

MONOGRAPH

DAVID KOHN ARCHITECTS. STAGES

EDITED BY MORITZ KÜNG

VERLAG DER BUCHHANDLUNG WALTHER UND FRANZ KÖNIG

ISBN: 978-3-7533-0891-3



Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects

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This first comprehensive monograph surveys the widely discussed work of London-based David Kohn Architects. Twelve autonomous and lavishly illustrated publications varying in size, scope and subject matter offer insights into the studio's output since its founding in 2007. Each section, distinct in form and content, presents an aspect of the studio's design process from a different analytical, artistic, critical or editorial point of view: *An Architect's Book*, *Fables & Figures*, *White Wide Walls*, *The Hedgehog And The Fox*, *Collaboration Objects*, *Scenographies*, *Rural Codes*, *Only A Wall*, *Contemporary College*, *November 2024*, *Jujitsu Urbanism*, and *Other Rooms*.

Together, they form an eclectic sample book in which the architect's book is conceived in the spirit of the artist's book, a format with its own logic and identity. This approach is reflected in the curated selection of projects, the editorial direction of Moritz Küng, the one-off graphic design by Armand Mevis, and the contributions of invited collaborators.

Essays by: David Kohn, Moritz Küng, William Whyte, Ellis Woodman, Lydia Yee;

Texts by: Jonathan Anderson, Oona Bannon and Russell Pinch, Peter and Suzanne Redstone, Edward Turner;

Artistic contributions by: Fiona Banner, Max Creasy;

Copy edited by: Pamela Johnston.

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For more information and high-resolution images, contact: steven@whitegatesassociates.com

Book launch and presentation

November 19th 6-8pm

AA School of Architecture, Bookshop

33 Bedford Square, WC1B 3EE, London

In presence of the architect, publisher, editor and graphic designer.

David Kohn, born 1972, Cape Town, lives and works in London.

David Kohn studied architecture at the University of Cambridge and Columbia University, New York, where he was a Fulbright Scholar. He gained professional experience at practices including East and Caruso St John before founding his own studio, David Kohn Architects (DKA), in London in 2007. To date, the office has completed over 120 projects and received numerous accolades, including a D&AD Yellow Pencil (2009), Young Architect of the Year (2009), RIBA Regional Awards (2013, 2022, 2023), Architectural Record Design Vanguard Award (2017), RIBA House of the Year (2022) and the Architects' Journal Manser Medal for House of the Year (2023). David has taught at the Sir John Cass School of Art, Architecture and Design, KU Leuven and the Architectural Association, London. He will be Visiting Professor of Classical Architecture at Yale

University in spring 2027.

Moritz Küng is an independent curator, critic and book editor based in Barcelona, working at the intersection of art, architecture and contemporary publishing. Currently he writes a bi-monthly column about artists' books for the art newspaper *De Witte Raaf* (Brussels) and is since 2019 one of the external experts for Le Prix Bob Calle du livre d'artiste (Paris). Recent publications include *Blank. Raw. Illegible... Artists' Books as Statements [1960–2022]* (Walther König, Cologne, 2023), *Herzog & de Meuron. Exploring 473* (SongEun Arts Centre, Seoul, 2022), and *Sam Chermayeff. Creatures* (Apartamento Publishers, Barcelona, 2020).

Armand Mevis is a graphic designer based in Amsterdam. Together with Linda van Deursen, he founded the studio Mevis & van Deursen, which was active from 1987 to 2022. Clients include: Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Kaiser Wilhelm Museum (Krefeld), Haus Lange and Haus Esters (Krefeld), Van Gogh Museum (Amsterdam), Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen (Rotterdam), MCA Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), documenta 14 (Kassel), La Biennale di Venezia (Venice), MoMA (New York), Guggenheim Museum (New York), New Museum (New York), Van Abbemuseum (Eindhoven), MMK (Frankfurt). Armand Mevis works independently since 2023. He was visiting Professor at Yale University from 2003–07, and currently acts as Head of the Werkplaats Typografie, Amsterdam/Arnhem (MA, ArtEZ University of the Arts), and is Professor at ISIA, Urbino, and Visiting Professor at EESAD, Rennes.

Lydia Yee is a London-based curator, art historian and independent museum professional. She is currently Senior Curatorial Advisor to YDP (Yan Du Projects) and a member of the external faculty for New Curators. Yee has held curatorial positions in both London and New York, including Chief Curator at the Whitechapel Gallery, Curator at Barbican Art Gallery, and Senior Curator at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. A recipient of the Asian Cultural Council Individual Fellowship (2024–25) and a member of the Turner Prize jury (2024), she was also co-curator of Frieze Talks (2018–19) and British Art Show 8 (2015–17).

Ellis Woodman is the Director of the Architecture Foundation in London. A former editor of Building Design and architecture critic for the Daily Telegraph, he has written extensively about contemporary architecture. His books include *Modernity and Reinvention: The Architecture of James Gowan* (Black Dog, 2008) and *Temples and Tombs: The Sacred and Monumental Architecture of Craig Hamilton* (Lund Humphries, 2019). His biography of Austen St Barbe Harrison, *The Unenglishman: An Architect at Empire's End* will be published by MACK in 2026.

