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Building After Auschwitz: Jewish Architecture and Jewish Memory since the Holocaust

Gavriel D. Rosenfeld, *Fairfield University*

Document Type

Book

Description/Summary

- Finalist: 2011 National Jewish Book Award (category of visual arts)
- Finalist: 2011 Foreword Book of the Year (category of architecture)

Book description: Since the end of World War II, Jewish architects have risen to unprecedented international prominence. Whether as modernists, postmodernists, or deconstructivists, architects such as Peter Eisenman, Frank Gehry, Louis I. Kahn, Daniel Libeskind, Richard Meier, Moshe Safdie, Robert A.M. Stern, and Stanley Tigerman have made pivotal contributions to postwar architecture. They have also decisively shaped Jewish architectural history, as many of their designs are influenced by Jewish themes, ideas, and imagery. *Building After Auschwitz* is the first major study to examine the origins of this "new Jewish architecture." Historian Gavriel D. Rosenfeld describes this cultural development as the result of important shifts in Jewish memory and identity since the Holocaust, and cites the rise of postmodernism, multiculturalism, and Holocaust consciousness as a catalyst. In showing how Jewish architects responded to the Nazi genocide in their work, Rosenfeld's study sheds new light on the evolution of Holocaust memory.

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architecturally by such innovators as Peter Eisenman, Daniel Libeskind, and Frank Gehry, born Frank Goldberg, all of whom experienced antisemitism and a sense of "otherness" and cited their Jewish backgrounds among their sources of inspiration. In the end, however, *Building After Auschwitz* tells the reader almost as much about the Jewish experience of postwar culture and society as it does about Jewish architecture. Illustrations, index, notes. Have You Read *The Mile End Cookbook: Redefining Jewish Comfort Food from Hash to Hamantaschen*.