
Books Received

Atzmon, Leslie and Prasad Boradkar, eds. *Encountering Things: Design and Theories of Things*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017. ISBN: 9780857855640 (pbk). 288 pages. Color illustrations.

This book brings a disciplined and thoughtful approach to the topic of “things” throughout its fifteen diverse chapters. It covers “things” such as convenience, telephones, product service ecologies, copper objects, and many more. The book is about the relationship and interplay between “thing theory” and design.

Bookstein, Ezra and Jeremy Workman, eds. *One-Track Mind: Drawing the New York Subway*. Drawings by Philip Ashforth Coppola; Foreword by Jonathan Lethem. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 2018. ISBN-13: 978-1616896744 (hbk). 157 pages. Black and white illustrations.

For over 40 years, Phillip Ashforth Coppola has meticulously observed the details of rapid transit stations. A cross between an artist and an archeologist, he has documented the New York City subway with historical descriptions, specifications, and detailed black and white line drawings that cover typography, terracotta mosaics, faience, and tile patterns—all of which are rarely noticed by the millions of riders passing by every day—but are well illustrated in this book. Author website: <http://bit.ly/2Pjjkq3>

Bridle, James, *New Dark Age: Technology and the End of the Future*. Brooklyn: Verso, 2018. ISBN: 13:978-1786635471 (hbk). 304 Pages.

This book’s information and sources are generated much by bots and algorithms. Bridle states that this is a book about what we know, how we know it, and what we cannot know. The ten chapters have single word names such as “Chasm” and “Complexity.” The author seeks to develop a critical literacy of the digital world we live in. Author website: <http://bit.ly/2NDZohn>

Eames, Charles and Ray Eames. *An Eames Anthology: Articles, Film Scripts, Interviews, Letters, Notes, and Speeches*. Edited by Daniel Ostroff. Yale University Press, 2015. ISBN: 9780300203455 (hbk). 420 pages. Color and black and white illustrations.

This collection of many first-time unpublished writings illuminates the authors’ marriage and professional partnership of fifty years. With more than 120 primary-source documents and 200 illustrations that highlight iconic projects such as the Case Study Houses and the molded plywood chair, as well as their work for major corporations as both designers (Herman Miller, Vitra) and consultants (IBM, Polaroid), this book lends new insight into their creative process and the advance of modernity in mid-century America.

Fallan, Kjetil and Grace Lees-Maffei, eds. *Designing Worlds: National Design Histories in an Age of Globalization*. New York: Berghahn Books, 2018. ISBN: 978-1-78533-832-8 (hbk). 296 pages.

Design, globalization, and national identities take on new significance where global and local meet. This comprehensive book covers a wide range of design topics as it explores diversity of national identities and cultures in places such as Africa, New Zealand, India, and Lebanon. The range of writers is impressive, and the essays address the qualities that make a certain region or nation’s design unique or that challenge their identity in an interconnected world.

Gimeno-Martínez, Javier. *Design and National Identity*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017. ISBN: 9781472591036 (pbk). 288 pages. Black and white illustrations.

In the increasingly nation-state geopolitical reality, this timely book explores the relationship between national identity and cultural production from production and consumption perspectives. Key examples are from national symbols, government positioning of interventions, and corporate expressions. It also takes on traditional formations of the nation-state in relation to globalization, migration, and cultural diversity as equally important.

Gooding, Mel. *A2Z+: Alphabets & Signs*. Edited by Julian Rothenstein. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 2018. ISBN: 13: 978-1616897079 (hbk). 314 pages.

Over a decade ago, Julian Rothenstein published *A2Z*, a cornucopia of unconventional alphabets, emblems, letters, and signs to inspire practical and creative use. *A2Z+* is a continuation that contains a newly discovered wealth of rare graphics and ephemera including the statistical charts of black activist W.E.B. Du Bois. Thoughtfully produced and detailed, this version is an indispensable source of ideas and inspiration for adaptive contemporary typographic reinterpretation.

Heller, Steven and Greg D'Onofrio. *The Moderns: Mid-century American Graphic Design*. New York: Harry Abrams, 2017. ISBN: 978-1-4197-2401-5 (HBK). 336 pages. Color Illustrations.

The postwar world was an era of optimism as well as development of new materials and forms that reinvented what design and society could do together. The book generously illustrates profiles of 60 émigré and American designers by way of interviews; magazine, book, and record covers; advertisements and package designs; posters; and other projects. The authors used typography, primary colors, photography, and geometric or biomorphic forms that defined the visual aesthetics of postwar modernity.

