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Modern Architecture Since 1900



Synopsis

"Since its first publication in 1982, *Modern Architecture Since 1900* has become established as a contemporary classic. Worldwide in scope, it combines a clear historical outline with masterly analysis and interpretation. Technical, economic, social and intellectual developments are brought together in a comprehensive narrative which provides a setting for the detailed examination of buildings. Throughout the book the author's focus is on the individual architect, and on the qualities that give outstanding buildings their lasting value. For the third edition, the text has been radically revised and expanded, incorporating much new material and a fresh appreciation of regional identity and variety. Seven chapters are entirely new, including expanded coverage of recent world architecture. Described by James Ackerman of Harvard University as "immeasurably the finest work covering this field in existence", this book presents a penetrating analysis of the modern tradition and its origins, tracing the creative interaction between old and new that has generated such an astonishing richness of architectural forms across the world and throughout the century."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This third edition of the 1982 original has been greatly revised—seven additional chapters—to reflect new developments since its initial release. The volume's well-detailed text is buttressed with 650 color and black-and-white illustrations. This should be a standard volume in all architecture collections. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"The book is excellent value." *Architects Journal* "As close to a definitive guide to the architecture of our century as we yet have." *Sunday Times* "A book of this length and depth is an unimaginable achievement. . ." *Building Design* "Comprehensive, up-to-date and very readable." *Sunday Telegraph* "This should be a standard volume in all architecture collections." *Library Journal* "The clearest and most authentic survey to appear in English. . . Essential reading, indeed breathtaking reading" *Architecture New Zealand*

This book is just packed with information. But it is fun to read. Really an amazing bargain. I am trained as an historian and I am fascinated by architecture, but hadn't really done much reading on the subject aside from the architecture chapters in Jansen. I am finding this book to be a detailed and thorough treatment of the architecture of the past 125 years and I now have a much better appreciation for the term "Modern" as it applies to art and architecture. It is also a great review of the social history of the 20th century. This book not only describes and explains the development of architecture since the turn of the last century, it also explains how those developments arise from, shape, and respond to changes in culture and society. In my adult life I have experienced homes and offices that made me happy, sad, energized, depressed, comfortable, anxious, restless, and content. Reading this book, I am beginning to have a much better understanding of how design, both good and bad, affects our well being. No question, this is tough, academic reading. By the time I had read the prefaces and introduction I went out and bought a fresh blank journal so I could record notes to make sense of it all. The first four chapters have kept me up late for the past 3 weekends. I am taking notes, making sketches, and tracking down photos and drawings of the buildings described in the book. If I was 40 years younger, I'd be in the process of changing my major right now! As I write this, I am calling it quits for tonight, but I am eagerly looking forward to the coming chapter on the Arts and Crafts movement.

This book is incredible. It is the most definitive statement on Modern Architecture out there. It seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of modernist construction and aesthetic without oversimplifying or categorizing the work of individual artist/architects and specific locales into sweeping, generalizable trends. It fully succeeds. Curtis is balanced and nuanced in his critical analysis of the buildings presented. His dense prose is intelligent and insightful. The photographs are beautifully composed and complement the text. I highly recommend this book.

arrived quickly and exactly as described. this book is one of the few text books that I could read with gusto and enjoyed learning what it had to say

A+

Includes most major buildings built since 1900. Does not go very in depth on a lot of them but it is a huge amount of time to cover to do so. Perfect for a brief overview

the 'modern' bible .. and a fine presentation too. This is a history lesson and a handy reference. Architects, artists and Modern Historians should own a copy.

I had to purchase this book as my required textbook for a Modernism class. Needless to say, when the quarter is over, this book is not getting resold! It's well bound, fabulous pictures, and very captivating reading. Yes, it's a textbook, but it's by Taschen and it's something to keep on your bookshelf as a handy reference, and idea generator in the future. I could go on and on...

I bought this for my architecture history class and although I rarely read it for class I always flip through it and randomly read a few pages. It's very simple and has amazing content with concise but important information. A great book to have.

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