## Architecture: From the Ground Up

THE ORAL HISTORY OF MODERN ARCHITECTURE

Teamings with the Course for Internal for September Company Day England

Abrams, 1994, 320 pages, 9¼" x 11½", hardcover, \$75.00

CD, 1994, total playing time approximately 70 minutes

his unprecedented book and accompanying compact disc tell the story of modern architecture in the words of the people who created it. Based on interviews conducted over the course of 40 years with more than 60 of the world's most prominent architects and engineers, the volume is both an invaluable oral history and a broadly appealing look at the development of the modern style, animated by the architects' own observations, opinions, anecdotes, and humor.

The architects' words and the author's brief comments are accompanied by 200 black-and-white photographs of the landmarks of modern architecture, including plans, sketches, and models. Each has a brief explanatory caption that augments information in the text. Large, original candid portraits of the architects—taken at the time of the interview—add to the personal and conversational nature of the book.

The Oral History of Modern Architecture opens with an introduction to the modern movement. We then hear the architects themselves as they discuss the impact of technology, social concerns, and art on modern architecture, and reveal the buildings and architects that most influenced them. Next, are in-depth selections from the interviews with Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van

der Rohe, Walter Gropius, Eero Saarinen, Louis Kahn, Philip Johnson, Oscar Niemeyer, José Luis Sert, and I. M. Pei. In the closing chapter, the architects speculate about the future of modern architecture. Biographies, a time chart, a bibliography, and a visitor's guide to more than 150 of the sites pictured and discussed complete the volume.

On the compact disc, history comes alive as 16 of the most renowned modern masters express the ideas and ideals behind their works, which belong to one of the most significant movements in the history of architecture.

- from Abrams



Chicago Review Press, 1994, 137 pages, 11" x 8\%", paperback, \$14.95

Both a biography and an activity book, Frank Lloyd Wright for Kids is about a boy growing up on an American farm, a boy who works hard and sees structures and harmonies in the landscape around him—the small yellow squares on an ear of corn and the patterns in freshly tilled soil. It is the story of a young man becoming a great architect as he uses his love of nature's colors and shapes in his unique designs. Delightful activities enable kids to understand and appreciate the ideas presented in the biography. The activities include: Finding geometric shapes within everyday objects

■ Comparing the designs of different houses ■ Reading architectural plans ■ Using geometric shapes to construct an origami tulip ■ Building a model of Fallingwater with graham crackers ■ Making a textile block from plaster ■ Designing a city ■ Celebrating seasonal festivals the way Wright did—with costumes, treats, and poems ■ and many more!

Archiblocks

—from Chicago Review Press

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arly in his life, Frank Lloyd Wright's mother gave him a set of geometric blocks much like these to encourage development of his "architectural thinking." With this set of blocks, you too can build the Guggenheim Museum and variations of the original design. The set includes 56 specially shaped maple blocks and an instruction booklet for building the Guggenheim Museum. \$29.95

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