



Reading Kenneth Frampton

A Commentary on 'Modern Architecture', 1980

By Gevork Hartoonian

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Provides novel insights into the significance of Frampton's historiography of modern architecture.

This book focuses on the first edition of Kenneth Frampton's *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*, published in 1980. It searches for clues and positions that will provide the reader with an unprecedented insight into the significance of Frampton's historiography of modern architecture. It explores selected themes in line with Frampton's many-faceted contribution, certain aspects of which can be noted between the lines of his ongoing criticism of the present-day architecture, which inevitably lead us to a critical understanding of the past, the modernity of architecture's contemporaneity. The compiled chapters attempt to open a window onto the constellation of themes that allowed Frampton to hold on to his anteroom view of history even amidst the flow of *time* and flood of temporalities spanning 1980–2020. The book elucidates how Frampton's critical presentation of the history of modern movement architecture and the book's classificatory mode (periodization?) contribute to our understanding of the contemporaneity of architecture today.

Readership

Academics, architectural historians, doctoral students, and other advanced students of architectural history and theory.

Contents

Introduction, Chapter 1: The Violence of Quotation; Chapter 2: A Trilogy; Chapter 3: The Vicissitudes of a Critical History; Chapter 4: In Defence of Architecture; Chapter 5: The Agency of Critical; Chapter 6: Aalto Contra Mies: A Conundrum?; Chapter 7: From Critical to Resistance; Postscript.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Gevork Hartoonian is Professor Emeritus of Architecture, University of Canberra, Australia. He is the editor of *The Visibility of Modernization in Architecture: A Debate*, (Routledge, forthcoming) and the author of *Time, History and Architecture* (Routledge 2018), and *Ontology of Construction* (Cambridge University Press, 1994), among other volumes.

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