



EDITED BY
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ARCHITECTURE **BEYOND** CRITICISM

Expert judgment and performance evaluation

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Evaluation

*Wolfgang F. E. Preiser, Aaron T. Davis,
Ashraf M. Salama, and Andrea Hardy*

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NOTES ON THE EDITORS

Wolfgang F. E. Preiser, University of Cincinnati and Arizona State University, holds a PhD in Man–Environment Relations from Penn State, and several architecture degrees from Virginia Tech, Karlsruhe Tech (Germany), and Vienna Tech (Austria). He has over 40 years of experience in teaching, research, and consulting in the evaluation and programming of environments, including health care facilities, public housing, public libraries, cross-cultural and universal design, as well as design research in general.

He has published 18 books and over 130 chapters, monographs, and articles. His most recent books include: *Enhancing Building Performance* (Wiley, 2012); *Universal Design Handbook* (McGraw-Hill, 2010); and *Designing for Designers: Lessons Learned From Schools of Architecture* (Fairchild, 2007). Preiser has lectured worldwide at 69 venues and conferences in the United States and Canada, as well as 86 overseas. He has served on national committees with the American Institute of Architects, the Building Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Institute for Disability Rehabilitation Research.

Preiser has received many awards, including: two Progressive Architecture Awards; two Professional Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts; The Career Award from the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA); two EDRA Achievement Awards; as well as other awards while at the University of Cincinnati.

Aaron T. Davis holds a Master's degree in Architecture from Columbia University (2009). His undergraduate degree in Architecture is from the University of Cincinnati (2004).

He has been practicing in architecture for the past ten years with Foster + Partners in London and New York, and Rafael Vinoly Architects in New York and Cleveland, Ohio. Davis is currently a Partner at PRE-OFFICE.

Davis has served as a guest critic at Columbia University, the University of Cincinnati, and The Rhode Island School of Design where he was also a Graduate Thesis Critic in 2009–2010. He has been published in numerous journals, including: *Art & Education*, *Volume*, *Urban China*, *Test Pattern*, and *The International Journal of Architecture Research*.

Ashraf M. Salama, PhD, FRSA, FHEA is a licensed architect in Egypt, and received his BSc, MSc, and PhD from Al Azhar University, Egypt, and North Carolina State University,

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Andrea Hardy, Arizona State University, Creo Architects, holds a Master's degree in Architecture from Arizona State University (2012). Her undergraduate degree in architectural engineering technology is from Wentworth Institute of Technology (2007).

She has been practicing in architecture offices for the past ten years both during and between obtaining her degrees. After working professionally in Boston and Phoenix, and studying public architecture through Arizona State University in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Hardy is currently working at Creo Architects in Phoenix and is working towards getting her architectural license.

While at Arizona State University, Hardy was a member of the American Institute of Architecture Students, served one term as Secretary for the American Institute of Architecture Students, was a teaching assistant for a design studio and history class, received multiple scholarships, and participated in non-academic activities such as working on multiple design competitions.

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Ursula Baus studied art history, philosophy, classical archaeology, as well as architecture, in Stuttgart, Germany and Paris, France. Her studies culminated in her doctorate in architectural history in Stuttgart in 1999. For over two decades, she has been working as publisher, first as editor of an architectural magazine and subsequently as independent critic and researcher in architecture. Until 2011, she taught architectural theory and criticism at several universities, published textbooks on a variety of topics, and lectured both nationally and internationally. In 2004, she co-founded the partnership “frei04 publizistik,” for both national and international architectural publications. Until 2012, she served as vice-president of the advisory board for the Bundestiftung Baukultur (Federal Foundation for Architectural Culture). Since 2010, she has been a scientific advisor to the IBA Basel 2020 (International Building Exhibition). She serves as a member of the advisory board for the Schelling Architecture Foundation and as expert for the Mies van der Rohe Award. As an editor, she was a member of the internet portal www.german-architects.com until 2013. Currently, she is owner of a new internet portal for architectural criticism.

Clayton Boenecke, MHA, serves as the Chief, Portfolio Management, in the Defense Health Agency. Boenecke leads a team of civilian health care planners and collaborates with colleagues from the army, navy, and air force to identify the most important medical facility investments for the Department of Defense. Boenecke actively supports EBD principles and research and their inclusion in military medical facility construction and renovation. Boenecke is a Fellow of the Health Facilities Institute and member of ASHE.

