

An Engineer Imagines

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the long awaited reissue of the autobiography of peter rice one of the main structural engineers behind the sydney opera house the pompidou centre the menil collection and lloyd s of london i am an engineer often people will call me an architect engineer as a compliment it is meant to signify a quality of engineer who is more imaginative and design orientated than a normal engineer to call an engineer an architect engineer because he comes up with unusual or original solutions is essentially to misunderstand the role of the engineer in society an engineer imagines is a rare look into the professional creativity and philosophy of peter rice who was widely acclaimed as the greatest structural engineer of his generation he was a man who in renzo piano s words could design structures like a pianist who can play with his eyes shut working with many of the world s greatest architects on buildings that became icons of contemporary architecture he brought a uniquely poetic feeling to his work joining ove arup partners in 1956 rice had heard that it was a place where an oddball could fit in taking on arup s theory of total design to heart rice writes about the role of the engineer in society and how he himself applied his creativity to various projects he admits he became an engineer by accident tentatively feeling his way through a career without a natural instinct but as he takes you through each of his projects one by one you can trace his development from graduate to veteran written in clear and poetic language rice s autobiography is perfect for those who want to better understand postwar buildings our concrete environment or are budding students of engineering and architecture

this book contains a unique collection of various perspectives on the relationship between structures and the forms and spaces of architecture as such it provides students and professionals alike with an essential sourcebook that can be mined for visual inspiration as well as for textually rich and authoritative insight into the links between structure architecture and cultural context the chapters address fundamental structural elements and systems columns walls beams trusses frames tensile structures arches domes and shells each chapter is subdivided into two parts the essays introduce the chapters with the reprinting of a curated set of essays and excerpts by various authors that uniquely address how particular structural elements or systems relate in essential fashion to architectural design concepts the model studies physical models of the overall structural systems of several notable contemporary buildings from europe north and south america africa and asia are illustrated with large photographs detail close ups and views of their external forms and internal spaces that establish the exceptional qualities of these projects in connecting structural form to architectural design objectives mosaic layouts complete the chapters with a collection of photographs of yet more models whose particular details and unique features serve to extend the visual repertoire of the structural type being considered the combination juxtaposition and mutual positive reinforcement of these two collections one largely textual and the other image based provides the reader with unique and multifaceted insights into how structural forms and systems can be related to architectural design intentions conveyed by a strong and deliberate graphical design format this assembly of materials gets to the very essence of structures within the context of architecture and will inspire students and practitioners alike to make strategic design decisions for their own projects

keine ausführliche beschreibung für kooperation verfügbar

lilliput press is delighted to be reissuing traces of peter rice for the first time in paperback this book is a collaborative enterprise british french and irish representing the countries where peter rice passed most of his life and the cultures that formed him these essays and cameos range widely across his career and legacy family friends scholars and colleagues write about his work his solutions to intractable problems and his aesthetic sense seeking to provide an understanding of his works and days on the books original publication in 2012 arup phase 2 in london the centre culturel irlandais in paris and farmleigh gallery in dublin developed a series of exhibitions workshops and conferences dedicated to peter rice for which the essays in this volume provide an indispensable foundation peter rice 1935 1992 a native of dundalk was educated at newbridge college queens university belfast and imperial college london he joined ove arup partners in 1956 becoming a director in 1978 widely regarded as the most distinguished structural engineer of the late twentieth century his innovations in materials and design hugely advanced the nature of modern architecture after early work on the sydney opera house he defined the structural elements of buildings like the centre pompidou the menil collection museum lloyd s of london the gare tgv at roissy the pyramide inversée of the louvre kansai international airport and the full moon theatre in the languedoc his posthumous *an engineer imagines* 1994 became a byword amongst students and his peers his influence shaped a new generation of architects and engineers through his commitment to the integrity of a structure his refusal of precedent and courage as a designer he has imprinted *les traces de la main* on material culture and the built

environment with a use of cast steel ductile iron stone glass and ferro cement whether adapting nature s patterns to build flexible structures or transforming our experience of the ecology of light his public spaces delight and surprise with their sensual mathematics and triumphant integration of the human and the monumental

like his great predecessors whether brunel or brunelleschi peter rice is able to step outside the confines of his professional training transferring technical problems into practical solutions his design combines order with delight science with art richard rogers known for his work on major projects such as the centre pompidou sydney opera house and lloyd s building peter rice received international acclaim as one of the great engineers of the 20th century his collaborations with some of the leading architects of our time including renzo piano richard rogers frei otto i m pei norman foster and bernard tschumi have created memorable landmark structures which are justifiably famous for their style and innovation rice believed that the role of engineering was to enable the most exciting pieces of architecture to be realised his collaborators came to learn that if anyone could make their ideas work it would be peter rice his adoption of a fresh approach for each project was calculated to produce the best possible building and was combined with a respect for the role of the architect over time this method resulted in an inspirational body of innovative work this

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Introduction

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