



# Absolute Beginners

**Iñaki Ábalos**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>ISBN</b>          | 9783038602873  |
| <b>Publisher</b>     | Park Books   |
| <b>Binding</b>       | Hardback   |
| <b>Territory</b>     | World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan |
| <b>Size</b>          | 220 mm x 165 mm  |
| <b>Pages</b>         | 224 Pages  |
| <b>Illustrations</b> | 40 color, 80 b&w   |
| <b>Price</b>         | £32.00   |

- Iñaki Ábalos presents the quintessence of his thinking about architecture and the future of his trade
- A highly enriching essay about forms of innovation in architecture
- Iñaki Ábalos is one of the great intellectuals among architects and among the most distinguished contributors to international architecture discourse

In his new book *Absolute Beginners*, acclaimed Spanish architect Iñaki Ábalos explores forms of innovation in architecture. Drawing on diverse materials elaborated during the 20 years since the publication of his best-known book, *The Good Life*, Ábalos examines questions centred on how and why architectural creation — at least the kind that arouses the greatest cultural interest — is strongly linked to philosophical thought, especially to the essay and the aphorism. He guides us to an understanding why innovation — as happens in philosophy — is inextricably linked to a reflection on the past and to the emergence of new ways of appropriating old problems.

*Absolute Beginners* is a single essay written with effort and passion, made for the pure pleasure of composing a new and complex work and understanding the source materials as necessary fragments, while remaining open to adjustments, changes, and bridges between them. Ábalos organises his materials like a piece of music into a cohesive composition, to the delight and insight of his readers.

**Iñaki Ábalos** is founding principal of Ábalos+Sentkiewicz Architects with offices in Boston, Madrid, and Shanghai. He has also been a Professor of Architectural Design and director of the Laboratorio de Técnicas y Paisajes Contemporáneos (LTPC) at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid (ETSAM) since 2002, and Professor-in-Residence at Harvard Graduate School of Design since 2012.