



PRESS

INFORMATION of October 16th, 2024

Frankfurt/Main

DAM Architectural Book Award for the ten best architectural books in 2024 bestowed

The Frankfurt Book Fair and Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) are presenting the jointly initiated international DAM Architectural Book Award for the sixteenth time.

The DAM would like to thank the Society of Friends of the DAM for its generous support of the prize.

The ten winners of 2024 are:

- **EP \ Viana de Lima** / Monade
- **Erieta Attali Kengo Kuma- Mirror in the Mirror** / Hartmann Books
- **Was wäre wenn – Ungebaute Architektur in der Schweiz/ What if – Unbuild Architecture in Switzerland** / Christoph Merian Verlag
- **Polylemma** / Jovis Verlag
- **Thinking and building on shaky ground – On Architecture in seismic Regions** / Birkhäuser Verlag
- **Wild Site** / Point Nemo Publishing
- **Researching otherwise – Pluriversal methodologies for landscape and urban studies** / GTA Verlag
- **Tane Garden House** / Vitra Design Museum
- **Rom – Häuser der Stadt 1920 -1980** / Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König
- **Das Bewusstsein des Ortes** / Quart Verlag

The prize, unique in its kind and now highly regarded, honors the best architectural books of a year. 74 architectural and art book publishers from all over the world accepted the joint invitation to participate. A jury made up of external experts and representatives of DAM met to select the year's ten best architectural books from 170 entries. They based their decision on criteria such as design, content, quality of material and finishing, innovation, and topicality.

The jury meeting took place on August 15, 2024 at the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM). The winners were honored during the award ceremony on **October 17, 2024 at DAM OSTEND.**

This year the **external jury comprised:**

Giulio Castegini (Architect), Dr. Dorothee Ader (Director of Klinspor Museum), Lisa Schons (Park Books), Victor Balko (Graficdesigner) und Danny Lettkemann (Architect und Member of the Society of Friends of the DAM)

The **internal juror was:** Dr. Katja Leiskau (Head of Archive of DAM)

The wide range of topics and the high standard of the entries presented the jury with an enormous challenge. For this reason, the jurors once again decided not only to pick ten prize winners, but also to select a further ten entries for the **Shortlist** and a **“Special Mention”** for the most outstanding entry from this year's host country ITALY as part of the DAM Architectural Book Awards 2024.

The prize winners of the DAM Architectural Book Award 2024

Title: **FEP \ Viana de Lima**

Publisher: Monade editoria

Author: João Carmo Simões

Edited by: Daniela Sá \ João Carmo Simões

Design: João Carmo Simões \ Lissabon

Photography: João Carmo Simões

Price: € 35

Pages: 100

ISBN: 978-989-53705-2-8

Jury statement:

This photo book explores the radically Modernist building designed in the 1960s by Alfredo Viana de Lima for the Faculty of Economics at the University of Porto. The cover foldouts of this softcover booklet (the cover is attached on the spine) feature a short text by the architect from 1969, technical drawings of the project, and a short essay. The remainder of the 96-page publication is devoted exclusively to photographs: The bound pages feature high-contrast black-and-white images, while loosely inserted smaller sheets are printed on one side with color photographs. This ingenious method has an astonishing effect: It is often impossible to tell at first glance where one topic ends and where the one behind it begins. The result is a fascinating interplay of light and shadow, form and color, and on each new double page spread the author and photographer leads the reader deeper into the world of the architect, who is little known in Germany. The intense, at times expressive imagery is a welcome change from the contemporary trend of clean, almost sterile architectural photography. This book takes the reader on a contemplative, indeed almost meditative journey and is a declaration of love to both a particular place and a particular time.

