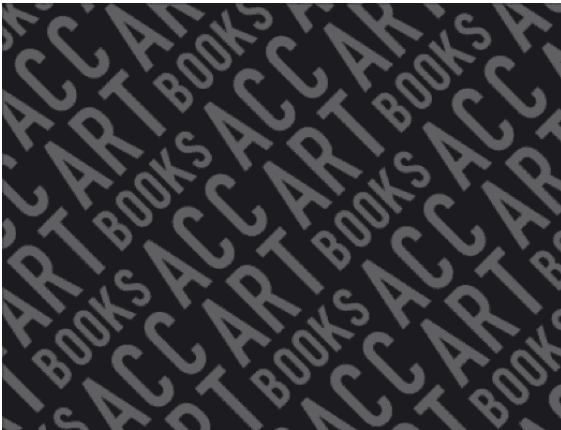




Onomatopoeic Spaces

Schwartz and Architecture

Edited by Neal J.Z. Schwartz

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Territory	World excluding Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, United States, Canada, and Japan
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- First book on San Francisco-based design firm Schwartz and Architecture
- Offers much more than conventional architect's monographs, combining case studies paired with theoretical essays with memoir, personal reflections, and lavish visual material
- Proposes onomatopoeia as a framework for understanding how architectural ideas emerge, evolve, and communicate meaning
- Traces also the influences of teachers, artists, writers, mentors, family members, and clients on Schwartz and Architecture's work

Onomatopoeic Spaces examines the relationship between architecture and language through the lens of onomatopoeia, the class of words that directly evoke the sounds, sensations, and experiences they describe. Drawing on three decades of architectural practice, teaching, and research, Neal J. Z. Schwartz proposes onomatopoeia as a framework for understanding how architectural ideas emerge, evolve, and communicate meaning.

Structured around five themes—Gesture, Mimesis, Markedness, Synesthesia, and Evocation—the book explores the development of a distinctive architectural language through a series of built designs by San Francisco-based firm Schwartz and Architecture. Case studies are paired with theoretical essays, drawings, photographs, and reflections on the realities of practice, revealing how clients, contexts, materials, budgets, and construction methods become active participants in the creative process.

Interwoven throughout are autobiographical essays that trace the influences of teachers, artists, writers, mentors, family members, and clients on Schwartz's work and worldview. Blending architectural theory, monograph, and memoir, **Onomatopoeic Spaces** offers an unusually candid account of how an architectural practice develops its voice over time and how design ideas are transformed into built form.

Neal J. Z. Schwartz is founder and principal of San Francisco-based design practice Schwartz and Architecture. He has been an architecture educator for more than three decades and is a professor at California College of the Arts in San Francisco.