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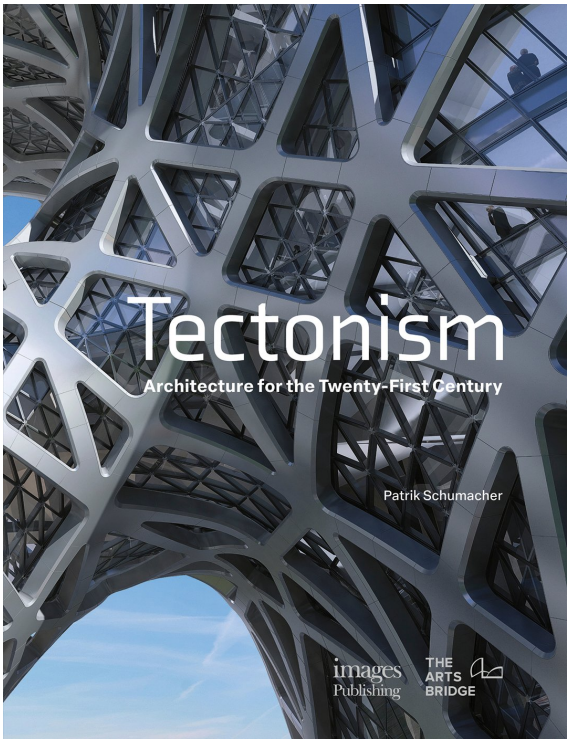

Tectonism

Architecture for the 21st Century

Patrik Schumacher

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- A leader in the discourse on the latest architectural movements, Schumacher comments on parametricism and computational engineering leading to a malleable network of interdependencies that evolved into tectonism as an architectural style
- A comprehensively illustrated text with full-colour photography and detailed plans, knitted together with incisive and critical analysis and appraisal of architectural history and precedents
- A must-have text that shines a light on a progressive architectural culture and the most innovative methodologies

Tectonism is the most advanced and most sophisticated contemporary architectural style. There are, to date, only relatively a few fully satisfactory built examples, and most of them are still of a relatively modest scale. It is the thesis of this book that tectonism, as defined and illustrated here, represents the future of 21st century architecture. This thesis is optimistic with respect to the long-term rationality of the discipline of architecture, i.e. with respect to its capacity to discern and ascertain, via its internal discourse, the superiority of tectonism, and to spread its influence and impact as global best practice accordingly. This optimism also extends to the rationality of the wider society, as represented through private clients, public clients, and through end-user acceptance, to be susceptible to the guidance it will receive from its architectural expert discourse. This optimism is based on a critical analysis and appraisal of architectural history. The avant-garde intuitions of the early modernists in the 1920s, backed up by sound theoretical arguments, did win over the discipline in the 1930s and 1940s, and spread its real impact on the global built environment throughout the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. The current avant-garde intuitions within the movement of tectonism, although very different from modernism, are equally well thought through as the arguments in this book will attempt to demonstrate. — From the Introduction, by Patrik Schumacher

Patrik Schumacher is principal of Zaha Hadid Architects and is leading the firm since Zaha Hadid's passing in March 2016. He joined Zaha Hadid in 1988 and was seminal in developing Zaha Hadid Architects to become a 500 strong global architecture and design brand. Patrik Schumacher is a winner of the Royal Institute of British Architects' Stirling Prize for excellence in architecture and an academician of the Berlin Academy of Arts. In 1996 he founded the Design Research Laboratory at the Architectural Association in London where he continues to teach. Patrik Schumacher holds a PhD in Cultural Science and in 2010–2012 he published his two-volume theoretical treatise *"The Autopoiesis of Architecture."* Patrik Schumacher is widely recognised as a thought leader within the fields of architecture, urbanism and design, and has contributed over 100 articles to architectural journals and anthologies.

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