Bill Bordass, William Bordass Associates and the Usable Buildings Trust, is a scientist who moved to the designers RMJM London, going on to lead their building services and energy groups. He now studies technical and environmental performance of buildings in use and works closely with human factors specialists. He was a member of the team that undertook the published PROBE series of post-occupancy evaluations. With co-author Adrian Leaman, he helped to set up the Usable Buildings Trust charity which seeks to make building performance evaluation a routine activity for design and building teams and their clients.

Michael J. Crosbie, PhD, FAIA, has made significant contributions in the fields of architectural journalism, research, teaching, and practice. He studied architecture and received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Catholic University. He has served as an editor at *Architecture: The AIA Journal*, *Progressive Architecture*, and *ArchitectureWeek.com*, and since 2001 he has served as editor-in-chief of *Faith & Form*, a quarterly interfaith journal on religious art and architecture. He is also a frequent contributor to *Oculus* magazine and *Architectural Record*, and writes about architecture and design for the *Hartford Courant*. He is the author of more than 20 books on architecture, including five books for children. Crosbie is a professor of architecture and Chair of the Department of Architecture, and Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture at the University of Hartford, and has served as an adjunct professor at Roger Williams University and Catholic University. He has lectured and served as a visiting critic at architecture schools in North America and abroad, among them the University of California (Berkeley), the University of Pennsylvania, Yale University, and the Moscow Architectural Institute. Crosbie has practiced with Centerbrook Architects and Steven Winter Associates, is a registered architect in the State of Connecticut, and is a member of the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.

Frank Duffy trained as an architect at the Architectural Association School in London from 1959 to 1964. He became interested in office design in the fourth year when his class was given the brief to design an office building that, unlike briefs for more socially committed projects, was extremely abbreviated. Coincidentally, his imagination was stimulated by a novel form of office planning in Germany called *Buerolandschaft*, or office landscaping, based on studies of internal patterns of communication. In 1967 Duffy went to the USA as a Harkness Fellow, first to Berkeley and then to Princeton, where the focus of his doctoral research was the study of how several sociological dimensions, complexity of hierarchical structures, as well as the frequency and intensity of internal interactions related to varying degrees of differentiation and openness in office layouts. In 1971 Duffy returned to London, initially working on a series of office projects across Europe for IBM. These projects were the foundation of DEGWA, the international architectural and space planning practice he helped to found. DEGWA has published widely in architecture and interior design and has conducted many research studies, most notably the ORBIT series on the impact of information technology on the workplace. Duffy has been much involved in professional politics, serving as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and of the Architects' Council of Europe. In 1997 he was appointed a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty the Queen.

Thomas Fisher is a professor in the School of Architecture and Dean of the College of Design at the University of Minnesota. A graduate of Cornell University in Architecture and Case Western Reserve University in Intellectual History, he was recognized in 2005 as the fifth

most published writer about architecture in the United States. He has written seven books, 47 book chapters or introductions, and over 325 articles in professional journals and major publications. Named a top-25 design educator four times by Design Intelligence, he has lectured at 36 universities and over 150 professional and public meetings in the US.

He has written extensively about architectural design, practice, and ethics. His books include *In the Scheme of Things: Alternative Thinking on the Practice of Architecture* (Minnesota, 2000), *Architectural Design and Ethics, Tools for Survival* (Architectural Press, 2008), *Ethics for Architects: 50 Dilemmas of Professional Practice* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2010), two monographs on the work of architect David Salmela (Minnesota, 2005, 2011), a book on the work of Lake Flato (Rockport, 2005), and a book on system design entitled *Designing to Avoid Disaster: The Nature of Fracture-Critical Design* (Routledge, 2013). He has also co-edited a book with Wolfgang Preisner and Jack Nasar entitled *Designing for Designers: Lessons Learned from Schools of Architecture* (Fairchild, 2007). Some recent chapters he has written include one on the history of ethics education in *Architecture School: Three Centuries of Educating Architects in North America* (MIT, 2012) and one on ethics for the next edition of *The Architects Handbook of Professional Practice* (AIA, 2013).

Deborah Franqui, AIA, is currently a PhD candidate in the Planning, Design and Built Environment PhD Program in the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities at Clemson University. Her experience as a licensed architect and owner of SPACES architects in Puerto Rico focused on the programming, planning, design, and construction management of workplace environments. Her recent experience has focused on developing pathways to assess the performance of ambulatory care clinic environments.

