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AP 164: Ábalos and Herreros

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- Ábalos & Herreros was an internationally renowned architectural firm between 1984 and 2006
- Presents the product of extensive research at the Ábalos & Herreros archive, now held at CCA Montreal, by three architects and architectural firms from Belgium, Spain, and the US
- Features previously unpublished material
- Iñaki Ábalos and Juan Herreros are both still practicing architects with their own firms based in Spain and the US and also teaching at Spanish and US universities

Iñaki Ábalos and Juan Herreros established their studio in Madrid in 1984 and working together until 2006, when the firm was dissolved. They mainly realised projects in Spain. Both architects are still active internationally, Iñaki Ábalos with Ábalos+Sentkiewicz, based in Madrid and Cambridge (MA), Juan Herreros with Estudio Herreros in Madrid. The archive of Ábalos & Herreros was donated to the Canadian Center for Architecture (CCA) in Montreal in 2012. It comprises some 250 projects dating from 1985-2008: sketches and drawings, collages, related text documents, slides and models.

This new book presents three contemporary encounters with the Ábalos & Herreros archive at CCA. The architects OFFICE Kersten Geers David Van Severen, Juan José Castellón and SO – IL conducted research into the archive and developed specific readings of the material. The book reframes these research projects, showing archival material in its current state and re-interpreting it. The essays offer more background to the research and also give voice to Iñaki Ábalos and Juan Herreros themselves. Richly illustrated, the book reveals as much about the interests of a new generation of architects as about the work of Ábalos & Herreros.

Giovanna Borasi is an architect and curator of contemporary architecture at the Canadian Centre for Architecture.