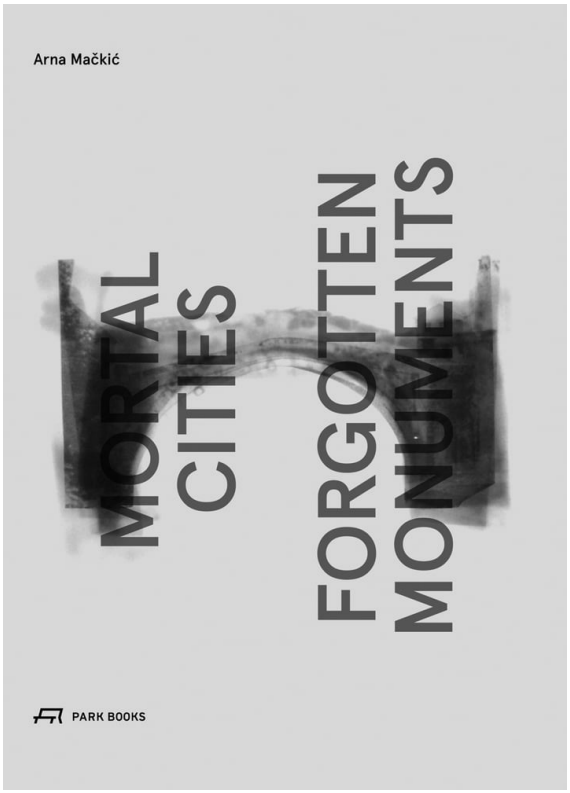
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Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
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Mortal Cities & Forgotten Monuments

Arna Mackic

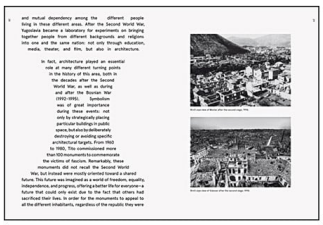
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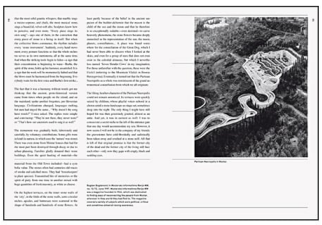
ISBN	9783038600091
Publisher	Park Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
Size	250 mm x 150 mm
Pages	160 Pages
Illustrations	31 color, 123 b&w
Price	£35.00

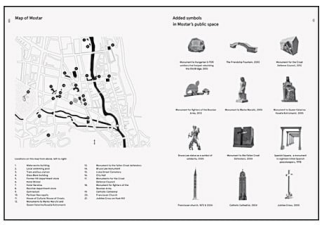
- A revealing study of the effect of war damage on the inhabitants of a city
- Explores the potential of architecture and urban design to reconcile people with the loss of urban structure and cultural symbols
- Features proposals for architectural interventions restore a place's heritage
- The original, unpublished large-size book design was named one of the Netherlands' most beautiful books 2014 and won the Dutch Design Award 2015 in the category Design Research

In her book *Mortal Cities and Forgotten Monuments*, Arna Mackic explores the topic of war damage to cities and the destruction of their inhabitants' built environment. Mackic, who as a child together with her family had to flee her native Bosnia during the civil war of the 1990s, in her research follows the question "How does destruction make one feel?" The aggressors in the Bosnian war meticulously planned which buildings to destroy to maximise psychological impact on a city's inhabitants. Arguably the most famous example is the bridge of Mostar. When its architecture is destroyed, the face of a city changes, sometimes beyond recognition. Mackic also investigated the role that architecture played at turning points in the history of former Yugoslavia, in particular that of the monuments built between the late 1940s and the 1960 commemorating the victims of fascism under German occupation during World War II. The new book also features Mackic's her proposal for restoring cultural memory through architecture, applying a new open design language that goes beyond political, religious, or cultural interpretations. It outlines options for design interventions in urban space, rooted in ancient traditions while constructively aiming at the future.

Arna Mackic, born 1988 in Capljina, Bosnia, graduated in 2010 from the Department of Architectural Design at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. She has been working with Rietveld Architecture-Art-Affordations RAAAF since 2009 as an architect, designer, researcher, and project leader.







Published 1st Jun 2016