

**OMA  
REM  
KOOL-  
HAAS  
A CRITICAL  
READER**

**CHRISTOPHE VAN GERREWEY (ED.)**

**BIRKHAUSER  
BASEL**

20 **1**

**SPEAR HOUSE (1975): A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT  
OR A VERY MARVELOUS THING**

23 Peter Eisenman, Peter Chermayeff, Paul Rudolph, and Eberhard H. Zeidler  
Remment Koolhaas, Laurinda Spear: Award

26 **2**

**THE SPARKLING METROPOLIS & DELIRIOUS NEW YORK  
(1978): A REPOSITORY OF FORMS AND ACTIVITIES**

29 Camilla Ween Fiddling while New York Burns  
29 George Baird Les extremes qui se touchent  
31 Kenneth Frampton Two or Three Things I Know about Them: A Note on Manhattanism  
34 Demetri Porphyrios Pandora's Box  
36 Hans van Dijk A More Expansive Spectrum of Functionalism  
44 Paul Goldberger Guggenheim Unveils Surrealist City Views  
46 Peter Blake Freudian Walls  
47 Gilbert Millstein Architectural Extravaganza  
48 Marc Balet A Conversation with Human Activities  
49 Reyner Banham Manhattalgia  
50 Paul Goldberger He'll Take Manhattan  
53 S. Frederick Starr The Culture of Professional Architecture  
57 Patrick L. Pinnell Remifications  
58 Richard Munday Enmeshed in Irresolution  
59 Gert Jonker An Abrupt Departure from the New Hopelessness

62 **3**

**FIRST DECADE, FIRST HALF (1978-1985):  
HOPE HAS RETURNED**

65 Cathy Peake, Grant Marani, Ian McDougall, and Richard Munday Shedding of the Shackles  
66 Robert Maxwell Celebration or Criticism  
68 Stanislaus von Moos An Invitation to Rotterdam for Leonidov  
72 Patrice Noviant A European without Humor  
74 Deyan Sudjic Enter the Prophets of New Sobriety  
75 Sander Wissing Light in the Darkness  
76 Geert Bekaert The Odyssey of an Enlightened Entrepreneur  
81 Haig Beck Toward an Architecture of Congestion  
82 Paul Goldberger Exhibit Points up Views on Context of a Building  
83 Michael Sorkin Drawing Conclusions  
85 Anthony Vidler The Irony of Metropolis

- 88 Peter Buchanan Elia Zenghelis, Rem Koolhaas, Zaha Hadid
- 89 Franca Raggi Puritanical Hedonist
- 92 Olivier Boissiere Paris X Paris
- 93 Franfoise Choay The Traditional Idea of Architecture Has Vanished: La Villette Park Competition
- 96 Bruno Vayssiere, Patrice Noviant, and Jacques Lucan A Development of Dense Episodes
- 99 Bart Lootsma The Strategies of OMA
- 104 Umberto Barbieri From the Bridge to the Tower
- 106 Patrice Goulet The Second Chance for Modern Architecture: Rem Koolhaas
- 108 Patrice Goulet Or the Start of the End of Reality: Elia Zenghelis
- 111 Mil De Kooning The Economics of Imagination
- 119 Mildred F. Schmertz Low-Income Housing: A Lesson from Amsterdam
- 120 Doeschka Meijsing Intellectuals Talk about Architecture

122

## 4

### NETHERLANDS DANCE THEATER, THE HAGUE (1982-1987): GOOD-BYE PAPER!

- 125 Rem Koolhaas, Rob Krier, Cesar Pelli, Rafael Moneo, Robert Stern, and Jacquelin Robertson  
A Blind Spot for Space
- 127 Hubert Damisch Exquisite Corpse
- 129 Janny Rodermond A Supremely Utilitarian Building
- 132 Peter Buchanan Koolhaas Container
- 133 Deborah K. Dietsch First Position
- 135 Jacques Lucan A Chameleon Theater
- 136 Olivier Boissiere Too Much Champagne?
- 138 Stefan Polonyi Interpreting the Supporting Structures of Architecture

