



# The House of Doctor Koolhaas

Françoise Fromonot

Edited by Thomas Weaver

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- First volume in the highly anticipated new *Gumshoe* series of architectural books, introducing a new approach to the writing of architectural history
- *Gumshoe*'s focus is on buildings rather than theories or speculative projects
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*Gumshoe* is new series of architectural books, introducing a new approach to the writing of architectural history. It returns the focus of architectural discourse back onto buildings, in a style and form that is original and scholarly but also easy and enjoyable to read. It emulates the detective novel – a form of writing beloved by many, but also one that has enjoyed a parallel academic life in disciplines and by writers as diverse as psychoanalysis (Sigmund Freud), film (Siegfried Kracauer), and art history (Carlo Ginzburg) — but, significantly, not yet by architecture. Each volume will investigate a singular building as if it were a mystery waiting to be solved.

Written by distinguished French architectural critic and historian Françoise Fromonot, the first case — ***The House of Doctor Koolhaas*** — is about the Villa dall'Ava, a private residence in Saint-Cloud, a suburb of Paris. Fromonot brilliantly unpicks, explains and interprets the very first building completed by Rem Koolhaas, who is universally regarded as the world's most celebrated architect, and his Rotterdam-based firm Office for Metropolitan Architecture.

**Françoise Fromonot** is Professor of Design, History and Theory at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Belleville, and William Wayne Caudill Professor of Architecture at Rice Architecture Paris. **Thomas Weaver** is an architectural writer, educator, and editor, and a lecturer at the Academy of Architecture in Mendrisio, Switzerland.

