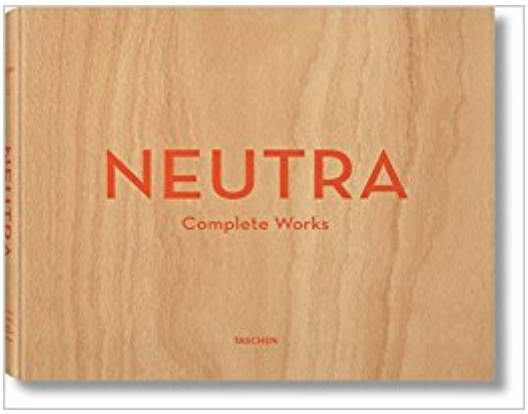
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Neutra: Complete Works



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Synopsis

The quintessential California Modernist: Richard Neutra and his search for modern architecture Ã Â Originally from Vienna, Richard Neutra came to America early in his career, settling in California. His influence on post-war architecture is undisputed, the sunny climate and rich landscape being particularly suited to his cool, sleek modern style. Neutra had a keen appreciation for the relationship between people and nature; his trademark plate glass walls and ceilings which turn into deep overhangs have the effect of connecting the indoors with the outdoors. His ability to incorporate technology, aesthetic, science, and nature into his designs brought him to the forefront of Modernist architecture. In this volume, all of NeutraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s works (nearly 300 private homes, schools, and public buildings) are gathered together, illustrated by over 1,000 photographs, including those of Julius Shulman and other prominent photographers. Ã Â Text in English, French, and German

Book Information

Hardcover: 464 pages

Publisher: Taschen; Multilingual edition (October 20, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3836512440

ISBN-13: 978-3836512442

Product Dimensions: 13.5 x 1.8 x 10.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #316,872 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #259 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Individual Architects & Firms #498 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > History #792 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Architecture

Customer Reviews

"It’s worth its weight in wood.... This is a truly beautiful book." - LA Weekly, Los Angeles"

Peter GÃƒÂ¶ssel runs an agency for museum and exhibition design. For TASCHEN he published monographs on Julius Shulman, R.M. Schindler, John Lautner and Richard Neutra as well as several titles in the Basic Architecture Series.Barbara Lamprecht writes on and teaches architectural history, concentrating on Modernism, and practices architecture, specializing in sustainability and small spaces. She contributes to Dwell, The Architectural Review, Architecture, Architectural Record

and Fine Homebuilding.A resident of Los Angeles since 1920, Julius Shulman documented modernist architecture in Southern California and across the globe for nearly eight decades. His images of Pierre Koenig's Case Study House No. 22 (1960) in Los Angeles and Richard J. Neutra's Kaufmann House (1947) in Palm Springs are among the most recognizable and iconic architectural photographs of the 20th century. Shulman's interest in photography developed into a career when he photographed Neutra's Kun Residence in Los Angeles with his Kodak Vestpocket camera in 1936. Neutra admired young Shulman's images and continued to commission his work. Other leading architects of the time followed suit, as did hundreds of magazines, newspapers, and book publishers. Shulman's numerous awards include the Architectural Photography Medal from the American Institute of Architects (1969), a lifetime achievement award from the International Center of Photography in New York (1998), and honorary doctorates from various academic institutions. He died on July 15, 2009 at the age of 98.

This book is huge and heavy and hard to hold, but is the ultimate collection of photos (mostly B/W) and descriptions of Neutra and his work. It's written in 3 languages, which means that a lot of the volume of the book (2/3 of the text) is wasted space, though the book is easily 50% photos. A detailed (roughly 15% of the book) nontechinical history, light bio, and analysis is included at the beginning, which is well written for a mass audience (ie, you dont need to be an architect to understand it). There is little to criticize. If you are reading the reviews for this book, that means you are looking for a book on Neutra specifically, and you aren't going to do much better than this.

This book does a nice job laying out Neutra's houses over the years. The pictures could have been a little bigger, but I am not going to pick on that point. It is pretty complete in its breadth.What gets this volume only a 4 star review is the fact that Taschen chose to save money and instead of putting out three different volumes, (one English , one German, one French), they chose to put all three together in one volume!So what you have is a history which could have probably fit into half the amount of pages (and this is a monster volume) but instead is the size it is largely because there are 3 different accompanying texts for each and every building and house in the book. So imagine having a nice picture of one of Neutra's houses and then an English text describing it and then on the following page, two more texts in each accompanying language. This happens throughout the book and because of it I have taken out a star.I wish they would have pointed out this fact before I bought it.On the other hand, if you don't have this book and are a Neutra fan, you should probably buy it.

nice, but lots of written pages and only vintage photos

A very comprehensive catalog of Neutra's works. Not a lot of detail, but then again, judging by the volume of his work, this would require multiple volumes. The graphic layout of the sheets is rather odd: sometimes it hard to know which text applies to which image.I did find a picture and description of a Neutra project we are working on...so was able to provide one check on the thoroughness of the project list.

Excellent photography and floor plans, but since the text is in English, French and German, it is printed in about 8 point. Difficult to read such small text.

If you like your books big and heavy, then this book will please you. It is definitely the biggest I've ever bought and putting it on a bookshelf is impossible. But what can you say about its contents. Thorough and complete. To have all of ones work in one book is ambitious, but when done properly, the result is a book which makes all others on the topic redundant. All of Neutra's projects are covered in this book in chronological order. From this you gain a greater perspective of his work, rather than the usual texts which show a few of his greatest hits and always leave you wanting more. One thing you gain from this book is how over a period of 40 or so years Neutra's basic design changed very little, yet was still appropriate to its time and setting. This book is a must have. Just watch your back, it is heavy!!

Great architecture book, great photos and graphics

Love the Julius Schuman photography and the Neutra designs. A perfect pairing.

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