

ARCHITECTURES OF LIFE AND DEATH

The Eco-Aesthetics of the Built Environment

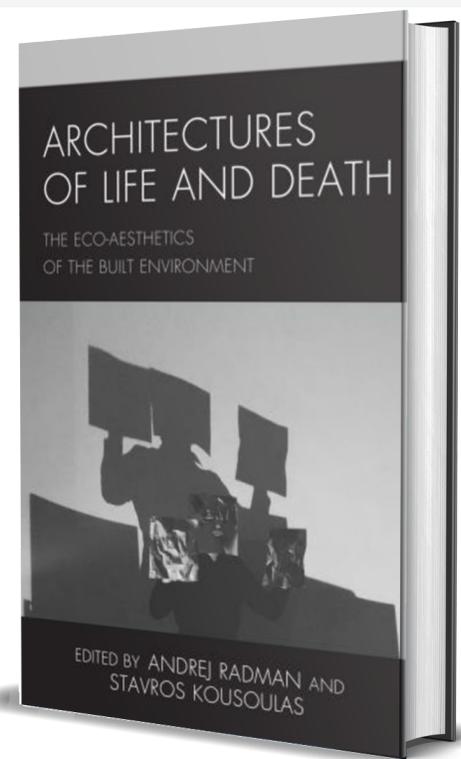
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"Architectures of Life and Death: The Eco-Aesthetics of the Built Environment is a joyous probing of the complex and often unknowable ecologies that come to constitute architecture. The chapters collectively assemble a logic whereby the 'ethico' becomes the 'eco' of an architectural aesthetics which wavers restlessly between the living and an equally lively inorganic."
— Chris L. Smith, professor of architectural theory, Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning

"This collection tracks the effects of architecture in unexpected situations. From temples to mine sites and disappearing towns, immanent powers of expression mix meaning with sensation giving rise to strange ecologies that conjoin subjectivities with environmental milieus. This collection will take you on a wild journey through conceptual and affective twists and somersaults."

— Hélène Frichot, professor of architecture and philosophy, The University of Melbourne

Driven by the Foucauldian attitude of subsuming architectural history into a genealogy of techne, *Architectures of Life and Death* advances a transdisciplinary approach rethinking subjectivity and exploring the political ramifications of these processes for the discipline of architecture and beyond. In contrast to mainstream approaches, architecture will not be seen as representative of culture, but as the mechanism of culture, the 'collective equipment' that rests on the reciprocal determination of social habits and technological habitats. In this sense, the idea that we shape our environments, therefore they shape us, is not to be taken as a metaphor. The animate has always been utterly dependent on the inanimate. A livable habitat is one which the inhabitant actively co-evolves with and which does not constitute a ready-made condition to which the inhabitant would simply have to passively adapt.



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