140

## 5

### FIRST DECADE, SECOND HALF (1986-1989): POLEMICS IN THE PROVINCE

- 143 Peter Buchanan OMA at The Hague
- 144 Geert Bekaert A Chance of a Lifetime
- 145 Stanislaus von Moos Dutch Group Portrait
- 150 Christophe Bayle Structured through Emptiness: Melun-Senart
- 151 Madeleine Steigenga Not without a Scratch: Police Station Almere
- 152 Geert Bekaert The Storyteller
- 153 Herman Kerkdijk and Arthur Wortmann The Netherlands Architecture Institute as a Script
- 155 Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefaivre Synthetic Night Sky: Apartment House at Checkpoint Charlie
- 156 Jayne Merkel Not-So-Delirious Modernism: OMA at Max Protetch Gallery
- 158 Hilde de Haan and Ids Haagsma Rem Koolhaas's Big, Sloppy Dreams: IJplein Amsterdam
- 160 Maristella Casciato Constructional Puritanism: IJplein Amsterdam
- 161 Herman Selier For a Better Netherlands: *The First Decade*
- 162 Koos Bosma and Hans van Dijk The Stigma of Being Modern
- 164 Mil De Kooning OMA in Holland
- 169 Hajime Yatsuka Architectural Specificity with Programmatic Instability
- 171 Mark Wigley Deconstructivist Architecture: The Stability of the One and the Instability of the Other

## **THE FALL OF THE WALL (1989-1996): THE FORCES OF THE WAVE**

- 175 **John Welsh** Latest Stop on a Grand Tour  
 175 **Toyo Ito** Not Forms, but Rules: *Fin de siècle*, OMA at IFA, Paris  
 176 **Bart Lootsma and Mariette van Stralen** The Client as Visionary: Koolhaas Reanimates the Role of the Architect  
 180 **Geert Bekaert** Sea Trade Center Zeebrugge: Confession of Faith  
 183 **Frank R. Werner** The Magic Die with the Enchanted Cloak for the Squaring of the Circle: ZKM  
 185 **Anthony Vidler** Books in Space: Tradition and Transparency in the Bibliotheque de France  
 187 **Fredric Jameson and Michael Speaks** Envelopes and Enclaves: The Space of Post-Civil Society  
 188 **Paul Vermeulen** Metropolitan Vernacular: Byzantium Amsterdam  
 191 **Lucius Burckhardt** Pianissimo and Gentle: Hotel Furkablück  
 193 **Sally B. Woodbridge** Housing after the Machine Age: Nexus World Housing, Fukuoka  
 195 **Sanford Kwinter** The Reinvention of Geometry  
 197 **Albert Pope** Tokyo Storm Warning  
 201 **Karen Stein** The Image According to OMA  
 202 **Bart Lootsma** Hans Werlemann  
 204 **Alejandro Zaera-Polo** Strategic Retreat  
 204 **Alejandro Zaera-Polo** Finding Freedoms  
 207 **Rene Zwaap** The IJ-Boulevard of Broken Dreams  
 209 **Herbert Muschamp** Some Unfinished Business on St.-Germain  
 211 **Nikolaus Kuhnert and Philipp Oswald** May-68-Programming  
 212 **Joost Meuwissen** X-Filled Room: Dutch House in Rotterdam  
 214 **Ole Bouman and Roemer van Toorn** The Blinkers That Make the Visionary  
 216 **Douglas Coupland** Dutch Reformation  
 220 **Jonathan Crary** Notes on Koolhaas and Modernization  
 222 **Charles Jencks** The Trajectory of Rem Koolhaas  
 225 **Robert E. Somol** The Camp of the New  
 230 **Richard Ingersoll** Rem Koolhaas and Irony  
 235 **Bart Lootsma** Wall Frustration: OMA's Use of Building Materials  
 238 **Arie Graafland and Jasper de Haan** Writing and Working  
 239 **Sanford Kwinter** Flying the Bullet, or When Did the Future Begin?  
 243 **Jeffrey Kipnis** Disestablishment