(Victor Balko)

Title: **ERIETA ATTALI KENGO KUMA — MIRROR IN THE MIRROR**

Publisher: Hartmann Books

Authors: Barry Bergdoll

Edited by: Erieta Attali, Kengo Kuma

Design: Koma Amok \ Stuttgart

Photography/illustration: Erieta Attali

Price: € 45

Pages: 256

ISBN: 978-396-07007-4-6

Jury statement:

At first glance a somewhat nondescript cardboard box held together with staples, printed in monochrome with a high-contrast black-and-white image on it. Inside, equally unpretentious, a brochure simply bound with a black thread to create a single stack, trimmed only on the two short sides. The content: Kengo Kuma's fascinating buildings, captured in just as fascinating a manner for over 20 years by architectural photographer Erieta Attali.

The cover and the pages separating the chapters are made of black, not particularly thick paper and are printed with a special silver ink. This contrasts sharply with the very thin, slightly translucent paper on which the partly colored, partly black-and-white images are presented in a cinematic landscape format

(aspect ratio 1:2). The picture sections are interspersed with quotes and sketches by the architect, cleverly placed to make for a leisurely reading flow. Despite its 268 pages, the book appears extremely light and delicate, which is also largely due to the minimalist and very well-thought-out layout.

This magnificent photo book which by no means seeks to be a classic example of its type, is marvelously understated and boasts a compelling elegance from the very first to the last page.

(Victor Balko)

Title: Was wäre wenn – Ungebaute Architektur in der Schweiz

Publisher: Christoph Merian Verlag

Authors: Andreas Ruby, Andreas Kofler, Marc Frochoux, Katinka Corts-Münzner, Sibylle Wälty und Anneke Abhelakh

Edited by: S AM Schweizerisches Architekturmuseum, Andreas Kofler, Andreas Ruby

Design: Jiri Oplatek, claudiabasel \ Basel

Price: € 49 \ CHF 49

Pages: 344

ISBN: 978-3-85616-997-8

Jury statement:

Pick up this portfolio folder made of plain gray cardboard and you will ascertain that though compact it is surprisingly heavy. It comprises a collection of papers of different colors and formats. Bright pink and neon yellow are visible and augur a fascinating interior that keeps the classic folder with Japanese ring clasp together.

The publication accompanying the exhibition “Was wäre wenn/ What if” by S AM (Swiss Architecture Museum) lives up to the first impression. When the thread is unwound and the covers open, the folder turns out to be an inspiring publication of specialist articles and archive material on unbuilt architecture in Switzerland. Under the four categories Lost, Rejected, Stalled, and Altered over 20 unrealized architecture projects from the past 100 years are presented that have had a lasting impact on regional architecture debates. The publication poses the key question “Who or what decides what is built and what is not?” and examines the relationship between what is conceived and what is constructed.

Alongside the unrealized designs a collection of materials, namely newspaper articles, designs and photos bring the social debates and thus decision-making patterns on the respective building project to life in a very exciting manner. Printed on neon-yellow paper in a smaller format, the specialist articles stand out from the collection of archive material. Even shorter paper in bright pink is used for the individual projects and ensures excellent clarity. The thin 80g/m² paper, the selected colors, and the understated fonts (Times and Neue Haas sans serif) are reminiscent of private collections of material and invite you to browse and let the material inspire you. Even the unusual format of the publication in post quarto format (22 x 28cm) makes a playful reference to a time prior to the introduction of the DIN A4-format in Switzerland.

This light-hearted yet down-to-earth design by Claudiabasel encourages you to explore the undiscovered, forgotten, and unrealized projects in greater depth.

In a manner that is both extremely exciting and entertaining, the publication questions the common notion of architecture and pays homage to ‘passionate idealism’ in building, which is conveyed by browsing through this inspiring publication.

(Dr. Dorothee Ader)

Title: **Polylemma**

Publisher: Jovis Verlag

Edited by: raumlaborberlin

Design: bonbon \ Zürich

Price: € 46

Pages: 480

ISBN: 978-3-86859-672-4

Jury statement:

Since 1999 the raumlaborberlin architecture collective has been seeking to create new spaces for activities, go down new avenues in cooperative urban development and design places where people can meet. Not only do they develop visionary concepts, they also realize them in order to shape urban spaces and encourage urbanity. This often involves combining art, architecture, and urban planning. In 2021, they were awarded the Golden Lion at the Architecture-Biennale in Venice for their contribution entitled “Instances of Urban Practice”.

