



# Archigram: The Book

**Peter Cook**

**Dennis Crompton**

**David Greene**

**Ron Herron**

**Warren Chalk**

**Michael Webb**

**Contributions by Reyner Banham**

**Contributions by Martin Pawley**

**Contributions by Michael Sorkin**

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- Comprehensive documentation of Archigram's iconic works
- Contributions from all Archigram members, and essays by critics writing then and now
- Now in a reduced-format edition

Archigram comprised Warren Chalk (1927-88), Peter Cook (1936-), Dennis Crompton (1935-), David Greene (1937-), Ron Herron (1930-94), and Michael Webb (1937-). Together they envisioned the future of architecture in ways that enthralled a generation. In an era defined by the space race, they developed a 'high-tech', lightweight, infra-structural approach that stretched far beyond known technologies or contemporary realities. They devised autonomous dwellings and focused on survival technology; they experimented with megastructures and modular construction systems; they explored mobility through the environment, and the use of portable living capsules: all through the medium of an incredible series of drawings and models. Archigram's influence has been profound and enduring. They gave the high-tech movement its impetus; they inspired architects such as Renzo Piano and Norman Foster; and they laid the ground for the design of buildings such as the Pompidou Centre. Edited and designed by Archigram member Dennis Crompton, this book catalogues Archigram's activities over fourteen years, together with commentaries by the architects and critics writing then and now.

**Warren Chalk, Peter Cook, Dennis Crompton, Ron Herron, David Greene and Michael Webb** are the founder members of Archigram. Their theoretical work began in the 1960s as a cry against 'the crap then going up in London'. Although they never built a building together, their influence over a generation of architects continues to be felt today. The group was awarded the RIBA Gold Medal in 2002. **Reyner Banham** was one of the leading architectural commentators in the decades when Archigram was active, and the author of *Megastucture* (1976), which featured their work. **Martin Pawley** documented the architectural scene in London from the 1970s onwards from the perspective of a restless insider. His writing about Archigram is incisive and colorful. **Michael Sorkin** was an architect and urbanist whose practice spanned design, planning, criticism, and teaching. His books include *Exquisite Corpse: Writing on Buildings* (1991).

