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Regarding Space and Spaces

The Chambered Floor Plans and Luca Selva Architects

Edited by Tilo Richter

Edited by Christoph Iweser

Text by Luca Selva

Text by Christoph Wieser

Interviewee Luca Selva

Interviewer Patrick Gmür

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- This first-ever comprehensive book on cellular compartment floor plans discusses this versatile design principle based on designs by renowned Basel-based firm Luca Selva Architects
- The cellular compartment floor plan as a design principle is much debated among architects yet has rarely been a topic in technical publications to date
- Numerous floor plans and photographs demonstrate various types of cellular compartment units for diverse building tasks

The architectural structuring principle of the cellular compartment floor plan is as simple as it is economical, yet it allows for spatial and combinatorial freedom that can be interpreted in ever-new, ever-different ways. The resulting self-contained units or spatial sequences are suited for residential purposes as much as for office buildings, museums or schools, with the floor plans providing highly dynamic and surprising traffic patterns and views.

The cellular compartment floor plan is the generating principle in many buildings, projects, and competition entries by Basel-based office Luca Selva Architects, who have been continually developing this typology in their many years of practice, modifying it and adapting it for new applications in different projects. It is therefore at the centre of this new book on the work of the prolific office. The numerous plans and photographs are supplemented by a theoretical essay by Christoph Wieser and a conversation between Luca Selva and Patrick Gmür. The book for the first time sheds light on this surprisingly sparsely researched topic, and thus its wider significance for the discourse reaches beyond the exemplary designs by Luca Selva Architects.

Text in English and German.

Tilo Richter is a Basel-based scholar of art and architectural history and a freelance publicist.

Christoph Wieser is an architect, living and working in Zurich as a freelance publicist, and researcher. He also holds teaching appointments at various Swiss universities of applied sciences.









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