The monograph challenges the reader to be open to rethinking urban space, to grasping it as a place where new ideas and opportunities can be tested and practiced. The central focus is the question of how we want to live together in the future. Raumlaborberlin’s diverse projects are not only highlighted from different perspectives by photos and texts, but also exhaustively discussed, reflected on and explored through guest commentaries, conversations, and illustrations. The book presents methods and tools of cooperative urban development that have been of great importance to the collective over the last 25 years and which have certainly earned it a prominent position in Germany and beyond.

Even at first glance the book appears as experimental as the projects of raumlaborberlin. The transparent glued spine reveals the lettering “RAUMLABOR” and the red thread that holds the pages together. Opting for the color red for the thread seems to have been a conscious decision and gives the monograph a special touch. The colored letters of the title “POLYLEMMA” swirl on the cover. The strong, textured paper ensures that turning the pages feels pleasant. Occasionally, smooth and glossy pages are interspersed whose tactile variety attracts particular attention. There is an excellent balance between texts, photographs, and illustrations. The photos provide a vivid complement to the content and serve to clarify it. What is particularly appealing is the fact that most of the photographs depict people coming together, being active together, experimenting or simply experiencing the new space. A book that is not only recommended for students, but also deserves a place on the shelves of architecture firms.

(Danny Alexander Lettkemann)

Title: **Thinking and Building on Shaky Ground – On Architecture in Seismic Regions**

Publisher: Birkhäuser Verlag

Author: Yun Fu

Design: Bureau Est \ Leipzig, Paris

Price: € 68

Pages: 368

ISBN: 978-3-0356-2558-5

Jury statement:

“Thinking and Building on Shaky Ground” by Yun Fu is a holistic publication about the intellectual and consequently actual options for dealing with a problem. It focuses on being open when considering a topic fraught with specific risks: How do you build in regions with seismic activity?

This monumental 350-page volume in English is dedicated to the discovery that a wide variety of solutions can be found for the same problem, which arise from the origins and study of the underlying

problem. Different ways of thinking about a problem, which also includes cultural background and something like worldview, result in different solutions.

Some 120 architectural examples from 32 countries are presented in the categories of Lightness, Quickness, Exactitude, Visibility, Multiplicity, and Consistency, and placed in their historical context. Spaciously proportioned pages of text alternate with pages of images featuring historical photos, contemporary projects, and angles from art and history, and lend the publication a lively rhythm despite the complexity of the topic. The texts are remarkably easy to read and correspond to the intriguing page layout in columns with narrow head and tail bars, generous line spacing and blank spaces. The uncoated paper lends the book a pleasant feel and the thread binding makes it easy to open despite its large size so that nothing detracts from the reader's enjoyment.

This extensive cultural historical collection on design strategies is a delight in all its richness of detail thanks to its well-considered combination of calmness and clarity.

The slanted Os in the tile fonts are a single, small playful feature which visually reflect the shaky ground and in their principle of breaking the rules address a fundamental question of the volume: How can we think profitably about a problem even though the people engaged in the thinking are caught up in a web of narratives and influences that inevitably limit reflection? A successful book about thinking and building on shaky ground.

(Dr. Dorothee Ader)

Title: *Wild Site*

Publisher: Point Nemo Publishing

Author: Eva Herunter, Katharina Hummer und Julia Obleitner

Editors: das BAU: Eva Herunter, Katharina Hummer und Julia Obleitner

Design: Jan van der Kleijn \ Den Haag

Photography: Zara Pfeifer

Price: € 22

Pages: 103

ISBN: 978-2-9199670-5-6

Jury statement:

A book about Wild Sites – in other words, gaps between buildings, wasteland, interstices, and left-over spaces – edited by the das BAU architectural collective, comprising Eva Herunter, Katharina Hummer, and Julia Obleitner. However, the focus here is not on the potential of these unbuilt places for urban development or their benefit for the building industry. This is a book about the inherent value of wastelands as complex ecosystems – as places that need not become anything because they already are something. A call for an end to the imperative of growth and in favor of the gap from the perspective of researchers in the fields of geology, biology, climatology, ecology, landscape architecture, urbanism, and architecture – A thoroughly exciting and encouraging perspective.

