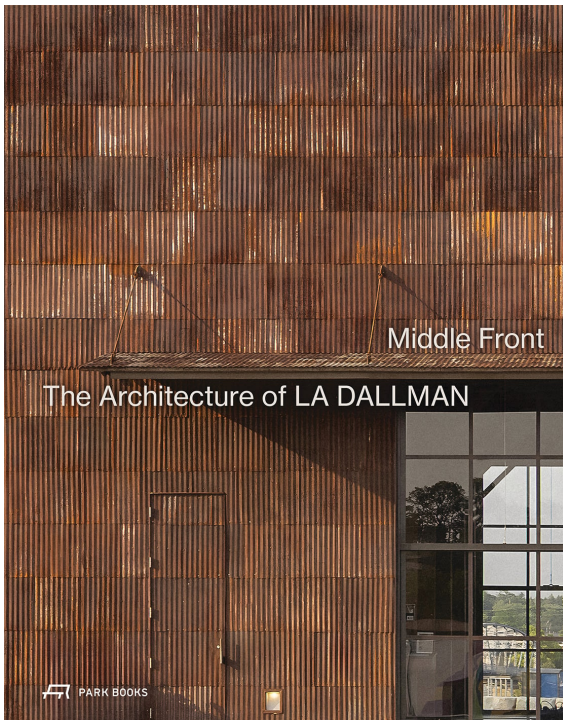




Middle Front

The Architecture of LA DALLMAN

Grace La

James Dallman

ISBN	9783038603870
Publisher	Park Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
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- First-ever monograph on acclaimed Boston, Milwaukee-, and Miami-based firm La Dallman Architects
- Lavishly illustrated, featuring numerous previously unpublished photographs, visualisations, plans and drawings
- Invites a reexamination of architectural practice and advocates for a responsive, thoughtful approach that values depth and connection over mere novelty or tradition

Originating the practice of LA DALLMAN in what they call a “middle city”—either coastal nor peripheral—founders Grace La and James Dallman have come to see the middle as a concept rather than a geography, and a commitment rather than a default. Contemporary architecture gravitates toward poles: avant-garde spectacle or ordinary building, autonomy or engagement, industry or craft, building or landscape. To work between them is not to split the difference. It is to hold opposing forces in balance and to treat that stance as a new front: a position pressed from both sides and worth holding. Over 25 years, LA DALLMAN have approached constraint as generative. Projects such as the Marsupial Bridge (Milwaukee, WI), the Nautilus House (Sanibel, FL), or the Door County Granary (Sturgeon Bay, WI), demonstrate that underutilized infrastructure, difficult sites, and modest budgets are not obstacles to design but the material thereof.

Middle Front explores LA DALLMAN's thoughtful work and vision across 18 projects, both built and unrealised, which are presented lavishly through photography, plans, drawings, and visualisations. Five illuminating essays by Grace La and James Dallman and a foreword by distinguished architectural historian Antoine Picon make the case for an architecture measured by how well it sustains concept through execution, rather than by how loudly it announces itself—for architects, students, and anyone interested in what serious practice looks like when chasing neither novelty nor convention.

Grace La and **James Dallman** cofounded LA DALLMAN in 1999 as a collaborative architecture practice, now based in Boston and Milwaukee. La is professor and Chair of the Department of Architecture at Harvard Graduate School of Design, where Dallman has returned over many years as a design critic.