



Barbara Nothegger

## SEVEN STORY VILLAGE

Experimental living spaces for a better future

Aus der Reihe "Leben auf Sicht"

Klappenbroschur, 176 Pages, 140 x 220

ISBN: 9783701734092

€ 19,00 incl. VAT

Release date: 14.03.2017

“Leben auf Sicht” (Living with the future in mind), our new book series on innovative sustainability solutions edited by Thomas Weber

When Barbara Nothegger became a mother in 2013, she and her family took the plunge and moved to a communal living project in Vienna. About 100 people got together and built an alternative living space with flexible apartments, communal gardens, open space for kids, and an ecological lifestyle. The community's members wanted to be there for each other, just like people were in traditional villages. But how can community work in a world marked by individualism? Are communal living projects an answer to pressing issues of modern life such as isolation, rising rents, and increasingly depleted resources? Barbara Nothegger takes a look at similar living projects in Germany and Switzerland and demonstrates how good neighborhood ties create a better quality of life. She humorously portrays her own...

### BARBARA NOTHEGGER

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born in 1978, studied commercial science in Vienna and Mexico City. She has worked as a business journalist for many years and has written for publications including 'Die Zeit', 'Trend', 'Kurier' and 'Fleisch Magazin'. In 2013, she moved into Wohnprojekt Wien with her husband and two sons. The house received the Austrian State Prize for Architecture and Sustainability in 2014 and will be honoured with the UN World Habitat Award in 2025 together with the other residential projects planned by einszueins Architekten.