Daniel S. Friedman is Dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Prior to joining the faculty at UHM, Friedman served as Dean of the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington, director of the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and director of the School of Architecture and Interior Design at the University of Cincinnati. Friedman lectures and writes on professional education, public architecture, ethics, and contemporary theory. He earned advanced degrees in architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed his doctoral dissertation on the history and design of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla. He was elevated to the AIA College of Fellows in 2001.

Pedro Gadanho is the Curator of Contemporary Architecture in the Department of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Previously, he divided his activity between architecture, teaching, writing, and curating. Gadanho holds an MA in art and architecture and PhD in architecture and mass media. He is the author of *Arquitetura em Público*, and recipient of the FAD Prize for Thought and Criticism in 2012. He was the editor of *BEYOND* bookazine, writes the Shrapnel Contemporary blog, and contributes regularly to international publications. He curated Metaflux at the 2004 Venice Architecture Biennale and exhibitions such as Post.Rotterdam, Space Invaders, and Pancho Guedes, An Alternative Modernist. He was also a chief curator of ExperimentaDesign between 2001 and 2003. Amongst exhibition layouts, galleries, and refurbishments, his designs included the Ellipse Foundation in Lisbon, and the widely published Orange House, in Carreço, Family Home, in Oporto, and GMG House, in Torres Vedras.

Remah Y. Gharib received his PhD in architecture and urban design from the University of Nottingham, where he developed his knowledge of revitalization of historic quarters. His research focuses on aspects of public policy formulation and implementation. Prior to receiving his PhD, he earned his Master's within the field of managing historic cities. He received his Bachelor in architectural engineering from Misr International University in Cairo. Gharib is currently coordinating the Urban Design and Architecture in Muslim Societies program at Hamad Bin Khalifa University and teaching four courses at the Master's level. He has published in several refereed journals and participated in international peer-reviewed conferences, and is currently a collaborating editor for the *International Journal of Architectural Research-Archnet*.

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Clare Jacobson is a Shanghai-based design writer and editor. She is the author of the book *New Museums in China* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2013) and co-author of *Karlssonwilker Inc.'s Tell Me Why: The First 24 Months of a New York Design Company* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2003). Jacobson is a contributing editor to *Architectural Record*, and her articles have also appeared in *Engineering News Record*, *Randian*, *Architectural Review Asia Pacific*, *Landscape Architecture*, and other magazines. As editor and editorial director at Princeton Architectural Press for 21 years, she originated, acquired, and developed more than 120 books on architecture, graphic design, landscape architecture, photography, and visual culture. She has a BArts and BArch in architecture from Penn State University.

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José T. Lira, University of São Paulo, graduated in Architecture (1989) and Philosophy (1999). Lira is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo (FAU-USP), where he has got his Doctorate (1997) and 'Livro Docência' (2008) degrees. Since 1998, he has been in charge of several research projects on the history, historiography, and criticism of architecture, planning, and housing, and acted as full advisor in the Master's and PhD programs at FAU-USP. He has been a research affiliate of the Brazilian National Council of Research (CNPq) since 1999 and in 2009 developed a post-doctorate research program at Columbia University. Between 2010 and 2014, he was the director of the Center for Cultural Preservation at the University of São Paulo (CPC-USP). He has lectured at several universities, taking part in different seminars and conferences in Brazil and elsewhere. He has authored and co-edited nine books and over 70 articles, chapters, papers, and book introductions in academic journals, books, and other publications. His most recent books include *Memória, Trabalho e Arquitetura* (Editora da Universidade de São Paulo, 2013), *São Paulo, os estrangeiros e a construção das cidades* (Alameda, 2011), and *Warchavchik: fraturas da vanguarda* (Cosac & Nafy, 2011), which received a book award at the 7th Ibero-American Architecture and Planning Biennale and a Jabuti Prize.

Yasser Mahgoub is an architect, academic, and scholar. He received his BSc in Architectural Engineering from Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, in 1978 and a Doctorate in Architecture from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, in 1990. He has held several academic positions since 1990 at Ain Shams University, United Arab Emirates University, Kuwait University, and Qatar University. He has practiced as a professional architect in Egypt and was a founding member in 1980 of "The Egyptian Designers" architectural firm in Cairo, Egypt. He has participated as an architect consultant from 1990 to date. Mahgoub teaches architectural design studios, architectural research, environment and behavior studies in architecture, and architectural professional practice. His research interests include social and cultural aspects of architecture, sustainable architecture, architectural education, and the impact of globalization on architecture. He has published refereed research papers and book chapters, and attended

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Steven A. Moore is Bartlett Cocke Regents Professor of Architecture and Planning at the University of Texas at Austin where he teaches design and interdisciplinary courses related to the philosophy, history, and application of sustainable technology. He is Director of the Graduate Program in Sustainable Design and Co-founder of the University of Texas Center for Sustainable Development. Moore is a Fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts, a Loeb Fellow of the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the recipient of an Individual Scholar Award from the National Science Foundation. He is the author of many articles and book chapters and six books on the topic of sustainable architecture and urbanism. Moore's most recent book, co-authored with Barbara B. Wilson, is *Questioning Architectural Judgment: The Problem of Codes in the United States* (Routledge, 2014).