## **VILLA DALL'AVA (1986-1993): A TINY BIT PERVERSE**

- 249 **Rem Koolhaas, Leon Krier, Frank Gehry, Michael Graves, Peter Eisenman, Mario Gandelsonas, Susana Torre, Thomas Beeby, and Rafael Moneo** Accept Being Alone  
 253 **Francois Chaslin** Right Underneath the Pool  
 255 **Jean-Louis Cohen** Suburban Subversion  
 257 **Frederic Edelmann** The Giraffe and the Architect  
 259 **Jacques Lucan** A Modern Construction  
 260 **Akira Suzuki** A Broken Relationship  
 262 **Jean-Paul Robert** Live  
 264 **Charles Gandee** The Ideal Villa  
 265 **Bart Lootsma** OMA Manifesto

272 **8**

## **KUNSTHAL ROTTERDAM (1989-1993): A MATURITY THAT ONE HAS LONG BEEN WAITING FOR**

- 275 Terence Riley A "Smith and Brown" Building
- 276 Hilde de Haan and Ids Haagsma Koolhaas Merges Banality with Chic in Brilliant Design
- 277 Bernard Hulsman Like a Magic Box
- 279 Kenneth Frampton Confidence and Precision
- 281 Bart Lootsma and Jan de Graaf In Service of the Experience
- 285 Ed Melet Perfect Disorder: Detailing and Construction
- 288 Deyan Sudjic The Museum as Megastar
- 289 Paul Vermeulen Clad in Tonalities of Light
- 291 Andrew MacNair Marathon
- 292 Cynthia Davidson History Lesions

298 **9**

## **"BIGNESS" & EURALILLE (1989-1998): I KNEW I WAS IN TROUBLE BUT I THOUGHT I WAS IN HELL**

- 301 John Rajchman Thinking Big
- 305 Richard Ingersoll Bidness
- 307 Peter Newman and Andy Thornley Boosterism at the Center of Europe
- 309 Werner Oechslin Beyond a Certain Scale, or Titan in Slippers?
- 312 Richard Plunz The Scale Canard
- 313 Jean-Louis Cohen The Test of the Construction Site
- 316 Jacques Lucan The Voluntary Prisoner of Architecture: Lille Grand Palais
- 318 Bruno Fortier This Whole Century
- 321 Jean Attali Criticism Has Lost Its Bearings
- 325 Stanislaus von Moos Composition and Oblique Views
- 326 Daniel Treiber An Urban Paradox
- 328 Ian Buruma Leave Old Cities Alone
- 330 Vittorio Lampugnani The End of Modern Urbanism

332 **10**

## **S,M,L,XL & "GENERIC CITY" (1994-1998): NO END TO REVISION**

- 335 Hans van Dijk The Architect Is Obligated to Be an Honorable Man
- 339 John Shnier Plump Fiction: Conservation with Bruce Mau
- 342 Will Novosedlik Leviathan
- 346 Paul Finch Koolhaas Gets a Four-Star Reception at AA Lecture
- 347 Grahame D. Shane OMA at MoMA
- 353 George Baird Historical Magnanimity
- 356 Haig Beck and Jackie Cooper Liberating Micro-Epiphanies
- 358 Florian Beigel Close to Life
- 360 Irene Scalbert Brave New Book

- 363 **Martin Filler** The Master Builder  
364 **Jean-Claude Garcias** Exhilaration in Defeat  
367 **Brendan Gill** Koolhaas in 2-D  
369 **Robert Harbison** Big Is Not Always Beautiful  
372 **Toyo Ito** Architectural Incidents Replete with Fantasy  
373 **Fredric Jameson** XXL. Rem Koolhaas's Great Big Buildingsroman  
376 **Herbert Muschamp** Rem Koolhaas Sizes Up the Future  
378 **Claude Parent** The Drama!  
380 **Bart Eeckhout** Everything and Nothing at Once  
388 **Terence Riley** Free Fall  
389 **Richard Sennett** The Dialectics of Scale  
391 **Jeremy Till** An Incomplete Encyclopaedia  
395 **Tetsuzo Oshima** Clever Calculation  
396 **Koos Bosma** Leading Us Astray  
398 **Dieter Hoffmann-Axthelm** Can One Seriously Speak of Cities Like This?  
400 **Lieven De Caeter** Flight Forward  
405 **Alejandro Zaera-Polo** The Day After

406 **APPENDIX**

- 407 A CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY FROM *DELIRIOUS NEW YORK JO 5,M,L,XL*  
418 INDEX OF PERSONS