Booklist and Reader’s Advisory, October 2023

Recently published architectural books and related works, selected by Barbara Opar, Librarian for Architecture, Syracuse University Libraries. Barbara can be reached at baopar@syr.edu.

Reader’s Advisory

Essential Gaudi
New Toronto
Sustainable Copenhagen
NYC Archtober
Architects and Practice
Open Access Funding

Articles and Segments

This month’s selections have been chosen and annotated by Yun (Sally) Jiang, a B.ARCH student in the School of Architecture at Syracuse University. Yun(Sally) Jiang states “I started to work at the King and King Architecture Library in May 2022 and am now a junior architecture student at Syracuse University. I have been selecting the periodical articles since June 2022. I look forward to my fall semester and learning more about architecture and helping at the library. Hope you enjoy this month’s selections!”


“A hundred years since the ground was broken for Karl-Marx-Hof, courtyards and playgrounds still abound; connections to public transportation are a given, as are access to daylight and air. The Woody M Buildings Tivoligasse by Freimüller Söllinger Architektur are a good example of how high-quality housing can be inserted into an existing community with less disruption and lower carbon emissions. It replaces a single-storey grocery store with a new shop topped by a landscaped podium and four small mass-timber apartment buildings. The additional units could have been housed in a
single building with two stairs and perhaps two elevators; instead, we have four stairs and three elevators - this isn't just about economy, it's about quality.” (71).


“Motivated by the presence of important archeological remains, the duo’s decision not to build between the cathedral and the palace is among the more brilliant aspects of their scheme: as you approach the GCR from the cathedral plaza, the 538,000-square-foot building is entirely invisible, since it dips down to form a belvedere from which to admire the extraordinary view. To your right is one wing of the palace, to your left the extremely discreet entrance, and in front of you the 100-foot drop to the Campo del Moro, the palace’s gardens below.” (64).


“Vedoble Complex is composed of six houses that were not designed at the same time but that form a compact and coherent spatial unit. On this occasion the design explored the concept of artificial beach,’ taking advantage of a unique climate that lets architecture free itself from its condition of shelter to generate a sequence of fluid and open spaces defined by an enclosure and a platform, evoking the pre-Columbian constructions of Peru.” (14).


“From the outside, the building presents the apparently unified geometry of a bold, monolithic 70x70 meter volume built with reinforced concrete. Inwardly, however, it breaks up into a constellation of 11 independent volumes linked by a system of ramps, alleys, courtyards, and gardens that favor interaction among students while ensuring adequate ventilation and lighting. The north and south facades are fit out with vertical louvers, while the east and west ones are equipped with a prefabricated lattice to protect from sunlight.” (58).

“Designed by Santiago Calatrava, Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine, composed of a hemispheric dome flanked by four square towers, replaces the congregation’s former home, which was destroyed in the September 11 attacks more than 20 years ago. While the building appears as a monolithic stone structure by day, as night approaches, it glows from within, becoming a beacon on its prominent site.” (79).


“With the idea of catering to all nature lovers regardless of physical abilities, the pinewood structure is lifted off the ground and goes about adapting to ridges and drops through a winding path. Its system of straight pieces that are easy to cut and assemble, including boards and railings, minimizes impact on the landscape, with the respectful intention of not blocking the view of those who may want to stop and rest here and there to enjoy the foliage and fiords.” (16).


“Hotel Hércules is a 40-room hospitality project complete with all you’d expect of a new destination: spa, pool, restaurant, and what the designers are calling a "social club." Programmed into the bones of defunct warehouse, manufacturing, and employee-housing spaces, this revitalization opts for a lighter intervention that both minimizes construction emissions and pays homage to the site’s 175-year history.” (30).


“The house-actually three separate dwellings bunched together - adopts tube forms because they are easy to construct, almost ancestral. Nevertheless, the project had to figure out what to do with the gaps left between curves. The conver interstices were used to accommodate services and storage. In this way, the circular spaces of different sizes could be unobstructed, and connecting them by means of openings made at the tangents created a fluid domestic network topology.” (12).

“Ana’s house, which she shares with her 10-year-old daughter, Madalena, wears her choices like a coat of arms. Her taste tends toward midcentury modern, with bold twists, like the graphic terrazzo tiles in her kitchen and bath and the pin-striped parasol in her backyard.” (96).


“Pablo Herraiz, one of the students in the IAAC'S Master in Advanced Ecological Buildings and Bioci ties program, says he was amazed by how much of the ground-level ecosystem- especially insects-he recognized in the treetops. "I've begun to believe that many of the species we assume are restricted to the ground in fact have just fallen from their habitat or are commuting back and forth," he says. It was an example of "a larger interdependency [among] the trees to the rest of the surrounding environment." (38).


“Ningyo Joruri puppetry theatre (known as Bunraku puppetry theatre) is a traditional Japanese theatre art form. The form uses a large wood curved-headed puppet (4 to 5 feet tall) manipulated by three puppeteers, rather than the Muppet or marionette-style puppets that people tend to imagine when they hear ”puppets.” The practice is inherited by generations, and the technique and style are vibrant, making the audience feel moved. Ningyo Joruri was also inscribed on the list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2008 (”Ningyo Joruri Bunraku Puppet Theatre”)." (7).


“The disability-friendly amenities introduced include wheelchair access both in interior spaces and outside, classrooms for learning new skills and job training, a dedicated caregiver space, Singapore's first playground serving both able-bodied and disabled children, a similarly inclusive preschool, a community gym with specialized equipment, and an assistive technology center.” (82).
Booklist

Topical—Diversity, Equity and Inclusion


The Subject is Architecture

Architects


Architecture, Ancient


Architecture, Byzantine


Architecture – Asia


Architecture - Latin America


Architectural Design

González García, Maria de las Nieves. *New Advances in Building Information*


Architectural Practice


Architectural Theory


Architecture and Society


Building Types


**Historic Preservation**


**Landscape Architecture**


**Masterworks**


**Reference Works**


**Urban Design**


Bigon, Liora. *Splintering Towers of Babel: Paradoxical Architectures and Urban
$52.95