William Whyte is Professor of Social and Architectural History and Fellow of St John's College at the University of Oxford. He is Chair of the Oxford Preservation Trust, the Oxford Historical Society, and the Victoria County History of Oxfordshire. A trustee of English Heritage and the Radcliffe Trust, which was responsible for several of Oxford's most notable buildings, he has written extensively on the architecture of universities. His books include *Oxford Jackson: Architecture, Education, Status and Style, 1835–1924*.



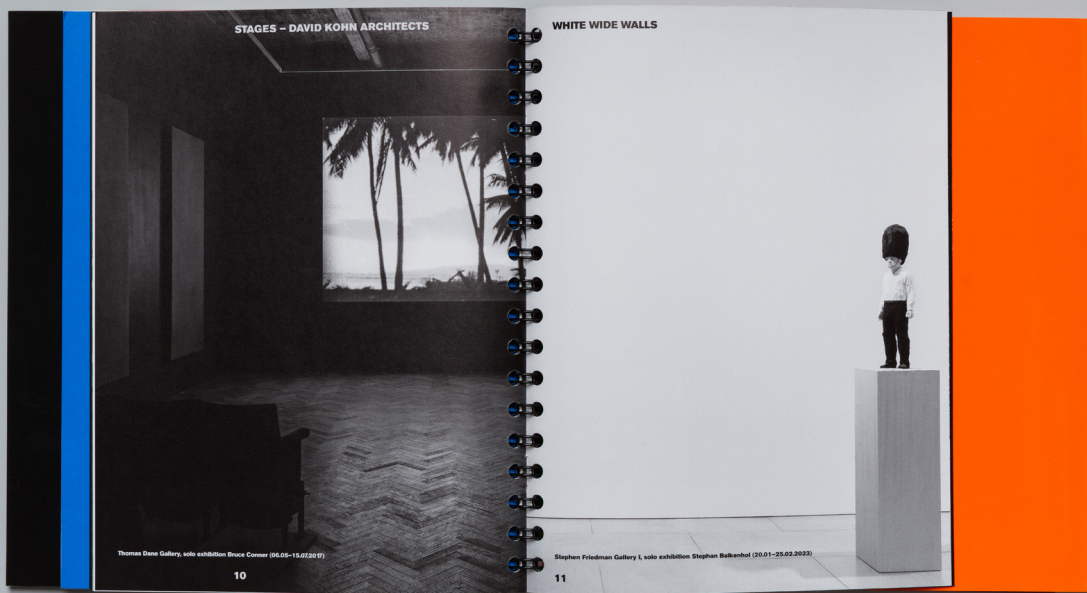
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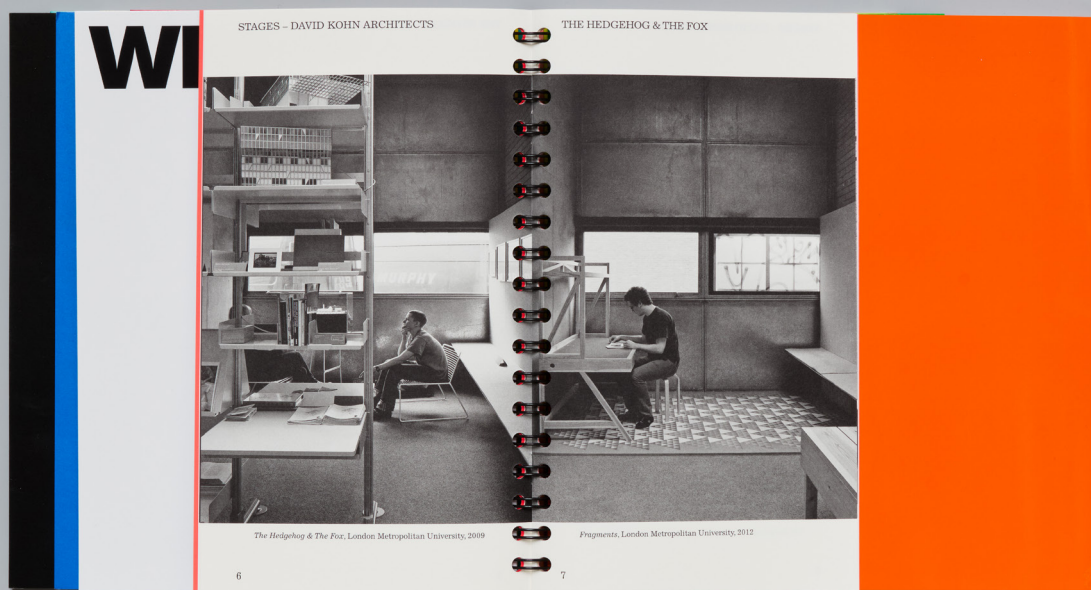
Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 1: An Architect's Book
Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 3: White Wide Walls
Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 4: The Hedgehog & The Fox
Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 5: Collaboration Objects
Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



STAGES - DAVID KOHN ARCHITECTS
Jonathan Anderson

'It's not like in London, where you go to the front door. Because you have all these openings, you end up going out through the kitchen or from the living room and you're part of nature and the garden. That's what I love about it. You're just going through the glazing into the field. So when you leave it open, there's no need to have the formality of going through a front door. The other thing I love is the square window above the bed in the master bedroom. When the light comes in, it throws a perfect square of light on the wall, so when I wake up in the morning I can tell what time it is - you know, if the square is gone, then I've slept in, if it's still there, that's quite good.'

