

CHARLES CORREA

DAVID ROBSON

MODERNITY AND COMMUNITY: ARCHITECTURE IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Charles Correa is an Indian architect, planner, activist and theoretician known for the wide range of his architectural work in India and low-cost shelter in the Third World. He has received the Royal Institute of British Architects Gold Medal in 1984, the Indian Institute of Architects Gold Medal in 1987, the International Union of Architects Gold Medal in 1990, and the Praemium Imperiale for Architecture from the Japan Art Association in 1994, He has taught at many universities, both in India and abroad.

Kenneth Frampton is Ware Professor of Architecture at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University in New York, and is currently a visiting professor at the Academia di Architettura in Mendrisio, Switzerland. Professor Frampton was a fellow of the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, New York, from 1972 to 1982 and a senior tutor at the Royal College of Arts, London, from 1974 to 1977. He is the author of numerous influential publications including Modern Architecture: A Critical History (Thames & Hudson) and Studies in Tectonic Culture.

David Robson is Professor of Architecture in the University of Brighton and a visiting professor in the National University of Singapore. He first met Geoffery Bawa when he was teaching in Colombo in the early 1970s. Robson later worked as an advisor to the Sri Lankan Government and was involved in the famous Hundred Thousand Houses Programme. He is currently developing a major monograph on Geoffrey Bawa (to be published by Thames & Hudson).

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Modernity and Community: Architecture in the Islamic World

With the age of sophisticated telecommunications and internet technology beginning to bridge cultural and physical gaps around the world, there has been growing sensitivity to the preservation of local customs against the threat of homogenizing globalization. In the realm of architecture, this has increasingly manifested itself in the integration of modern techniques and tectonics with vernacular forms. Where once the interaction between (primarily Western) forms of thought and community traditions could produce meaningful hybrids, today. in the information age, there is a risk that this fusion of modernity and local culture strips both of their important characteristics.

This tendency is notable everywhere but perhaps most noticeable in the developing countries. To bring to international attention the work of architects and designers working in the Muslim world, the Aga Khan Award for Architecture was established in 1977 specifically to communicate those projects that demonstrate excellence in promoting local building traditions, rehabilitating urban fabrics and rural townships and forging new architectural languages and modes of creation.

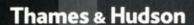
The premiated projects in the eighth cycle presented in this book represent significant and innovative approaches to building, restoration, place-making, craftsmanship and landscape. Chosen by an international jury comprising experts on architecture and planning, renowned architects Ricardo Legorreta and Glenn Murcutt and artist Mona Hatoum, nine projects – from Morocco to Iran, from infrastructure improvements to a luxury hotel – reveal just how far building and community involvement can go to improve life for thousands, if not millions.

Each project is shown in line drawings, concise project descriptions and a portfolio of photographs that capture the humanity each of these projects has brought to their surroundings. Architecture historian Kenneth Frampton provides an overview of the works and a context for their importance in the history of architecture and regional modernism. A special section is devoted to the great Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa, recipient of the Chairman's Award, whose work has had a profound influence around the world.

Ultimately, this book is a celebration of buildings of distinct character that will provide long-term benefit to everyone that comes into contact with them – and in them are lessons for everyone.

With 296 illustrations, 82 in colour

On the cover: Blue Water Hotel, Wadduwa. Sri Lanka by Geoffrey Bawa. Photo Christian Richters

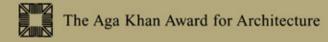




MODERNITY AND COMMUNITY: ARCHITECTURE IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

WITH 296 ILLUSTRATIONS, 82 IN COLOUR





Acknowledgments

This monograph was conceived and directed under the guidance of the members of the 2001 Award Steering Committee. Descriptions of the winning projects are based on the written reports of the technical reviewers who visited each project on site. Design and layout of the book were undertaken by Armand Mevis and Linda van Deursen (Mevis en van Deursen, Amsterdam), Lucas Dietrich coordinated the publication at Thames & Hudson, and Philippa Baker edited the texts. Special thanks to H. Peter Dusk.

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