ability to relate the results of their research to other disciplines and new contexts. For constructive and targeted comments as well as their sympathetic ear, we are grateful to the editors of the *Architext* series, Tony King and Tom Markus. We also thank Georgina Johnson-Cook for her always friendly and understanding supervision of this project.

For infrastructural and personnel support, we must thank Martina Löw, Institute for Sociology, and the LOEWE Research Area 'The Intrinsic Logic of Cities' at the Darmstadt University of Technology. Lora Seel and Merle Schulte were extremely helpful in researching image rights and during the formal revision of the manuscript. This book would also not have been possible without the

financial support of the 'Promotion of Women' programme of the Department of Social and Historical Studies at our university. We thank Carolyn Kelly for the professional translation of many chapters, for her flexibility and her humour. Our partners, Hans Jakel and Reinhard Krehl, always showed great solidarity, and we would like to thank them for their caring support of this project. Not least, this book is an expression of solid female friendship.

We hope that the enthusiasm in engaging with the social and built space of the football stadium, present in each contribution to this volume, will be conveyed to the reader.

## ILLUSTRATION CREDITS

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