'In the evenings, nearly everything in the house is focused around this suspension of the fireplace. The house goes dark and when you're sitting in this singular room you look back down the corridor and you get the length of the building. It creates this weird sound thing - if someone is in the bedroom at the very end and you're in the living room, that sound will feel closer to you than it really is. And there's something nice about that.'

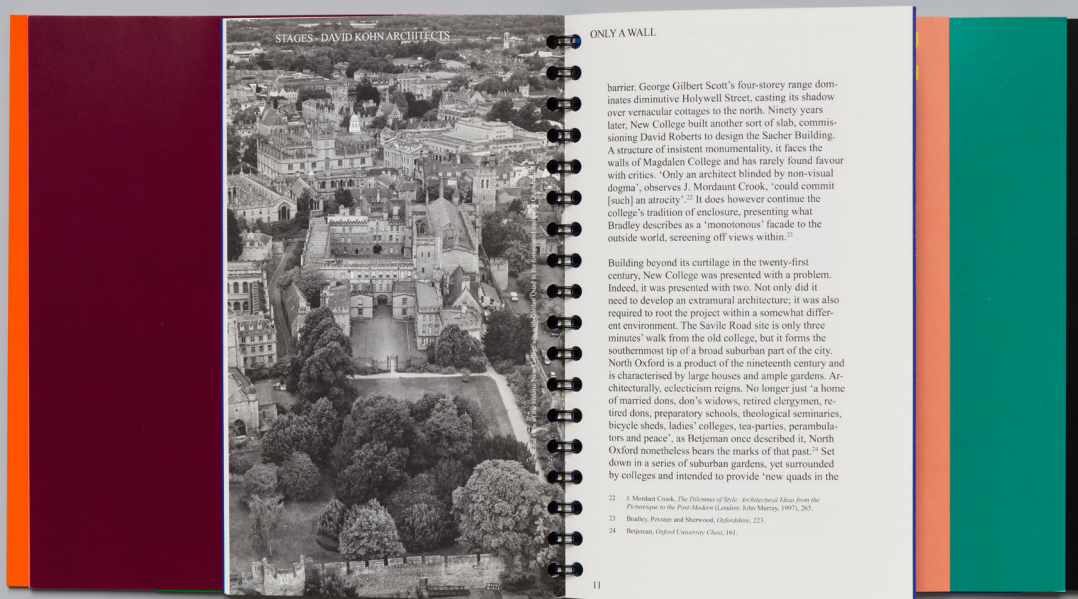


Section 7: Rural Codes

Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects

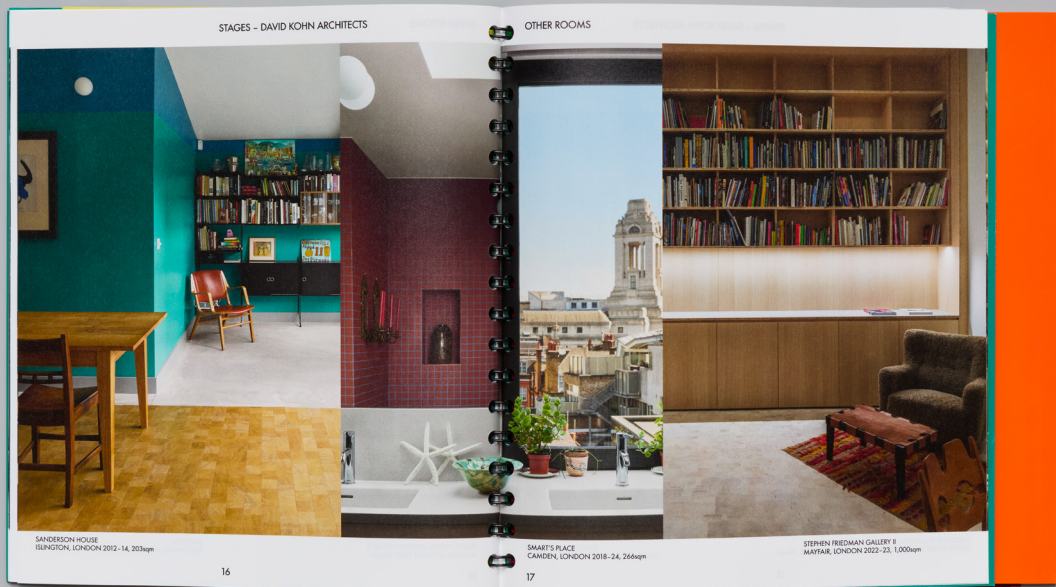


Section 8: Only A Wall
 Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 8: Only A Wall

Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects



Section 12: Other Rooms

Photo Johannes Schwartz, courtesy David Kohn Architects