



Green Roofs and Renewable Energy

Rolf Disch

Architect, Green Buildings und solar architecture

Freiburg

Germany

www.rolfdisch.de

Short description of the speaker

In Germany's solar capital Freiburg im Breisgau, architect Rolf Disch has proved that family homes can generate more energy than they produce. The *Solarschiff* and the Solar Community am Schlierberg are innovative models of best practice which point the way for Green Buildings and solar architecture.

Biographical details or background information

The 'sun ship', as its name suggests, takes the form of a ship which is sailing towards a solar future. The rooftop garden, created by the garden and landscape architect Klaus Scheuber, also deploys this basic concept in its design: The gardens ascend towards their edge in the direction of the neighbouring building. This means that taller, deeper rooting plants can be planted on this side. This gives the garden a wave movement with a contrast between flat valleys and high ridges that also creates a privacy screen. The benches, meanwhile, are in the form of small boats. The recreation rooms in the houses are south-facing and lavishly glazed. The transitions onto the terraces and then further into the gardens seem free-flowing. The view from the roof of the sun ship looks in the direction of the Black Forest or towards the Rhine Valley, the Kaiserstuhl and the Vosges Mountains. And thus, in the middle of a cityscape, a living space with a real link to nature is created with the help of rooftop gardens. The energy-ecology concept is therefore perfectly complemented by a green roof.