Thanks to the sensitive, well thought out design by Jan van der Kleijn the book is itself a wild site. The stone-gray cardboard is strewn with embossed gravel-like lettering, over which the green title spreads like bold ground cover. Gray also meets green on the inside. The photo essay by Zara Pfeifer creates an intriguing contrast to the pragmatic typesetting and the in-depth discussions by experts. And as you turn the pages the green thread stitching pops up now and again like a weed growing out of cracks in the wall. Wild Site is a book with real substance in a playful pocket format – like a small urban oasis to pop in your bag.

(Lisa Schons)

Title: **Researching otherwise – Pluriversal Methodologies for Landscape and Urban Studies**

Publisher: GTA Verlag, ETH Zürich

Editors: Nitin Bathla

Design: Offshore Studio \ Zürich

Price: € 32

Pages: 264

ISBN: 978-3-85676-469-2

Jury statement:

Multi-disciplinarity is on the agenda for the contemporary architectural debate, and *Researching Otherwise* – edited by ETH-based scholar Nitin Bathla – takes a broad look at the topic. Divided into three chapters dedicated to transdisciplinary, sensory, and restitutive methods, the book presents pluriversal research projects, which range from artistic and perceptual approaches via post-colonial cartography through to promenadology with the intention of developing a new methodological repertoire for the development of realms of knowledge in landscape and urban research.

The potential of two-color printing has been exploited to perfection here, not only as a means of providing visual orientation between the various text elements, but also in order to integrate the heterogeneous – or pluriversal – images harmoniously into the layout which was stringently choreographed by Zurich-based graphic design office Offshore Studio. The result is a surprisingly light, almost light-footed book, which can be classified as a collection of scientific texts in terms of content, but which are united in visually coherent way by the color edging and reduced color scheme to produce a successfully designed publication.

(Lisa Schons)

Title: **TANE GARDEN HOUSE**

Publisher: Vitra Design Museum

Authors: Rolf Fehlbaum, Tsyoshi Tane, Andreas Kofler

Editor: Rolf Fehlbaum

Design: Thorsten Romanus \ Weil am Rhein

Photography: Atelier Tsuyoshi Tane Architects

Illustration: Atelier Tsuyoshi Tane Architects

Price: € 25

Pages: 304

ISBN: 978-3-945852-62-0

Jury statement:

The book is an absolute beauty in terms of format, materials, binding, and overall collage – and just as perfectly reflects the contents and emphasizes the importance of developments on the Vitra Campus. It is indeed a field (campo) on which for years now history has been being written. The substance of the past and present of the company and its architectural culture expressed to the maximum.

The book conveys in a collage of statements, drawings, and prototypes just how open-minded Rolf and Tsuyoshi and the others involved all were during the three years spent creating the Tane Garden House and the publication.

Genius Loci steeped in enduring memories meaning unadulterated history!

(Giulio Castegini)

Title: ROM – HÄUSER DER STADT \ 1920–1980

Publisher: Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König

Authors: Dietrich Fink und Stefan Imhof

Editor: Dietrich Fink und Stefan Imhof

Design: Evi Lemberger \ München

Photography: Evi Lemberger \ München

Illustration: Vasiliki Papadimitriou, Johanna Illig, Hannah Kraus, Stefan Imhof

Price: € 14,80

Pages: 156

ISBN: 978-3-7533-0498-4

Jury statement:

One clearly senses the joy that was had translating Prof. Valerio Palmieri's book on "L'invenzione della palazzina / Die Erfindung der Palazzina" into German.

As a compact volume in the pleasurable "Rosa Reihe" series, the book documents 21 Palazzine across a timeline running from 1922 to 1974, all with a well-conceived layout and written in a good style.

