

(Free and download) Houses of Cards

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Peter Eisenman

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Peter Eisenman : Houses of Cards before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Houses of Cards:

Peter Eisenman is known internationally for his innovative and provocative architecture and writings. One of the "New York Five," he has been a leading figure in the architectural community for many years, as teacher, as founder and former director of the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, and as builder. This long-awaited book is a rich and complex investigation of his first six houses, which he calls "Houses of Cards" and specifically about House IV and House VI. In these houses, Eisenman has tried to strip architecture of its traditional meanings and associations, making the planes, walls, and elements of the houses as valueless as an arrangement of playing cards. This book contains the architect's own texts on House IV and House VI, which he wrote in 1974, and 1976, as they were being designed, as well as an overview in which he places these houses in the context of his work as a whole. In his essay Manfredo Tafuri offers a psychological perspective; in hers Rosalind Krauss provides cultural and historical contexts. The book is profusely illustrated with sketches, diagrams, and photographs. In some ways, the book itself becomes a new project--somewhat of a metaphor for Eisenman's new approach to architecture--layered with "absences and presences," a complex fiction.

About the AuthorAbout the Authors: Peter Eisenman is a partner in the firm of Eisenman Robertson. He is the author of House X and one of the co-authors of Five Architects. Rosalind Krauss is Professor of the History of Art at Hunter College, City University of New York and author of Terminal Iron Works and Passages in Modern Sculpture. Manfredo Tafuri is Professor of Architecture at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura Venezia and author of Modern Architecture and Architecture and Utopia.