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Immaterial/Ultamaterial: Architecture, Design, And Materials (Millennium Matters)



Synopsis

Over the course of history, materials such as concrete and steel revolutionised architecture. Immaterial/Ultramaterial, the second volume in the Millennium Matters series, investigates today's revolutionary new materials and methods of fabrication, and the profound impact they're having on the continuing evolution of architecture. The impact is felt in many areas, including architects' design methods, the conception of form, and modes of production. From the use of immaterial elements such as light, sound and smell, to the implications of invincible materials ("ultramaterials"), which technological developments may soon place within our reach, this book envisions the future of architecture. The innovations in materials and fabrication explored in this volume are the result of an independent seminar held at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design that investigated new materials and novel applications of familiar ones. Divided into four groups that focused on "Surface", "Edge", "Phenomena" and "Substance", the members of these research teams rediscovered the relationship between material and design. Not only architects, but anyone interested in fabrication of materials, in construction, or in design, will want to read about these ground-breaking innovations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Toshiko Mori has sadly fallen into the trap of confusing the practice of architecture with merely writing about it. This once-talented architect has now become a parody of herself, a self-important academic smugly satisfied with the sound of her own rhetoric. As for the book, it documents new

materials and systems. But the presentation is dry, more in the form of an industrial catalog, and lacks any substantive commentary on architecture itself. And I can't help wondering how many trees might have been saved if Mori and her clique edited out the repetitive and clichéd use of words like "challenging", "distorting", "alienating" etc. Architectura and materials evolve; the first use of them, however experimental, is not always good. Like Mori's work, it is stylish, but not classic. Faddish, but not timeless. Pass this one up before it becomes embarrassing to have it on your bookshelf.

some very interesting projects by Harvard Design School students. projects are critically approached, its not just eye candy. seem to be on the cutting edge of this kind of exploration. and some interesting interviews of practioners

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