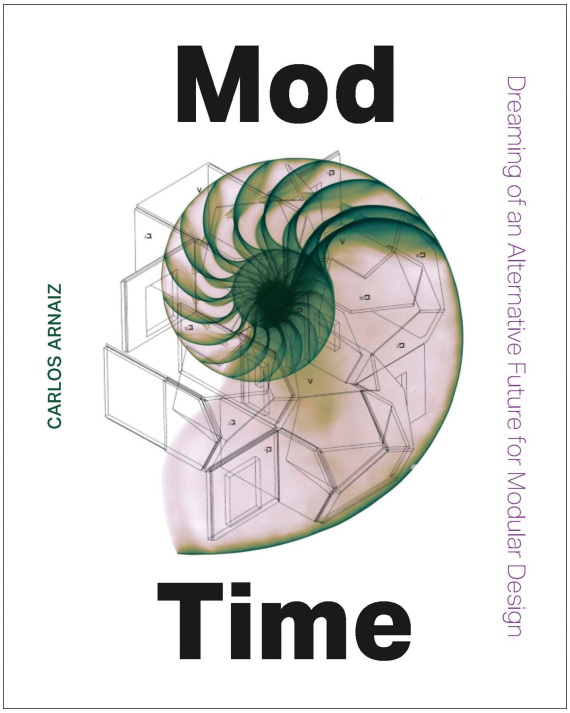
TITLE INFORMATION
Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



Mod Time

Dreaming of an Alternative Future for Modular Design

Carlos Arnaiz

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- This book is for those who are drawn to the wonder of design—the architects, urban thinkers, engineers, students, and philosophers who look at the built environment and ask: What's next?
- It will appeal to anyone with a stake in the evolving dialogue about the future of architecture and construction, particularly those curious about how modularity might help us navigate the complexities of a rapidly changing world
- This book is not just an inquiry into how modular design has shaped our world, but an exploration of what might happen if we reimagine it as a boundary-defying tool of creation, one that adapts to the evolving needs of the planet, technology, and human culture

In the realm of architecture, modular design has been both a tool of great potential and an enigma wrapped in contradiction. It promises flexibility, speed, and sustainability, yet it has often struggled to transcend the limits imposed by materiality, systems, and human imagination. ***Mod Time: Dreaming of an Alternative Future for Modular Design*** begins as a search for definition and ends as a journey into the limit and architect practice, challenging the conventional wisdom about modularity's past and inviting readers to reconsider its place in the future of design.
Modular design casts a magical dust over a human-made object. It embodies the ingenuity of the planner, the designer, the engineer, the architects and even the builders. The factory introduced the ability to distort both speed and distance. Building materials could be made faster and at a greater distance from the site. Industrialisation disrupted the way in which buildings were conceived and yet modular design persists as a kind of interpretive salvo: we look to decode. And yet, the closer one gets to the history of modular design the more chimeras appear. The future was bright because manufacturing would solve our problems. Architecture has always been enamored with problem-solving. Proper planning, speedy logistics, the compartmentalisation of matter and the optimisation of time ushers in a better process of making. Process is the eternal fount of modular design intelligence. This book is filled with ghosts and fairies. It is haunted by realities of failures and the glorious floating images of visions.

Carlos Arnaiz is an architect, educator, writer, and urban design consultant. He is the founder and principal of Brooklyn-based design studio CAZA and the co-founder of SURBA, an urban design think-tank that uses data and analysis to improve urban policy and development. In his practice and research, Carlos advocates for more equitable, sustainable, and socially engaged forms of architecture, planning, and development. He has led the design of projects around the world ranging from civic and community institutions, affordable housing prototypes, strategic sustainability plans for new and developing cities, and mixed-use towers and complexes. His recent projects include the Camsur Capitol Building (Camsur, Philippines),Victorias Eco-Hub (Negros, Philippines), and the Haishu Waterfront District (Ningbo, China). Carlos currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at Pratt Institute's Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design, where he teaches a class on the history of ideas about the city and a studio on multi-family housing. His work has received awards, including the prestigious Architectural Review Emergent Architecture Award (2016), two Progressive Architecture Awards (2008, 2009), and the AIANY Building Merit Award (2008). His projects have been featured in *ARCHITECT* Magazine, *Metropolis, Surface, Blueprint Kerb, 50UNDER50,* and *Dialogue.*

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