

[FREE] Open House

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Dung Ngo, Adi Shamir Zion
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Dung Ngo, Adi Shamir Zion : Open House before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Open House:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy chrisandterVery interesting and informative.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Open House: Unbound Space and the Modern DwellingBy Michael WebbHeavy on pictures and short on text, this is a quirky collection of houses that take the modern obsession with openness to one or another extreme. Familiar examples like Philip Johnson's Glass House and Shigeru Ban's Wall-less house --with its toilet and tub sitting out in full view--are juxtaposed with some interiors that feel confined and a couple of blue-sky projects that seem almost claustrophobic. However, as surveys of contemporary architecture become ever more predictable, a book as eccentric as this is welcome. (Michael Webb is the book reviewer for LA Architect magazine.)5 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Open house: Closed book.By A CustomerDisappointing! I purchased a number of books along the lines of this book for a reference library and this was the only one that I did not want to keep. It just seemed to miss the point. Everything in this book had been covered

so much better in my other purchases. There was nothing original and inspiring that made me feel this was a book to keep. To add to my disappointment the store management equated the return of this book like requesting my money back after reading a novel and extracting the gist. They had no concept of what it means to build a reference source. It's not like seeing a bad movie and requesting a refund after sitting through it which is the way they put it to me.

At the beginning of the 20th century, a new vision of architectural space was born; free-flowing floor plans were made possible by new construction methods that eliminated the need for interior partitions. This first half of this book explores the evolution of the open plan house in the work of well-known European and American architects. From Frank Lloyd Wright's 'destruction of the box' at the turn of the century, the free plan of the modernist house enabled the demolition of traditional social and familial constraints. In the 1950s, residential architecture began to blur the distinction between inside and outside, offering casual, free-flowing space and seamless integration of exterior and interior spaces. The open house had arrived. Today, the free plan, and in turn the open house, has taken yet another turn as a new generation of architects takes up the reins of modernism. As can be seen in Shigeru Ban's minimalist retreat perched in the hills of Japan, or LOT/EK's industrial vernacular duplex in New York, the modern open plan house is alive and well. Twelve projects by some of today's leading international architects, including Ben van Berkel and Caroline Bos, Patkau Architects, Robert Mangurian and Mary-Ann Ray, Wes Jones, Daly Genik, Kuth Ranieri and Pritzker Prize winner Glenn Murcutt, are showcased in full-page colour photographs that illustrate and celebrate the enduring relevance and formal variety of the open house.

About the Author Dung Ngo has published books on Louis Kahn and Rem Koolhaas. He is currently an independent writer and lecturer on architecture. Adi Shamir Zion is the Dean of Instruction at the California College of Arts and Crafts in San Francisco.