In a highly persuasive manner, the book discusses a major chapter in Rome's urban development, relying in the process on purpose-created ground plans and new photographs.

I am familiar with the one or other building from my time in Rome; others I now want to discover anew when I next visit.

Grazie Roma! Che ci fai piangere abbracciarti ancora. "Antonello Venditti"

(Giulio Castegini)

Title: Das Bewusstsein des Ortes

Publisher: Quart Verlag

Author: Kashef Chowdhury

Design: BKVK \ Basel

Price: € 28

Pages: 120

ISBN: 978-3-03761-302-3

Jury statement:

This small-format book made of high-quality paper has a pleasantly relaxing effect by focusing on a harmonious relationship between architecture and nature – in particular the desire to be as aware as possible of the cultural and spiritual identity of places and incorporate these aspects into the architectural design.

In geographical terms, the author moves between Bangladesh, India, and Europe. In each case, succinct philosophical food for thought is juxtaposed with a photograph. Chowdhury questions the relationship between space, time, and material. He draws attention to the effect of light and shadow, to contemporary and traditional buildings. The pages of text leave plenty of space for personal thoughts or even comments in the margins, while the vivid compositions of the color and black-and-white photographs are carefully chosen. Some buildings, including Chowdhury's own designs, are presented in a quite restrained manner through simple architectural details.

You can actually use the book in a very practical way as a means of approaching the more ethereal aspects of places, perhaps even expanding your own intellectual focus. If you allow yourself to engage with the quiet observations with an open mind, you can enjoy a lesson in seeing, feeling, and recollecting.

(Dr. Katja Leiskau)

Shortlist DAM Architectural Book Award 2024

Title: SET PIECES – ARCHITECTURE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS IN FIFTEEN FRAGMENTS

Publisher: Birkhäuser Verlag

Author: Diamond Schmitt Architects

Editor: Brian Sholis, Jennifer Sigler, Javier Zeller

Design: Cristian Ordóñez for Frontier \ Toronto

Photography: Tom Arban Photography Inc.; Tim Griffith; doublespace photography; Richard Barns\JBSA; Michael Moran; Casey Dunn; Dror Baldinger FAIA; Jim Stephenson; Lisa Logan Photography Inc.; Dieter Janssen \ Matthew Lella \ Stephanie Huss \ Diamond Schmitt Architects.

Illustration: Diamond Schmitt Architects

Price: € 72,00

Pages: 292

ISBN: 978-3-0356-2723-7

Title: ARCHITEKTUR KANN MEHR – VON GEMEINSCHAFT FÖRDERN BIS KLIMAWANDEL ENTSCHLEUNIGEN

Publisher: Birkhäuser Verlag

Edited by: Sabine von Fischer

Design: Esther Rieser \ Zürich

Price: € 42,00

Pages: 256

ISBN: 978-3-0356-2741-1

Title: ADAPTIVE REUSE IN ARCHITECTURE – A TYPOLOGICAL INDEX

Publisher: Birkhäuser Verlag

Author: Liliane Wong

Design: Bureau Est \ Leipzig, Paris

Price: 59,00

Pages: 224

ISBN: 978-3-0356-2564-6

Title: I PREFER NOT TO

Publisher: Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König

Author: Peter Swinnen, Luc Tuymans, Christian Kerez, Something Fantastic, Anne Lacaton, Jan De Vyllder, Philip Ursprung, Tom Emerson, Laurent Stalder, François Charbonnet, Anri Sala, Maarten Delbeke, Finn Williams, Arno Brandhuber, ETH Studio Swinnen

Editor: Peter Swinnen

Design: Something fantastic \ Berlin

Price: € 14,00

Pages: 208

ISBN: 978-37533-013-5-8

Title: AMAZA LEE MEREDITH – IMAGINES HERSELF MODERN ARCHITECTURE AND THE BLACK AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS

