

**MONIKA FIBY**

**Diplomingenieur, Master of Landscape Architecture  
Zoo Design and Consulting**



Monika Fiby studied landscape ecology and landscape planning in Vienna when she specialized in zoo design. In 1991, her thesis "Evaluating Zoo Design - The Importance of Visitor Studies" resulted in one of the few books about zoo design. In 2000, Fiby graduated at the University of Georgia, School of Environmental Design and founded the ZooLex Zoo Design Organization. In 2006, ZooLex became a service of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Fiby organizes and moderates interactive workshops on zoo design. These activities have led to excellent personal relationships with zoo experts world wide.

Master planning has become the main focus of Fiby's work. Monika Fiby has a strong theoretical background and a sound philosophy about zoo design. She knows about the complexity of interactions between animals, visitors and staff in a zoo, the special needs of these user groups and how to reconcile them in design. By using her moderation and planning skills, she assists zoos and similar institutions in fulfilling their tasks regarding education, recreation, conservation and sustainability.

Monika Fiby provides planning, design and facilitation services for developing strategic plans, masterplans, and zoo facility designs. She consults during planning processes from preparing competitions to evaluating exhibits.

In her zoo design work Fiby follows these principles:

- **Attractiveness:** Attractive landscapes set the stage for aesthetical experiences. An aesthetical experience is the basis for a satisfying zoo visit.
- **Effectiveness:** Designing with natural processes in mind is sustainable. Sustainability is cost effective in a long run.
- **Flexibility:** Requirements for ex-situ conservation are rapidly evolving. Designing for flexibility can answer changing needs.
- **Timelessness:** Nature is always attractive. Natural landscapes are the benchmarks for zoo design.

## **Selected References:**

### **Wildlife Park Fasanerie Wiesbaden, Germany (since 2004)**

Project lead for a masterplan, various design projects and the development of the orientation and information system.

Client: City of Wiesbaden (native animal park with free entrance)  
Contact: Ute Kilian, Manager  
0049-611-40 90 77-12, ute.kilian@wiesbaden.de

### **Herberstein Zoo, Austria (since 2005)**

Project lead for a masterplan (2005 to 2007), exhibit planning.

Client: Tierwelt Herberstein, Austria (county owned zoo)  
Contact: Doris Wolkner, Manager  
0043-3176-80777, d.wolkner@tierwelt-herberstein.at

### **Zagreb Zoo, Croatia (since 2008)**

Consultant and facilitator for a masterplan, design and consultant on various projects.

Client: City of Zagreb, Zagreb Zoo  
Contact: **mr.sci. Davorka Maljković, Director**  
**00385-1-2302-198, davorka.maljkovic@zoo.hr**

### **Naturtierpark Grünau GmbH, Austria (since 2012)**

Project lead for a masterplan and various design projects.

Client: Naturtierpark Grünau (private animal park for native species)  
Contact: Bernhard Lankmaier, Manager  
0043-664-8597525, office@wildparkgruenau.at

### **Helsinki Zoo, Finland (2007 to 2013)**

Expert to the jury for a masterplan competition (2007 to 2009).

Project lead and facilitator for a masterplan (2009 to 2010).

Concept designs and consultant for exhibit development (2009 to 2013).

Client: City of Helsinki, Finland, Helsinki Zoo  
Contact: Dr. Kirsi Pynnönen-Oudman, Head of Zoological Department  
00358-9-310-37882, kirsi.pynnonen@hel.fi

### **Amiens Zoo, France (2017)**

Consultant for a consortium, led by the local architects Beckmann-N'Thépé.

Client: Beckmann-N'Thépé Architectes, France

Contact: Aldric Beckmann, Owner  
abe@b-nt.biz

### **Bear Sanctuary Arbesbach, Austria (2006 to 2016)**

Project lead for a masterplan and its implementation, project planning, budgeting, construction supervision, consulting for evaluation and operation.

Client: Four Paws, Austria (international animal welfare organization)

Contact: Sigrid Zederbauer, Manager  
0043-2813-7604, sigrid.zederbauer@baerenwald.at

### **International Zoo Design Conference (2017)**

Programme Of 40 presentations and 2 panel discussions, moderation, presentations

Client: ZooLex Zoo Design Organization, Wroclaw Zoo

Contact: Radoslaw Ratajszczak, Director of Wroclaw Zoo  
r.ratajszczak@zoo.wroc.pl

### **EAZA Academy Zoo Design Course (since 2012)**

Biennial two day training in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Client: European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA)

Contact: Laura Myers, EAZA Academy Manager  
0031-20-5200750, Laura.Myers@eaza.net