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Invitation to Architecture: Discovering Delight in the World Built Around Us

Max Jacobson, Shelley Brock
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Max Jacobson, Shelley Brock : Invitation to Architecture: Discovering Delight in the World Built Around Us before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Invitation to Architecture: Discovering Delight in the World Built Around Us:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Not your Father's Book on Architecture By Esfandiar Lohrasbpour Over the years, I have attempted to read a few books on architecture. Invariably, they treat the reader as a kindergartner, or as an architect. This book does neither. Instead, in very plain English, it helps non-architects appreciate architecture. The same way I say that I know a good wine when I taste one, I have always believed that I

know good architecture when I see it. By 'good' I mean 'to my taste.' This book has helped me figure out those elements that make a structure good and to my taste. So that if I come back as an architect in my next life I can hit the ground running. Bravo, Shelley Brock and Max Jacobson. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I Dwell in Possibility By CKW "Invitation to Architecture" is the introduction to architecture that I never had and otherwise would have turned my interest toward this life work. For me, the road not taken... well, at least professionally. Having designed, built and lived-in three different dwellings, the last and best of which incorporates several important design concepts (included in this latest publication) that I learned from reading Max Jacobson over the years has added a richness to my life for which I am grateful. This book has a poetry which makes it a delight to read. I am reminded of Emily Dickinson's poem, #657, "I Dwell in Possibility": I dwell in Possibility--A fairer House than Prose--More numerous of Windows--Superior--for Doors--Of Chambers as the Cedars--Impregnable of Eye--And for an Everlasting Roof The Gambrels of the Sky--Of Visitors--the fairest--For Occupation--This--The spreading wide my narrow Hands To gather Paradise--I would recommend this book to anyone interested in thinking more deeply about the dwellings they inhabit and certainly to any undergraduates considering architecture as a career. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By zingaro Good book and an invitation for those interested in the field. Max is great.

Expand your knowledge of the world around us. Look up. Look around. There's architecture everywhere, from the homes in which we live to the buildings where we work, the historical sites we visit on vacation to the shopping malls we frequent on a daily basis. But what exactly is architecture and what differentiates it from mere "buildings"? How does it impact our lives? In this engaging, original work, architects Max Jacobson, one of the authors of the landmark design book *A Pattern Language*, and Shelley Brock explore these and many other questions as they present a compelling case for the importance of architecture in our day-to-day lives. A beautiful, coffee table book... an elegant conversation piece... an educational resource for the entire family. One peek inside this glorious book, filled with 150 illustrations, and you'll agree that architecture is not just for architects! *Invitation to Architecture* begins with a discussion of the many ways architecture influences our lives from our activities as young children to our everyday interests and interactions as adults. The book delves into the "great" buildings of the world and also explores the whole range of architectural works from indigenous structures to contemporary buildings. Strength, usefulness, and beauty--these are the three pillars on which *Invitation to Architecture* is built. There's an exploration of the role of "durability," "utility," and "beauty" in architecture. These three concepts (originally coined by Vitruvius during the Roman empire as *Firmitas*, *Utilitas*, and *Venustas*) remain at the heart of what architecture strives for and they are as relevant today as they were over 2,000 years ago. Strength, usefulness, and beauty... the benefits you will derive from this captivating resource.

About the Author Max Jacobson, founding partner in the internationally respected California firm JSWD Architects, has been practicing architecture for almost 40 years. Co-author of *A Pattern Language* and *Patterns of Home* (the latter published by The Taunton Press), Max has been a lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley and is currently Instructor of Architecture at Diablo Valley College in California. Shelley Brock is a licensed architect who enjoys exploring the design process with beginning architecture students. She brings a background in art history, literature, and language study to the project of deepening awareness of the built environment and the profound effect it has on our daily lives