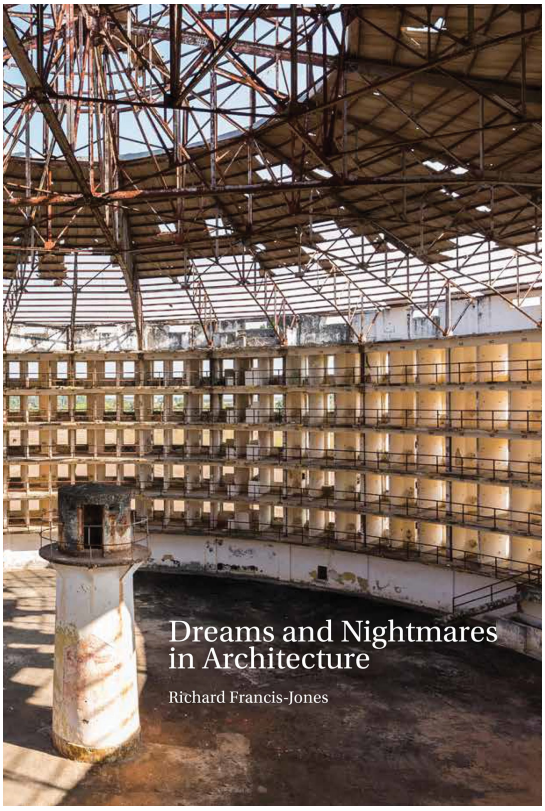
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Dreams and Nightmares in Architecture

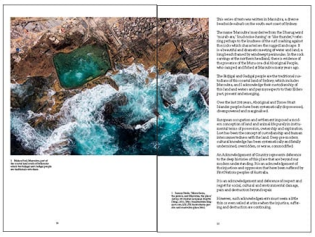
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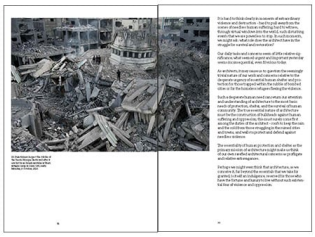
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Architecture has never been more challenged than it is today. Addressing the sheer scale of the triple challenges of environmental sustainability, in the form of climate change; the social, in the form of class, gender, and racial inequality; and the cultural, in terms of identity, exclusion, and prejudice, in particular against First Nations Peoples, is a seemingly overwhelming task for architecture. At the same time, these great challenges come at a moment when architecture has never been so marginalised and diminished. The practice of architecture has been progressively desiccated, undermined, and commodified through the instrumental processes of the contemporary development industry and professional practice, together with the simplistic reductionism of media technology and market consumption demands. How could this happen? How can the true nature of architecture have been so undermined?

Richard Francis-Jones is a highly awarded practising Australian architect. He is a graduate of Columbia University, New York, and the University of Sydney, and has taught in many schools of architecture. He is a Life Fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects, an Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and a Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He is Design Director of fjcarchitects and has led the design of many highly acclaimed and internationally award-winning works, including the World Building of the Year Award, the AIA Jørn Utzon Award, the RIBA International Award, the NZ Architecture Medal, and the Sir John Sulman Medallion. He is the author of the book *Truth and Lies in Architecture*.







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