



10 Must-Read Architecture Books

for Every Architect

Architecture Books To Read

Simon Unwin



Architecture Books To Read:

Reading Architecture and Culture Adam Sharr, 2012 Architecture displays the values involved in its inhabitation construction procurement and design It traces the thinking of the individuals who have participated in it their relationships and their involvement in the cultures where they lived and worked In this way buildings their details and the documents used to make them can be read closely for cultural insights Introducing the idea of reading buildings as cultural artefacts this book presents perceptive readings by eminent writers which demonstrate the power of this approach The chapters show that close readings of architecture and its materials can test commonplace assumptions help architects to appreciate the contexts in which they work and indicate ways to think more astutely about design The readings collected in this innovative and accessible book address buildings specifications and photographs They range in time from the fifteenth century examining the only surviving drawing made by Leon Battista Alberti to the recent past projects completed by Norman Foster in 2006 and Herzog and De Meuron in 2008 They range geographically from France to Puerto Rico to Kazakhstan and they range in fame from buildings celebrated by critics to house extensions and motorway service areas Taken together these essays demonstrate important research methods which yield powerful insights for designers critics and historians and lessons for students

Twenty-Five Buildings Every Architect Should Understand Simon Unwin, 2014-11-17 Twenty Five Buildings Every Architect Should Understand is an essential companion to Simon Unwin's *Analysing Architecture* and part of the trilogy which also includes his *Exercises in Architecture* Learning to Think as an Architect Together the three books offer an introduction to the workings of architecture providing for the three aspects of learning theory examples and practice *Twenty Five Buildings* focusses on analysing examples using the methodology offered by *Analysing Architecture* which operates primarily through the medium of drawing In this second edition five further buildings have been added to the original twenty from an even wider geographical area which now includes the USA France Italy Mexico Switzerland Spain Finland Germany Australia Norway Sweden India and Japan The underlying theme of *Twenty Five Buildings Every Architect Should Understand* is the relationship of architecture to the human being how it frames our lives and orchestrates our experiences how it can help us make sense of the world and contribute to our senses of identity and place Exploring these dimensions through a wide range of case studies that illustrate the rich diversity of twentieth and twenty first century architecture this book is essential reading for every architect

The Rise of Awards in Architecture Jean-Pierre Chupin, Carmela Cucuzzella, Georges Adamczyk, 2022-09-06 This book is the first scientific study to focus on awards in architecture and the built environment investigating their exponential growth since the 1980s The celebration of excellence in architecture and related fields remains a phenomenon on which there is strangely little scientific scrutiny What is to be understood from the plethora of award winning projects award winning buildings and awarded professional practices in the built environment year after year Glossy images partake in an intense ballet at every local regional national or international award ceremony

and they are meant to embody proofs of architectural excellence However it is necessary to take a critical distance to question what awards are meant to embody symbolize and perhaps measure Each of the 10 chapters in this volume is centered on one question related to themes as varied as the comparison of Pritzker and Nobel Prizes the Prix de Rome the redefinition of quality through awards green awards and sustainability the multiplication of sustainable awards heritage awards architecture book awards the awarding of school architecture awards as mediations and awards as pedagogical devices Many fields once consolidated have featured a sharp increase in related prizes The original data compiled and summarized in 4 appendices cover more than 150 award granting organizations in some 30 countries Our inventory includes upwards of 24 000 prizes awarded at more than 3 100 events the earliest of which is the first instance of Western architecture s seminal Grand Prix de Rome in France in 1720 A history of contemporary architecture is thus written through press releases that praise the merits of the heroes as much as their works and achievements And while awards can be vehicles that propel architecture forward they can also be Trojan horses in an era that is constantly on the lookout for event driven products small and big news and brand imaging

Reading Houses and Building Books Adam W. Sweeting, 1996 Portrays an author architect and landscape architect who greatly influenced antebellum American culture

How to Read Houses Will Jones, 2014-03-25 Small enough to fit in a pocket yet serious enough to provide real answers this charmingly illustrated book is the ultimate field guide to domestic architecture This sixth entry in the hugely popular How to Read series is a one stop guide to understanding house styles The book explains the aesthetics of house forms ranging from elaborately decorated Arts Crafts architecture to the purity of modernist homes How to Read Houses is the perfect companion for anyone interested in the buildings we live in and who desires a detailed field guide to the houses around us How to Read Houses first equips the reader with the visual vocabulary to recognize house types materials and parts then it demonstrates these features in a range of architectural styles Illustrated throughout with detailed line drawings and full color photographs this handy guide will illuminate the reader s experience when visiting new cities touring landmark houses such as Jefferson s Monticello or Edith Wharton s The Mount and lay the foundations for a revealing architectural exploration of local neighborhoods

