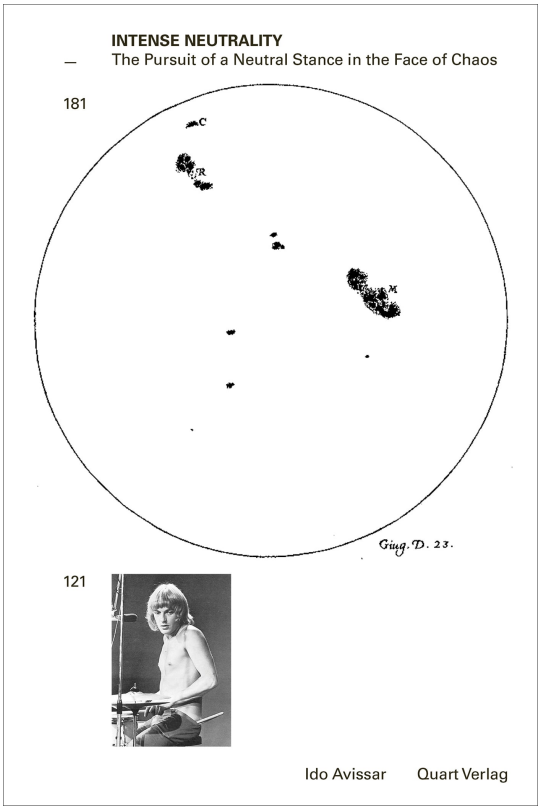
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Intense Neutrality. The Pursuit of a Neutral Stance in the Face of Chaos

Ido Avissar

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This theoretical work on architecture examines the meaning and relevance of a neutral stance in the face of contemporary urban chaos. It stems from a desire to move beyond a paradigmatic reading of urbanisation and to establish a calmer relationship to this condition. The neutral stance in question is not one of passivity, but of heightened receptivity. It articulates a desire for a just relationship with the present that is attentive and unassuming, and that readily accepts the polyphonic character of the contemporary city. Its central argument concerns the creative and productive potential of neutrality and the way it engages with chaos as an inexhaustible source. This research draws on a broad body of multidisciplinary work (art, literature, photography, psychoanalysis etc.) to define a position within the architectural discipline.

The publication emerges from Ido Avissar's in-depth research at the École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Versailles. It is closely connected to a monograph on the work of LIST, the architecture and urban planning office founded by Avissar in 2012, and complements it with a more in-depth theoretical perspective.

Ido Avissar (1972) is an architect-urban planner working in Paris. From 2003 to 2009 he was project manager at l'AUC, then from 2009 to 2012 he was founding partner of the GRAU agency. In 2012, Ido created the LIST agency where he develops an approach that reconciles professional practice and research.

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