Shiho Mori is Assistant Professor of Architecture at Mie University Graduate School of Engineering, Japan. She carries out consulting on master plans in medical and welfare facilities, to focus on the relation between management and space planning. She has presented at international congresses, and worked as a lecturer in training courses for facility directors of nursing homes. Her previous position was as the planner of universally designed housing and equipment, such as modular bathrooms and system kitchens. Using the experience of her previous post, she is participating in several projects, from detached houses to a large-scale housing complex planned to realize universal design.

Jack L. Nasar, PhD, FAICP, is a professor of city and regional planning at the Knowlton School and editor of *Journal of Planning Literature*. He has published more than 80 scholarly articles on meaning, cognition, fear, crime, and spatial behavior in relation to the environment. Nasar served as architectural critic for *The Columbus Dispatch* and guest critic for *Landscape Architecture*. His books include *Environmental Aesthetics: Theory, Research, & Applications* (Cambridge, 1988); *The Evaluative Image of the City* (Sage, 1997); *Design by Competition: Making Design Competitions Work* (Cambridge, 1999); *Universal Design and Visitability: From Accessibility to Zoning* (with J. Evans-Cowley) (Ohio State University Press, 2007); and *Designing for Designers: Lessons Learned from Schools of Architecture* (with W. F. E. Preiser, and T. Fisher) (Fairchild, 2007). An invited lecturer around the world, Nasar has received the EDRA Career Achievement Award, Lumley Award for Excellence in Research at Ohio State, Ethel Chattel Fellowship from University of Sydney, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Architecture at Washington University in St. Louis.

Yann Nussaume, French architect, is professor and co-director of the research team AMP UMR LAVUE CNRS 7218 at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'architecture de Paris La Villette in Paris. He is an architect and the author, editor, or co-editor of publications on architecture and landscape, such as *Tadao Andô* (Hazan/Birkhäuser/Jaca, 2009); *Tôyo Itô: Détails de structures légères* (Le Moniteur, 2003); *Construire en Chine* (Le Moniteur, 2005); *La Maison Individuelle* (Le Moniteur, 2006); *La Maison individuelle vers des paysages soutenables?* (La Villette, 2012); and *Teaching Landscape in Architecture* (La Villette, 2009). He was also one of the organizers of the international conference "Landscape and Imagination" on 2–4 May 2013, the proceedings of which have been published as C. Newman, Y. Nussaume, and B. Pedrolì (eds),

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Nigel Oseland is a workplace strategist, change manager, environmental psychologist, and author with ten years' research and 15 years' consulting experience. Oseland is an internationally recognized expert in occupant feedback methods, performance and productivity, agile working, environmental conditions, and the psychology of the workplace. Oseland established his own consulting practice, Workplace Unlimited, several years ago. His approach to workplace consulting is to apply his knowledge, obtained through both academic research and practical experience. He advises occupiers on how to redefine their workstyles to provide space-efficient and cost-effective workplaces that enhance business performance. Oseland specializes in workplace strategies that improve collaboration, enhance creativity, facilitate concentration, meet psychological needs, respond to changing organizational structure, and deliver maximum value. Nigel mostly focuses on his consulting practice but occasionally carries out client funded research projects, for example on behalf of the British Council for Offices, Office Productivity Network, the MOD, and Herman Miller. He is also the Chair of the Workplace Consulting Organization and co-founder of the Office Productivity Network. He continues to write articles and guidance, presents regularly at international conferences, and organizes the annual Workplace Trends and the Learning Environments conferences. He was the lead author of the BCO's *Guide to POE*.

Brenda C. Scheer, AIA, FAICP, is a professor at the College of Architecture + Planning at the University of Utah, where she was dean for 11 years. She is a nationally recognized authority on urban design and the development of cities. She was a Loeb Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and is a registered architect and planner. As dean at Utah, she made environmental and civic concerns her hallmark, creating an innovative metropolitan planning program and emphasizing community and environmental engagement. Scheer serves on multiple civic boards, including Envision Utah. She has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Housing Policy Debate*, and *Urban Morphology*. Scheer is the author of three books, including her most recent book: *The Evolution of Urban Form: Typology for Planners and Architects* (American Planning Association, 2010). She is also the author of multiple journal articles on the role of urban design in urban policy.

