

InFormed by the Land: The Architecture of Carl Abbott



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Reviews

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(Clement Hessel I)

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Oro Editions. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 256 pages. Dimensions: 12.5in. x 9.4in. x 1.4in. Abbotts work has a timeless modern quality, yet is also strongly informed by his experience of the sacred architecture of ancient Egyptians and Maya in the manner in which it responds to the land and the movement of the sun and stars. The spaces Abbott sculpts, both inside out, are designed to focus on Nature, making buildings that transcend. This book tells the unique story of Carl Abbott from his youth in the low-country of Georgia to his acceptance to Graduate School at Yale University. At Yale, Abbott would study under professor Paul Rudolph, and would lead classmates and future Lords Richard Rogers and Norman Foster on a pilgrimage west to experience the work of American Master Frank Lloyd Wright. Large images give viewers a strong sense of experiencing the humanistic Architecture with its connection to the land. The book also illustrates the design process Abbott has developed by which the building forms evolve from the land itself. Working closely with photographers and designers, the architect was careful in the planning of this book to ensure it conveyed the experience of moving through the highly choreographed spaces he designed. This book presents works, which span the decades of his career, and shows a range of works including affordable residences, large private estates, as well as inspired spiritual spaces. Abbotts buildings are made of wave-like curves, dramatic angular forms, and stepped planes to enhance the way one experiences nature and its play of light. His buildings, like a seashell, are made of a solid protective side and a side which opens to the light. The spaces are intentionally designed not just for looking out at the beauty of nature but for bringing nature and its dancing qualities...

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