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## Dialectic: No. 5 The Figure of Vernacular in Architectural Imagination

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Edited by Shundana Yusaf

<b>ISBN</b>	9781939621993
<b>Publisher</b>	ORO Editions
<b>Binding</b>	Paperback / softback
<b>Territory</b>	World excluding USA, Canada, Australasia & Asia (except Japan; China non-exclusive)
<b>Size</b>	279 mm x 216 mm
<b>Pages</b>	136 Pages
<b>Illustrations</b>	130 color
<b>Price</b>	£15.50

- A selection of expert essays explore the concept of 'Vernacular' and how it relates to architecture both historically and today

This issue of *Dialectic* looks at the changing role of the conceptual category of 'vernacular' in the history of architecture. Essays revise the definition of the term, from architecture without architects, to disciplinary explorations of the ordinary, modular, and standardised type-forms. Architectural scholars explore a spectrum of issues impacting the notion of 'vernacular': globalisation, digitisation, romanticism, critical practice, socially responsible design and public interest ventures. 'Vernacular' can be imagined as a separate and authentic foil to contemporary life and design. Reports that explore this idea are featured, alongside examples showcasing the radical deployment of 'Vernacular' architecture, not of its forms but of the tactics that are used by activist architects today. *Dialectic V* will make an excellent part of undergraduate and graduate syllabi on the topic with short and stand alone articles. It also offers thought provoking reading for architects and thinkers interested in nuanced understanding of the contemporary built environment. Also available: *Dialectic IV: Architecture at Service* ISBN 9781939621382

*Dialectic V* has been edited by Shundana Yusaf with the support of Ole Fischer. Yusaf is an Assistant Professor of Architectural History and Theory at the University of Utah. She is the author of *Broadcasting Buildings: Architecture on the Wireless, 1927-1945* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2014) and *Archipedia Utah* (Virginia University Press, 2017). Esther Gubbay is graduate architecture student at the University of Utah. She brings an interest in art, graphic design, and photography to the field. Of French/Australian heritage, she grew up in Spain and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Westminster, London. She will begin architectural practice upon graduating in Spring 2017.