



# Exploring Philosophy Through Architecture

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## FACULTY PROFILE

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— Karsten Harries



Karsten Harries, the Brooks and Suzanne Ragen Professor in Philosophy, is an expert on Heidegger, early modern philosophy, and the philosophy of art and architecture. A member of the faculty since 1961, Professor Harries received his bachelor’s and doctoral degrees from the University. In all, he has been a part of the Yale community for more than fifty years.

Harries is the author of nearly 200 articles and five books, and has, in his words, explored “the question of the legitimacy and limits of that objectifying reason that presides over our science and technology and thus over the world we live in.” More recently, he has focused on architecture. “As an intersection of art and technology, architecture has given me the possibility of exploring very concretely the questions that today most interest me,” Harries said.

In addition to his scholarly research, Harries is a dedicated teacher. He continues to serve as the director of graduate studies in philosophy, and he points to his long career at the front of the classroom as evidence that he truly enjoys it. He says he most especially takes pride in “helping young persons find their way, discovering what they are capable of and able to contribute to their society.” As he looks ahead to the future, it is the students Harries is most excited about, describing them as the brightest from all over the world. “These young people deserve inspiring teaching,” Harries said. “The University today has a global responsibility, and I am confident that this University will meet this challenge.”

In recognition of his many years of accomplished research and teaching, Harries was appointed the Brooks and Suzanne Ragen Professor in Philosophy in 2006. Brooks G. Ragen ’55 and his wife, Suzanne, established the endowed professorship as part of the Yale Tomorrow campaign.

Endowed professorships are an important resource at Yale, providing the essential tools to recruit and retain faculty members like Karsten Harries. To learn more about ways to support Yale’s faculty, please visit [www.yale.edu/yaletomorrow](http://www.yale.edu/yaletomorrow) or call 800.395.7646.