Jury, David. *Reinventing Print: Technology and Craft in Typography*. London: Bloomsbury 2018. ISBN: 97814742 62699 (pbk). 208 Pages. Color Illustrations.

This book is about digital technology and everyday typography in a post-digital age. There is a growing fascination and re-evaluation of pre-digital skills and processes. This three-part book explores re-appropriation, which has irreverently liberated a new generation of typographers, designers, and artists who have grown up with digital technology. The result creates exciting, potent, and culturally subversive typographic responses.

Kries, Mateo, ed. *Hello, Robot. Design Between Human and Machine*. Weil am Rhein, Germany: Vitra Design Museum, 2017. ISBN: 9783945852101 (ppk). 328 pages. Color Illustrations.

Robots have been, at the same time, both romanticized and feared for decades, and with AI taking on more of a role in our lives, the robot is now in our digital platforms. This engaging book, which was part of a comprehensive exhibition, is an interdisciplinary look at robotics revealing the contradictions inherent in this new technology. This book addresses a plea for a design concept dedicated to designing interactions and relationships between humans and machines. It contains a glossary with important robotics terms and includes an extensive catalog. Exhibition website: <http://bit.ly/2PpvVbr>

Lupton, Ellen and Andrea Lipps. *The Senses: Design Beyond Vision*. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 2018. ISBN: 9781616897109 (hbk). 224 pages.

Curators Ellen Lupton and Andrea Lipps created this companion book to the exhibition "The Senses: Design Beyond Vision." This book explores the way space, materials, sound, and light affect the mind and body. Meticulously designed in nineteen sections with a rich variety of examples from contemporary designers, the book is a combination of manifestos that propose concepts for enhancing societal life, particularly for those with sensory disabilities. Exhibition website: <http://bit.ly/2orlkRA>

Offenhuber, Dietmar. *Waste is Information*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2017. ISBN: 9780262036733 (HBK). 280 pages. Black and white illustrations.

We see waste every day and wonder where it all goes, but is it worthy of study? According to Offenhuber—yes. He views waste as information that can be forensically tagged and tracked in what he calls "infrastructure legibility." He then explores how waste is dealt with in three contexts and how it is defined, managed, and governed among users, technology, and cities. The wonder of the book is how the discarded can return as meaning.

Pink, Sarah; Yoko Akama, and Shanti Sumartojo. *Uncertainty and Possibility: New Approaches to Future Making in Design Anthropology*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2018. ISBN: 9781350002715 (pbk). 160 pages. Black and white Illustrations.

We live in a world where uncertainty and possibility are creating fertile grounds for exploration. Research methods take advantage of disruptive and experimental techniques for speculative futures. The book's seven chapters build from specific to general methods that show how individuals and teams can now use very affordable maker spaces to prototype things that until now were difficult to achieve.

Resnick, Elizabeth. *Developing Citizen Designers*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016. ISBN: 9780857856203 (pbk). 432 pages. Color Illustrations.

Design and its relation to social responsibility is a continuing theme, and this book looks at the contemporary ways to learn and practice design in a socially responsible manner. This very comprehensive volume has a diversity of contributors who delve into ethics, sustainability, entrepreneurship, and activism. The wide array of case studies, assignment briefs, and interviews makes tangible how social responsibility is realized.

Steenon, Molly Wright. *Architectural Intelligence: How Designers and Architects Created the Digital Landscape*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2017. ISBN: 9780262037068 (hbk). 328 pages. Black and white illustrations.

What do Christopher Alexander, Richard Saul Wurman, Cedric Price, and Nicholas Negroponte have in common? According to Molly Wright Steenson, all four architects incorporated elements of interactivity and technology into their work thus influencing digital design. They challenged traditional architectural thinking by addressing its computational, cybernetic, and artificial intelligence dimensions. According to Wright Steenson, they were anti-architects who would influence new generations of architectural practice.

Webb, Michael, Michael Sorkin, Mark Wigley, Lebbeus Woods. *Two Journeys*. Edited by Ashley Simone; Foreword by Kenneth Frampton. Baden, Switzerland: Lars Müller Publishers, 2018. ISBN-10:3037785543 (hbk). 206 pages. Color illustrations.

Michael Webb, an artist and trained architect who was part of Archigram, has spent his 60-year career thinking about the relation between the two disciplines. He addresses themes such as time, space, and speed expressed through pencil, collage, and oil paint. The book includes essays by Frampton, Wigley, Sorkin, and Woods, along with nearly 200 sumptuous drawings/collages rooted in analytical thinking and structured around architectural elements and notational systems.