Publisher: The MIT Press

Author: Jacqueline Taylor

Edited by: Victoria Hindley

Design: Marge Encomienda \ Cambridge

Price: \$ 39,95

Pages: 288
ISBN: 978-02620-483-47

Title: **BETON & NICHT BETON**
Publisher: Jovis Verlag
Edited by: Felix Sommer
Authors: Felix Sommer
Design: Buchgut \ Leipzig, Berlin
Photography: Claus Fischer, Stefan Schulwitz, Mirko Tzotschew
Illustration: Lukas Ullrich
Price: € 38,00
Pages: 240
ISBN: 978-3-98612-087-0

Title: **A WAY OF LIFE — NOTES ON BALLEMBERG**
Publisher: Lars Müller Publishers
Author: Rolf Fehlbaum, Jasper Morrison, David Saik, Tsuyoshi Tane, Federica Zanco, Beatrice Tobler
Edited by: Rolf Fehlbaum
Photography: Jasper Morrison, David Saik, Tsuyoshi Tane, Federica Zanco
Price: € 30,00
Pages: 208
ISBN: 978-3-03778-726-7

Title: **ROME — LAS VEGAS — BREAD AND CIRCUSES**
Publisher: Lars Müller Publishers
Author: Iwan Baan, Lindsay Harris, Izzy Kornblatt, Ryan Scavnicky
Edited by: Iwan Baan
Design: Haller Brun \ Amsterdam
Price: € 45,00
Pages: 320
ISBN: 978-3-03778-753-3

Title: **REWI — ATA HAERE, KIA TERE**
Publisher: Massey University Press
Authors: Jade Kake and Jeremy Hansen
Design: Extended Whanau
Price: NZD 75,00
Pages: 240
ISBN: 978-19910-164-16

Titel: **MASS MADE UNITS**
Publisher: Triest Verlag
Edited by: EAST — Laboratory, EPFL Lausanne
Author: Alia Bengana, Anja Fröhlich, Martin Fröhlich, Hisham Hafez, Francis Jacquier und Marlène Leroux, Patrice Malchiodi, Lieven Nijs, Karen Scrivener, Clemens Waldhart
Design: Omnigroup, Lausanne
Price: € 29
Pages: 92
ISBN: 978-3-03863-084-5

Special Mention DAM Architectural Book Award 2024

Title: OFFICINA GIO PONTI

Publisher: Quodlibet Habitat

Author: Manfredo di Robilant

Edited by: Manuel Orazi

Design: 46xy, Mario Piazza

Photography: Paolo Rosselli

Price: €32

Pages: 275

ISBN: 978-8822920232

DAM Architectural Book Award – extract from the call for entries

Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) and the Frankfurt Book Fair are this year asking again for entries to be submitted for the DAM Architectural Book Award 2024. All art and architectural book publishers worldwide are invited to do so. A varying jury comprising DAM internal jurors as well as external experts will judge the submissions according to design, concept, quality in terms of material and finishing, level of innovation and timeliness.

Even in this era of growing competition through new media and communication methods books on architecture still remain the basic architectural medium. Identifying the best architectural books published in the current year by way of this competition and presenting them to architecture enthusiasts is thus a fundamental task of the DAM Architectural Book Award.

As an honorary award it does not involve any award money. The prize winners are being presented at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

The DAM Architectural Book Award was initiated in 2009 and ever since it has been met with increasing response. So this year's DAM Architectural Book Award will consciously open up again to an international range of participants.

Terms of participation

All books that have appeared between June 2023 and the deadline of submission on July 31st 2024 may take part. In the case of book series and multi-volume works a single volume or the entire work may be submitted.

Publications compiled primarily for marketing purposes, may not take part. This is typified by their not being distributed by the book trade at all or to a limited extent only. Furthermore, magazines, calendars, journals and online publications will not be considered. Unpublished books and those with very small print runs are not eligible either.

The architectural books submitted could be judged according to the following or similar categories /topics:

- monographs
- architectural photography
- exhibition catalogues
- textbooks
- anthologies / series
- urban planning
- art of engineering
- landscape design,
- various subjects / special cases

When in session, however, the jury reserves the right to make a fresh decision on categorization of the entries.



Press images for announcements at www.dam-online.de/press

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