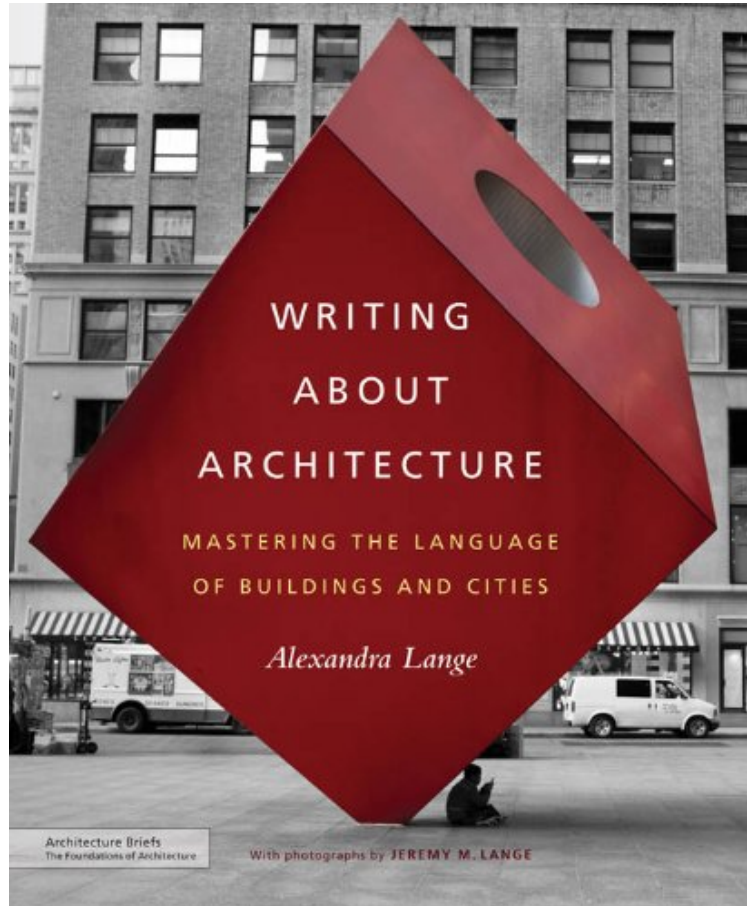


(Pdf free) Writing About Architecture: Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities (Architecture Briefs)

Writing About Architecture: Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities (Architecture Briefs)

Alexandra Lange

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Alexandra Lange : Writing About Architecture: Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities (Architecture Briefs) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Writing About Architecture: Mastering the Language of Buildings and Cities (Architecture Briefs):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ways of Seeing and Ways of Writing By Joongwon Lee I like this book a lot. The book has three weaving threads that bind interesting issues. The first thread is introduction of multiple writers (Mumford, Huxtable, Muschamp, Goldberger, Sorkin, Kamin, Sullivan, Jacobs, etc); The second thread is introduction of diverse urban and architectural perspectives; and the third thread is, in showing first and second, Prof. Lange was able to show how each writer's perspective shaped the style of one's writing and the constructs of one's writing. I guess good writings help us to shape a new perspective about the subject matter. This book does this job diligently. Not only does this book help us to write clearly about architecture, but also it helps us to categorize viewpoints of each writer and their writing style. By selecting a certain piece of writing of each writer, Prof. Lange illustrates her ways of seeing physical environment and effective ways (paragraph constructs, sentence tones, and

vocabulary selections, etc)of delivering that perspective.If a prospect reader is an avid architecture reader, all the sample writings are pretty familiar, hence, such reader will enjoy more about Prof. Lange's analysis on each critic's viewpoints and their corresponding writing style. That is the real beauty of this book. I personally enjoyed Prof. Lange's writings more than the great writers of past and present. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A deeper look at your own community By Kindle Customer A diverse selection of previously published articles by some of the nation's foremost critics accompanied by thematic essays compel readers to think about architecture and its impact on communities more deeply. The book assembles, deconstructs, analyzes, and explains in a manner that encourages readers not only to look at buildings and landscapes more critically but to write about them in order to create better communities. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Toby Morro OK, but predictable

Extraordinary architecture addresses so much more than mere practical considerations. It inspires and provokes while creating a seamless experience of the physical world for its users. It is the rare writer that can frame the discussion of a building in a way that allows the reader to see it with new eyes. *Writing About Architecture* is a handbook on writing effectively and critically about buildings and cities. Each chapter opens with a reprint of a significant essay written by a renowned architecture critic, followed by a close reading and discussion of the writer's strategies. Lange offers her own analysis using contemporary examples as well as a checklist of questions at the end of each chapter to help guide the writer. This important addition to the *Architecture Briefs* series is based on the author's design writing courses at New York University and the School of Visual Arts. Lange also writes a popular online column for *Design Observer* and has written for *Dwell*, *Metropolis*, *New York* magazine, and *The New York Times*. *Writing About Architecture* includes analysis of critical writings by Ada Louise Huxtable, Lewis Mumford, Herbert Muschamp, Michael Sorkin, Charles Moore, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Jane Jacobs. Architects covered include Marcel Breuer, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Field Operations, Norman Foster, Frank Gehry, Frederick Law Olmsted, SOM, Louis Sullivan, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

"In *Writing About Architecture*, Lange recognizes the stakes inherent in the act of describing place. While she certainly is pushing writers, readers and her students to aim for clarity in criticism, Lange goes much further, arguing that architecture critics be invested intellectually and emotionally in the world that surrounds them. The iconic critics Lange celebrates enliven the spaces they write about - whether they love them or hate them. They notice things. They're steeped in history, in context and provenance. They take their time. They make the reader want to experience the spaces described." --- Allison Arieff, *The New York Times* "Nothing short of miraculous.... Lange's book goes into the "nuts-and bolts" level of wordsmithing architectural experiences with a poetic lyricism and technical precision as no book before it. Use it often and you'll never think of the word "critic" pejoratively again." --- ArchNewsNow "Lange analyzes her key texts with great care and perceptiveness, and happily she is wide ranging in her taste... She understands that the purpose of writing about architecture is to build a constituency for better design, to help people see, to help them feel more agency over the built environment-and to help them take joy in architecture's great moments. She's good at doing that herself, and this book will help others do it, too." --- Paul Goldberger, *The Architect's Newspaper* "It's not only a delight to read - Jacobs' vivid 1961 description of the everyday ballet on Manhattan's Hudson Street alone is worth the \$24.95 price of admission - but an instructive treatise on how great criticisms come to be." -- Architects + Artisans About the Author Alexandra Lange is an architecture and design critic, journalist, and historian. Her work has appeared in *The Architect's Newspaper*, *Design Observer*, *Dwell*, *Icon*, *Metropolis*, *New York Magazine*, and *The New York Times*, and she teaches architecture criticism at NYU and the School of Visual Arts. She blogs in the Observers Room at *Design Observer* weekly, and is also active on Twitter (@langealexandra) and Tumblr (abitlate.tumblr.com).