



Date: 14/09/2023

Pages: 252

Format cm: 17 x 21

Prix: 29.0

EAN: 9782375560440

The Edifying Image

The Role of Reference Images in Architecture

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Publisher: Éditions de La Villette

Category: Humanities and Non-Fiction

Genres: Essay - Philosophy

Keywords: Iconography - Imagination - Community

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Between esthetics and architectural theory, this essay sheds light on the relationship between architects and images.

The artist and theorist Anne Frémy, who regularly works with architects as an iconographer, explores the tension between the tangible images before their eyes and the mental images that convey the architect's developing vision, which is initially hazy, vague, and intuitive. This richly illustrated work calls upon many other iconographic traditions associated with space to shed light on the conceptual and operational role of images in the process of architectural creation.