

*Building a new New World: Amerikanism in Russian Architecture* propels readers into fascinating juxtapositions of architecture, politics, culture, and society between the Soviet Union and the United States. We commend Jean-Louis Cohen for this culminating effort to reveal and question previously unknown aspects of modern architecture. The depth of knowledge conveyed in this book is exceptional. Readers are literally taken on a journey through “new worlds” that rarely appear together on the printed page in histories of architecture. Intertwined references to literature, poetry, film, and music enhance this erudite study. The book further illuminates how architecture fostered both coexistence and antagonism, envy and awe, between what became the two superpowers of the twentieth century.

Beautifully and evocatively designed with a trim size that enables it to be easily carried under your arm, this lucid volume is nonetheless densely packed with fascinating illustrations. The numerous photographs, drawings, newspaper clippings, posters, and plans are ingeniously printed in both matte and glossy finish on a soft paper stock, creating visual contrasts that heighten and complement the book’s visionary content.

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