

Zoomorphic New Animal Architecture

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a quirky trend of building designs inspired by bizarre animals has emerged in the last few years why and how has this happened is it because of new technical possibilities in materials and structural engineering or is the answer to be found in new social preoccupations in science after a brief look at the historical precedents the book focuses on contemporary examples from around the world and shows the various ways in which the organic animal forms inform the architectural ones featured architects include frank gehry michael sorkin and greg lynn

a provocative call for architects to remember and embrace the nonhuman lives that share our spaces a spider spinning its web in a dark corner wasps building a nest under a roof there s hardly any part of the built environment that can t be inhabited by nonhumans and yet we are extremely selective about which animals we keep in or out this book imagines new ways of thinking about architecture and the more than human and asks how we might design with animals and the other lives that share our spaces in mind animal architecture is a provocative exploration of how to think about building in a world where humans and other animals are already entangled whether we acknowledge it or not

construction behaviour occurs across the entire spectrum of the animal kingdom and affects the survival of both builders and other organisms associated with them animal architecture provides a comprehensive overview of the biology of animal building the book recognizes three broad categories of built structure homes traps and courtship displays even though some of these structures are complex and very large the behaviour required to build them is generally simple andthe anatomy for building unspecialized

standardization of building materials helps to keep building repertoires simple while self organizing effects help create complexity in a case study approach to function insects demonstrate how homes can remain operational while they grow spiderwebs illustrate mechanical design and the displays of bowerbirds raise the possibility of persuasion through design rather than just decoration studies of the costs to builders provide evidence of optimal designs and of trade offs with other life history traits as ecosystem engineers the influence of builders is extensive and their effect is generally to enhance biodiversity through niche construction animal builders can therefore represent model species for the study of the emerging subject of environmental inheritance building and in particular building with silk has been demonstrated to have important evolutionary consequences this book is intended for students and researchers in comparative animal biology but will also be of relevance and use to the increasing numbers of architects and civil engineers interested in developing ideas from the animal kingdom

explores the kinds of habitats animals build for themselves

a highly original view of the relationship between architecture and the biological sciences

urban and natural environments are often viewed as entirely separate entities human settlements as the domain of architects and planners and natural areas as untouched wilderness this dichotomy continues to drive decision making in subtle ways but with the mounting pressures of global climate change and declining biodiversity it is no longer viable new technologies are promising to provide renewable energy sources and greener designs but real change will require a deeper shift in values attitudes and perceptions a timely and important collection the natural city explores how to integrate the natural environment into healthy urban centres from philosophical religious socio political and planning perspectives recognizing the need to better link the humanities with public policy the natural city offers unique insights for the development of an alternative vision of urban life

from termite mounds that in relative terms are three times as tall as a skyscraper to the elaborate nests of social birds and the deadly traps of spiders the constructions of the animal world can amaze and at times humble our own engineering and technology but how do creatures with such small brains build these complex structures what drives them to do it which skills are innate and which learned here mike hansell looks at the extraordinary structures that animals build whether homes traps or courtship displays and reveals the biology behind their behaviour he shows how small brained animals achieve complex feats in a small brained way by repeating many simple actions and using highly evolved self secreted materials on the other hand the building feats or tool use of large brained animals such as humans or chimps require significantly more complex and costly behaviour we look at wasp s nests leaf cutting ants caddisflies and amoebae and even the extraordinary bower bird who seduces his mate with a decorated pile of twigs baubles feathers and berries hansell explores how animal structures evolved over time how insect societies emerge how animals can alter their wider habitat and even whether some animals have an aesthetic sense

this book explores the relationships between form space and cultural meaning in human habitation authors from a variety of disciplines and international sites address the possibilities of common ground in architectural theories about place and dwelling anthropological research on settlement archaeology and the study of cultural landscapes and geography illustrated with 220 full color images this book is a unique attempt to combine thinking about cultural meaning in space and settlements both ancient and contemporary

vols 5 15 include bibliography of child study by louis n wilson

collects photographs of structures created by animals from the six foot high hills of tiny red ants to the colorfully decorated courtship arenas of the bowerbird showcasing the connections between human and animal architecture

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