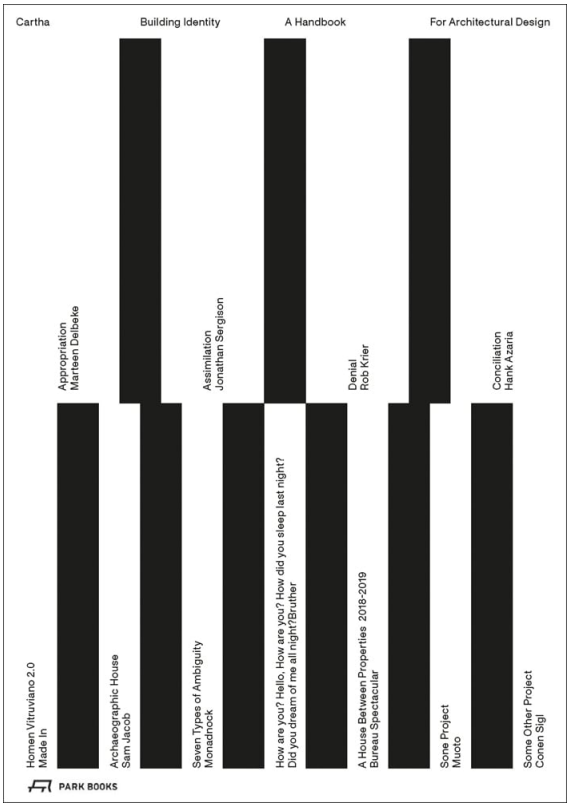
TITLE INFORMATION
Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



CARTHA – Building Identity

A Handbook for Architectural Design

Edited by Holly Baker

Edited by Pablo Garrido

Edited by Ainsley Johnston

Edited by Amy Perkins

Edited by Ruben Valdez

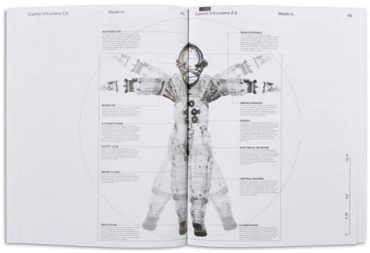
Edited by Francisco Moura Veiga

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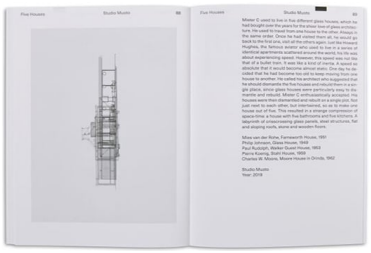
- Features designs based on an experimental methodology by the much-recognized international firms Bruther, Bureau Spectacular, Conen Sigl, Made In, Monadnok, Studio Muoto, and Sam Jacob Studio
- Explores the role of architecture in forming identity in society in interviews with renowned scholars and architects
- The latest book by the international CARTHA network engages with fundamental issues of architectural design today

In their new book, the international CARTHA network engages with the question of forming identity in society and the role that architecture plays in this process. Inspired by Jacques Lacan's approach from psychoanalysis, CARTHA's members break down the identity-formation process into four sub-steps, which they explore in interviews: Maarten Delbeke, professor of history and theory of architecture at ETH Zurich, talks about Assimilation; Frederike Lausch, researcher at TU Darmstadt's Department of Architecture, about Appropriation; Rob Krier, Berlin and Liguria-based architect and sculptor, about Denial, and Jonathan Sergison, London-based architect, about Reconciliation. These conversations make up the cornerstones for a new, experimental design methodology, which has been tested in practice by architecture firms Bruther (Bordeaux), Bureau Spectacular (Los Angeles), Conen Sigl (Zurich), Made In (Geneva / Zurich), Monadnock (Rotterdam), Studio Muoto (Paris), and Sam Jacob Studio (London). ***CARTHA — Building Identities*** features a variety of buildings — houses, cottages, apartments — designed in the context of these insights.

The book offers a didactic manual for contemporary architectural design. The concept of identity that CARTHA proposes invites readers to adopt a critical attitude towards any found environment. The objective is a deeper understanding of how architects actually create identity through their designs.







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