

# ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A CONSOLIDATION OF ARMOUR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND LEWIS INSTITUTE

CHICAGO 3

Department of Architecture  
18 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

Henry T. Heald  
President,  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
Chicago, Illinois

5 March 1949

Dear Mr. Heald:

During the last few days, I have discussed the matter of the Institute of Design with Hilberseimer and Peterhans, and after careful consideration of all facts involved, we can only advise you not to take it over.

The school is not good, and the man is not good. The school could be changed, but not the man. He could only be replaced. The school was not good under Moholy-Nagy, and in the last two and a half years has steadily deteriorated.

I know Chermayeff well enough not to wish to work with him. As the dean of a college of Architecture and Design, I would not choose Chermayeff as the head of the Department of Design, and if he were to be there I would not wish to be dean.

If, for one reason or another, it seems necessary to you to take over the Institute of Design, then there should be a clear separation between the two departments.

Our school is based on discipline, and the Institute of Design exists on extravagances. The two are not compatible.

I regret that I cannot be positive in this matter, but the consequences involved are of such an importance that I have no alternative.

Sincerely Yours,

*Mies.*