Ulrich Schramm is Professor in the Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering at the University of Applied Sciences in Bielefeld, Germany. His appointment includes teaching and research responsibilities in the field of facility programming and building performance evaluation. He received his Doctorate in Architecture from the University of Stuttgart and a post-doctoral fellowship from the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) for his stay at the University of Cincinnati as Visiting Professor of Architecture. Results of his research within the International Building Performance Evaluation (IBPE) consortium have been presented at EDRA and IAPS conferences since 1995 and published in several articles and book chapters.

Korydon H. Smith is Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at the University at Buffalo, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in architectural design and conducts research on design and social justice. Smith is the lead author of *Just Below the Line*:

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Galia Solomonoff is the founder and director of Solomonoff Architecture Studio. She received her Master's in Architecture from Columbia University, and was awarded the McKim Prize for Excellence in Design. Prior to founding SAS, Solomonoff founded OpenOffice. She has taught at Princeton University, The Cooper Union, and Yale, and currently is a professor of architectural practice at Columbia University. Solomonoff is the recipient of several design awards, and art grants. Her work appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *W*, *ARTNews*, *Artforum*, and *Domus*. *New York Magazine* called Dia: Beacon, which Solomonoff designed, "one of today's most compelling museums," and named Solomonoff part of the Next Wave of Designers in 2009. Solomonoff has collaborated in several books including: *Latin American Architecture: Six Voices* (Texas A&M Press, 2000) and *Post Ductility: Metals in Architecture and Engineering* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2012), and is working on "Documenting Latin American Architecture", a documentary and book project. Her writing aims at the recognition of Latin American architecture's cultural relevance and the advancement of architecture as a discipline significant to everyone.

Gen Taniguchi is Presidential Advisor on Facility Management at Nagoya University, Japan, Head of Facility Management Office, and Professor of Architecture. He is currently involved in the development of a campus master plan and town-scape management and also the asset management of public facilities. His previous positions include professorships at various universities and he was a licensed architect at INA Architects. He has published a number of books and refereed papers, and has planned and designed a number of hospitals and welfare facilities.

Elizabeth Walsh is a doctoral candidate in the Community and Regional Planning Program and the Indoor Environmental Sciences and Engineering Program at the University of Texas at Austin. Her dissertation research investigates how the design of low-income home renovation programs might enhance capacity for environmental justice, sustainability, and resilience in centrally located, gentrifying neighborhoods. Walsh is the co-founder of the Holly Neighbors Helping Neighbors program, a neighborhood, volunteer-based green home renovation program. As the Vice Chair of the Austin Housing Repair Coalition, Walsh works with a group of 17 public, non-profit, and private organizations dedicated to improving the health and environmental performance of low-income housing through home repair. Walsh also serves on the Living Environments in Natural, Social and Economic Systems (LENSES) Working Group with the Institute for the Built Environment at Colorado State University and leads LENSES, pilot projects related to park planning efforts in Austin.

Chris Watson is Director of C Watson Consultancy Limited, providing architectural services to government, commercial, and private clients in Australasia and Europe, from small simple alterations to large complex campuses. He has conducted approximately 180 POEs of schools, universities, courts, police stations, military and correction facilities, offices, museums, retail,

private, social and institutional housing, and Sydney Opera House facilities. He has contributed to the development of the POE method in New Zealand since 1984. His use of POE has been developed into a model whereby robust and systematic POE techniques are applied in different ways at various stages in the building life-cycle. Lastly, proposed buildings are reviewed in terms of occupant experience in similar buildings that have been evaluated. Chris Watson has evaluated buildings in Scotland, England, Portugal, Australia, and New Zealand. He contributed to OECD Programme on Education Buildings conferences and publications on evaluating education facilities including a Lisbon demonstration of evaluation. Internationally, he has published and presented at conferences of industry and design research organizations. He co-edited *Enhancing Building Performance* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2012). He has described his work to architecture and environmental psychology students in Asia, Europe, North America, the Middle East, and Oceania.

