

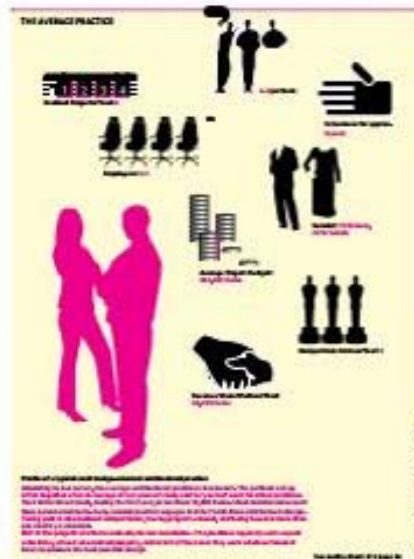


MANUAL FOR EMERGING ARCHITECTS
 EDITED BY WONDERLAND - SILVIA FORLATI AND ANNE ISOP
 SPRINGERWIENNEWYORK
 £31.99

The book *Manual for an Emerging Architects* by Wonderland is a collation of new and previously published articles. Wonderland is a group, website and publication that describes itself as a platform for European architecture. It is a network based in Vienna, Austria for exchanging experiences, information and knowledge for young Europe-oriented architecture practices.

The manual is not a manual in the traditional sense where one expects simple practical advice, it is more a guide to encourage the young emerging architect to question how they approach certain aspects of practice, to encourage them to question if they are achieving their objectives. This is done by offering the reader numerous case studies with solutions which have been taken by practices and the experiences of individuals in which they explain how they approached situations. In addition, collated survey results alongside editorials written by different individuals offer alternative viewpoints.

As the information contained within the manual has been collected over a number of years and from a wide variety of sources, it can sometimes appear disjointed and on occasion even outdated. The writing styles and individual approaches taken to



address subject matter can differ wildly. The approach taken by some is more simple and practical while others approach from a more philosophical or theoretical point of view, both of which have their merits. Consequently the ease of reading does vary throughout, though this may, in part, be a result of direct translation from the author's individual languages into English. The layout and presentation of the book deviates from a typical academic text in some areas, such as yellow text on a white background or connected bubbles of text, which can also make the book difficult to read. Furthermore, the diagrams are not always clearly explained.

The book is made up of five separate chapters: Getting Started, Making Mistakes, Going Public, Getting Specialised and Making Competitions. Each chapter stems from a specific survey on the subject which was returned by European practices who are members of Wonderland. In each chapter the topic is addressed through survey results, editorials and interviews to give a diverse approach to each topic.

As the title makes explicitly clear this is very much a book for the "Emerging Architect" as an occasional reference for one of the particular topics covered. The variety of points of view may assist in forming personal approaches to the topic. However reading from start to finish in a traditional manner can prove difficult and does not appear to be how the layout of the book was designed. The different authors' styles and



focus differs so much throughout that one article does not flow with the next.

Some very useful and practical information is contained within this book. If used as a reference book when addressing a specific subject and forming office strategies it could prove useful in suggesting alternative approaches.

MICHELLE FARRELL RIAS



TO HAVE AND TO HOLD: FUTURE OF A CONTESTED LANDSCAPE
 EDITED BY GERIE VAN NOORD
 NVA/LUATH PRESS
 £15.00

The concept of a 'contested landscape' has become a fertile seam within academic research of late, especially for earnest geography doctoral candidates. The theme