Architecture Competitions
and the Production of
Culture, Quality and Knowledge
An International Inquiry

This book comprises a series of 22 case studies from renowned experts and new scholars in the field of architecture competition research. In 2015, it constitutes the most comprehensive survey of the dynamics behind the definition, organizing, judging, archiving and publishing of architectural, landscape and urban-design competitions in the world.

These richly documented contributions revolve around a few questions that can be summarized in a two-fold critical interrogation: How can design competitions — these historical democratic devices, both praised and dreaded by designers — be considered laboratories for the production of environmental design quality, and, ultimately, for the renewing of culture and knowledge?

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