PREFACE

The idea for this book originated with co-editors Wolf Preiser and Aaron Davis when they were discussing trends in emerging practices in architecture. Davis had been compiling a two-volume *Conversations with Architects* series, comprised of interviews with notable architects reflecting on the founding, guiding principles, and economic strategies of their practices during the recession. Preiser had published six books on post-occupancy evaluation/building performance evaluation and sought to bridge the gap between that field and architectural criticism, as we know it in major newspapers like the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and architectural magazines. Previous collaborations with co-editor Ashraf Salama, editor of the *International Journal for Architectural Research (IJAR)*, led to an invitation for him to join the editorial team. Salama had published six books on architectural and urban pedagogy and his latest book is entitled *Demystifying Doha: On Architecture and Urbanism in an Emerging City*, and so it was important that he take part, which eventually led to the inclusion of architectural writings from the Middle East. Andrea Hardy was originally brought on as an Editorial Assistant through grants awarded by Arizona State University. As Hardy continued her work on the book structure, writing, research and illustrations for the book, she was then invited to contribute as co-author in Chapters 1 and 14, and also as Co-editor.

Interrogating perceived and measured quality in architecture, this book establishes a responsive and unbiased discourse on these two paradigms. It does this by acknowledging and revealing commonalities between the two and by instituting areas within the ontological agendas of each capable of supporting the differences. Nonetheless, on the one hand, contemporary architectural criticism appears to be in a continuous search for a role that seriously contributes to informing the architect directly or indirectly and consequently affects the work he or she produces. On the other hand, building performance evaluation seems to have developed into a mature area of research and an integral component of architecture in the academy as well as in professional practice.

The book aims to reveal the history and evolution of both architectural criticism and building performance evaluation while chronicling their fields. The book contains six sections, sequenced to introduce what are disparate fields of investigation. Through theoretical discussions, journalistic contributions, empirical findings, and case study investigations, these

sections cover the world in various regions from the Americans to the Middle East and from Europe to Australasia. The challenge of instigating a new paradigm is demonstrated through comprehensive but diverse approaches to building performance evaluation as a complement to traditional architectural criticism.

Three unique characteristics, typically not found in similar contributions, are evident throughout this book: international, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational. The international coverage, where most corners of the globe are represented, offers the reader a cross-cultural perspective and an opportunity to know more about different contexts and how both criticism and performance evaluation are understood and practiced. The interdisciplinary nature of the book is reflected in the diversity of its contributors – academics with different specializations, such as curators, critics, and professional architects – who all contribute insights that give the reader glimpses of the two paradigms from various perspectives including art and aesthetics, architecture, urban design, and environmental psychology. The book is also characterized by being intergenerational in the sense that it includes thoughtful writings from academics and practitioners with little experience in the field and theoretical underpinnings, analytical interpretations, and case examples written by prominent professionals in academic and professional realms. The preceding three features make this contribution appealing to students of architecture, academics, critics, building industry professionals, and those who make decisions about the built environment or have an influence on shaping it. Additionally, the book will serve as a point of reference for the general public when trying to understand what architects do today by speaking about their experience in their fields in their own voices.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our editorial team, although spread out geographically between Arizona (Wolf Preiser and Andrea Hardy), New York City (Aaron Davis), and Glasgow, Scotland (Ashraf Salama), worked extremely well together in bringing this book project to a successful conclusion.

This book would not have been written and edited without working in teaching and conducting research in various contexts, while experiencing the multifaceted nature of the built environment in those contexts. Many people have contributed directly or indirectly to this book. We are indebted to our current and former colleagues and students alike who throughout the years have contributed to our visions and views on examining different aspects of assessing a wide spectrum of building types, settings, and spaces.

We thank our authors whose profiles in terms of experience and cultural background have made this contribution unique. Their collaborative endeavors in meeting stringent deadlines and in following well-tested guidelines are much appreciated. The result is a book that reaches across the boundaries of culture and regions, reflected in the way in which it was developed and in the way in which it accommodates a diverse array of thoughts and visions.

Thanks are due to our editors at Routledge, Fran Ford, Jennifer Birtill and Trudy Varcianna, in assisting us in developing the original book proposal, and throughout the three draft rounds to ready the manuscript for publication. Joanna North guided us through the copy editing process, and David Campbell through the page proof phase of the project.

Lastly, we thank our spouses and significant others for enduring many lonely hours and days, while we were going through the very labor-intensive task of working our way through rounds of correcting and editing manuscripts, communicating with authors from around the globe, and at last, putting final touches to the present book. We owe our colleagues and families special thanks for their support and patience during times when the demands of the work often interfered with personal obligations and professional responsibilities.