
Books Received

Contributors:

Marti Rae Louw (M.R.L.) and Victor Margolin (V.M.).

Correll, Timothy Corrigan and Patrick Arthur Polk, eds. *The Cast-Off Recast; Recycling and the Creative Transformation of Mass-Produced Objects*. With contributions by Mark Livengood and Maria Cecilia Loschiavo dos Santos. Los Angeles: UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, 1999. ISBN 0-930741-75-7 (pbk). 147 pages. Color and black and white illustrations.

The catalogue of several exhibitions at the Fowler Museum that dealt with the re-use of materials. Topics include sculptures made from mufflers, toys and other objects made of recycled materials in Dar es Salaam, and shelters constructed by homeless people in Tokyo, Los Angeles, and Sao Paulo. V.M.

Lo, Alice, ed. *Navigating Design: A Voyage of Discovery*. Hong Kong; Hong Kong Polytechnic University, 2003. ISBN 988-97036-1-0. 492 pages with a CD-Rom. Color illustrations.

A collection of short essays and projects on the theme of design, most by faculty and students at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University's School of Design. The book's experimental art direction reinforces ideas of questioning and innovation that are addressed in the essays. V.M.

2G Waro Kishi: *Recent Works*. International Architecture Review No. 19. Barcelona, Spain: Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya. Color photographs; CD-ROM included.

A quarterly Spanish publication featuring the buildings of Japanese architect Waro Kishi. In between the ads, this magazine presents the major works of Kishi with bilingual Spanish/English text and glossy photographs and computer graphics of fifteen different projects with commentary by the architect. M.R.L.

Greg Urban. *Metaculture: How Culture Moves the World*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2001. ISBN 0-8166-3841-1 (pbk); 315 pages; black & white illustrations.

An exposition on the theory of metaculture. Urban elucidates the dynamics of cultural production, or culture about culture. Drawing on semiotics and cultural theory, this book makes a case for the phenomenon of cultural motion to explain the dynamics of contemporary society. M.R.L.

Utility Reassessed: The Role of Ethics in the Practice of Design. Edited by Judy Attfield. Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 1999. ISBN 0-7190-5844-9 (pbk); black & white photographs.

An academic collection of essays tackling notions of utility in design. This book explores the often discredited design ideal of Utility that emerged in Britain during WWII as part of austerity measures to eliminate resource waste. The essays attempt to readdress the definition of Utility, its history and ethical implications on product design. The authors assume some familiarity with the subject matter. M.R.L.

Gennifer S. Weisenfeld. *Mavo: Japanese Artists and the Avant-garde 1905–1931*. Berkley, CA: University of California Press, 2002. ISBN 0-520-22338 (hardcover); 379 pages; color and black & white illustrations.

An academic survey of avant-garde aesthetics and the Mavo group of artists in Japan. The Mavo movement roared onto the scene in 1920s Japan with radical new works in performance art, painting, book illustration and architecture. This book is one of the first in-depth examinations of the Mavo art group available in English and links the early modern Japanese artistic community within the broader framework of twentieth century international art. M.R.L.

David Whitbread. *The Design Manual*. Sidney Australia: University of New South Wales, 2001. ISBN 0-86840-658-9 (pbk); 400 pages; color + black & white illustrations.

A comprehensive reference guide for publishing both print and digital media. This handy desktop manual is filled with practical information and design wisdom for guiding projects and production to success. Subjects broached include project management to typography, grids, file formats, printing and binding processes and more. This book would be useful in planning and managing a wide variety of design projects. M.R.L.

Nigel Whiteley. *Reynier Banham: Historian of the Immediate Future*. Cambridge, MA and London: MIT Press, 2002. ISBN 0-262-23216-2 (hardcover). 494 pages; black & white illustrations.

The definitive critical biography of this important architectural design historian and critic. Whiteley attends to the development of Banham's thought as well as the events of his life. V.M.

Rainer K. Wick. *Teaching at the Bauhaus* Ostfildern-Ruit, Germany: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2000. ISBN 3-7757-0801-4; 404 pages; black & white illustrations.

An analysis of the pedagogical approaches of the Bauhaus faculty, who established innovative methods for teaching art and design, with a discussion of the school's historical context as well as the afterlife of the teaching philosophies that were practiced there.

V. M.

Stephen Wilson. *Information Arts: Intersections of Art, Science and Technology*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2002. ISBN 0-262-23209-X (hardcover); 945 pages; black & white illustrations.

A compendium offering a broad survey of international artists who integrate scientific concepts and research in their work. Wilson covers a broad spectrum of scientific fields ranging from physics, cosmology, medicine, biology and math to computers, telecommunications, and newly emerging technologies and finds in each field artists who engage the subject matter in fascinating and often unexpected ways. Embedded pheromone-receptor fertility bras, Net-controlled gardening robots, and email text DNA are just a few of the projects highlighted.

M.R.L.

Wendy Siuyi Wong, *Hong Kong Comics: A History of Manhua*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2002. ISBN 1-56898-269-0; 188 pages, color illustrations.

And amply illustrated account of Hong Kong comic books or *manhua*. Begins with early satirical magazines in Hong Kong and mainland China and continues to the present. Biographies of artists are also provided.

V.M.

Steve Wright. *Digital Compositing for Film and Video*. Woburn, MA: Focal Press, 2002. ISBN 0-240-80455-4 (pbk); 322 pages, color + black & white illustrations. CD-ROM included.

A technical handbook for creating digital effects in film and video or, as it is known in the industry, how to "fix it in post." Badly produced film and video is often left by hopeful producers to fix in post-production. This book provides editors and compositors with practical methods for matted extraction, despill procedures, compositing operations and color correction. If your blue screens shots just don't look right, this book is for you.

M.R.L.

Working With Type Exhibitions. Edited by Robert Carter, John DeMao and Sandy Wheeler. Crans-Près-Céliny, CH: RotoVision, 2001. ISBN 2-88046-437-4 (pbk); 160 pages; color + black & white photographs.

Examples of typographic approaches to signage in exhibition design. The fundamentals of typographic treatment as they apply to exhibit signage such as legibility, line length, illumination, contrast and font selections are addressed by chapter. If you are concerned with making labels readable and appealing in public spaces, this work offers sensible guidelines and real world examples of award-winning exhibition projects.

M.R.L.

John Zukowsky, ed. *2001: Building for Space Travel* New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2001. ISBN 0-8109-4490-1; 0-86559-188-1 (pbk); 192 pages; black & white + color illustrations.

Exhibition catalog for the show organized by the Art Institute of Chicago, with essays addressing issues such as the conception of space, conflict and the conquest of space, and exploring and inhabiting the wilderness. Also includes a biographical glossary of architects, aerospace engineers and designers, and a guide to museums.

V. M.