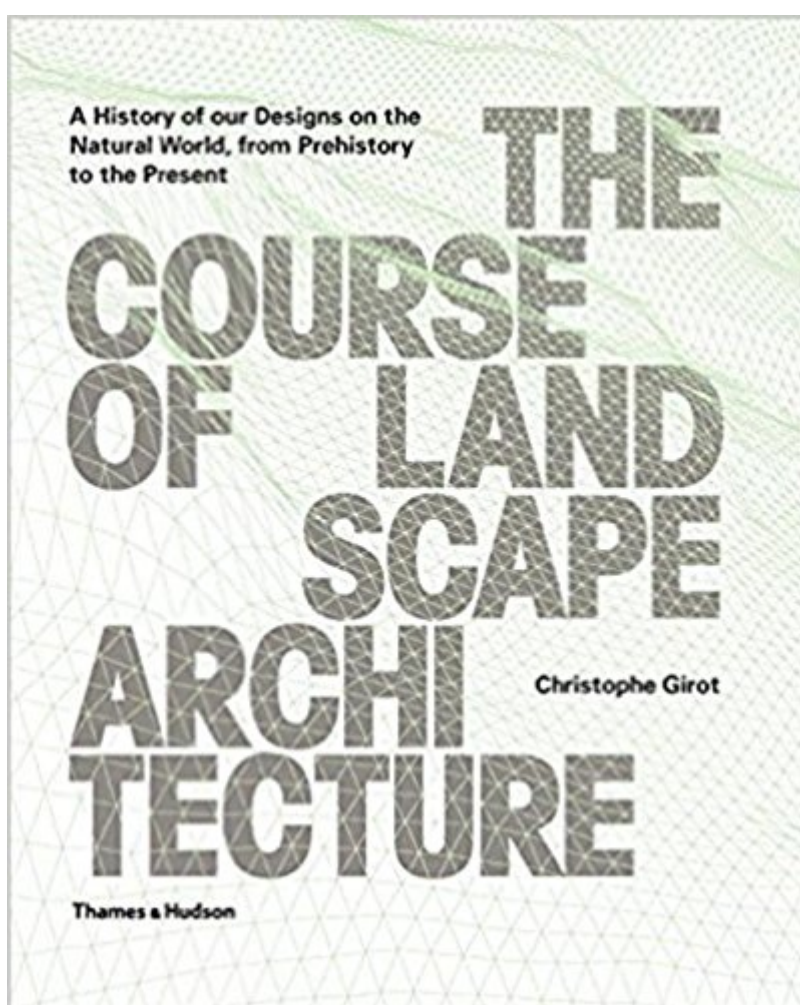


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The Course Of Landscape Architecture: A History Of Our Designs On The Natural World, From Prehistory To The Present



Synopsis

The first significant history of human intervention on the landscape since Geoffrey Jellicoe's *Landscape of Man*, originally published in 1975. In many ways the history of civilization is a history of humans' relationship with nature. Starting from the dual inclination to clear land for cultivation and to enclose space for protection—the forest clearing and the walled garden—there emerges a vital and multifaceted narrative that describes our cultural relationship to, and dependence on, the landscape. Christophe Girot sets out to chronicle this history, drawing on all aspects of mankind's creativity and ingenuity. In twelve chapters, he brings together the key stories that have shaped our man-made landscapes. Each chapter consists of a thematic essay that ties together the central developments, as well as a case study illustrated with specially commissioned photographs and meticulously detailed 3D recreations showing the featured site in its original context. The result of over two decades of teaching experience and academic research at one of the world's leading universities, *The Course of Landscape Architecture* will reach international students and professionals. But its wealth of visual material, the wide range of its cultural references and the beauty of the landscapes it features will attract the interest of all who desire to enrich their understanding of how our landscapes have been formed, and how we relate to them. 600 illustrations, 550 in color

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What distinguishes this publication from other histories of landscape is its grounding in the historical, spiritual, philosophical, and cultural meaning of landscapes as they relate to the ecological evolution

of human intervention in the environment. From the hydrology of early agriculture's sedentary control of the land to the reclamation of wastelands, Girot highlights the need for a cultural revolution of nature and a 'restart' for the planet, given today's widespread landscape ruins. A thought-provoking invitation to reflection and action.

Christophe Girot is Chair of Landscape Architecture in the Department of Architecture of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH). He is a former chairman of the Department of Landscape Design at the École Nationale Supérieure du Paysage in Versailles, and currently practices landscape architecture in Zurich.

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