Exercises in Architecture Simon Unwin, 2022-08-01 This revised edition of Exercises in Architecture Learning to Think as an Architect is full of new content building on the success of the previous edition All the original exercises have been revised and new ones added with the format changing to allow the inclusion of more supplementary material The aim remains the same to help pre or early course architecture students begin and develop their ability to think as architects Learning to do architecture is tricky It involves awakening abilities that remain dormant in most people It is like learning language for the first time a task made more mystifying by the fact that architecture deals not in words but in places places to stand to walk to sit to hide to sleep to cook to eat to work to play to worship This book was written for those who want to be architects It suggests a basis for early experiences in a school of architecture but it could also be used in

secondary schools and colleges or as self directed preparation for students in the months before entering professional education Exercises in Architecture builds on and supplements the methodology for architectural analysis presented in the author s previous book Analysing Architecture the Universal Language of Place Making fifth edition 2021 and demonstrated in his Twenty Five Buildings Every Architect Should Understand Routledge 2015 Together the three books deal with the three aspects of learning any creative discipline 1 Analysing Architecture provides a methodology for analysis that develops an understanding of the way architecture works 2 Twenty Five Buildings explores and extends that methodology through analysis of examples as case studies and 3 Exercises in Architecture offers a way of expanding understanding and developing fluency by following a range of rudimentary and more sophisticated exercises Those who wish to become professional architects wherever in the world they might be must make a conscious effort to learn the universal language of architecture as place making to explore its powers and how they might be used The exercises in this book are designed to help

The Ten Most Influential Buildings in History Simon Unwin, 2016-07-07 Even the most inventive and revolutionary architects of today owe debts to the past often to the distant past when architecture really was being invented for the first time Architects depend on their own imaginations for personal insights and originality but their ideas may be stimulated consciously or subliminally by particularly powerful buildings from history The Ten Most Influential Buildings in History Architecture s Archetypes identifies ten architectural archetypes that have been sources of inspiration for architects through the centuries Each archetype is analysed through distinctive examples following the methodology established by the author in his previous books The variety of lines of enquiry each archetype has provoked in latter day architects are then explored by analysing their work to reveal ideas inspired by those earlier buildings Archetypes have a timeless relevance In adopting this approach The Ten Most Influential Buildings in History is as pertinent to contemporary practice as it is to understanding buildings from antiquity and offers insights into the bridges of influence that can operate between the two

How to Read London Chris Rogers, 2018-03-01 Over 2 000 years of settlement give London its unique architectural heritage Unlike Haussmann s Paris neither monarch nor politician imposed their will private ownership and enterprise shaped the city and defined its parts Elegant West End squares and crescents hallmark the Classical townscape that emerged between 1600 and 1830 but medieval Tudor and Victorian enclaves identified by occupation class or guild make their own design statement notably in the City and East End From its renewal after the Great Fire of 1666 as a centre of commerce culture finance and as a railway hub the seat of power and law How to Read London reveals through the built environment how London s domestic civic and commercial landscape has evolved and adapted from imperial capital to global city

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Analysing Architecture Simon Unwin, 2013-12-17 Now in its fourth edition Analysing Architecture has become internationally established as the best introduction to architecture Aimed primarily at those wishing to become professional architects it also offers those in disciplines related to architecture from archaeology to stage design garden

design to installation art a clear and accessible insight into the workings of this rich and fascinating subject With copious illustrations from his own notebooks the author dissects examples from around the world and all periods of history to explain underlying strategies in architectural design and show how drawing may be used as a medium for analysis This new edition of *Analysing Architecture* is revised and expanded Notably the chapter on Basic Elements of Architecture has been enlarged to discuss the powers various architectural elements offer the architect Three new chapters have been added to the section on Themes in Spatial Organisation covering Occupying the In between Inhabited Wall and Refuge and Prospect Two new examples a Mud House from Kerala India and the Mongyo tei a tea house from Kyoto Japan have been added to the Case Studies at the end of the book The Select Bibliography has been expanded and the Index revised Works of architecture are instruments for managing orchestrating modifying our relationship with the world around us They frame just about everything we do Architecture is complex subtle frustrating but ultimately extremely rewarding It can be a difficult discipline to get to grips with nothing in school quite prepares anyone for the particular demands of an architecture course But this book will help *Analysing Architecture* is the foundation volume of a series of books by Simon Unwin exploring the workings of architecture Other books in the series include *Twenty Buildings Every Architect Should Understand* and *Exercises in Architecture*

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