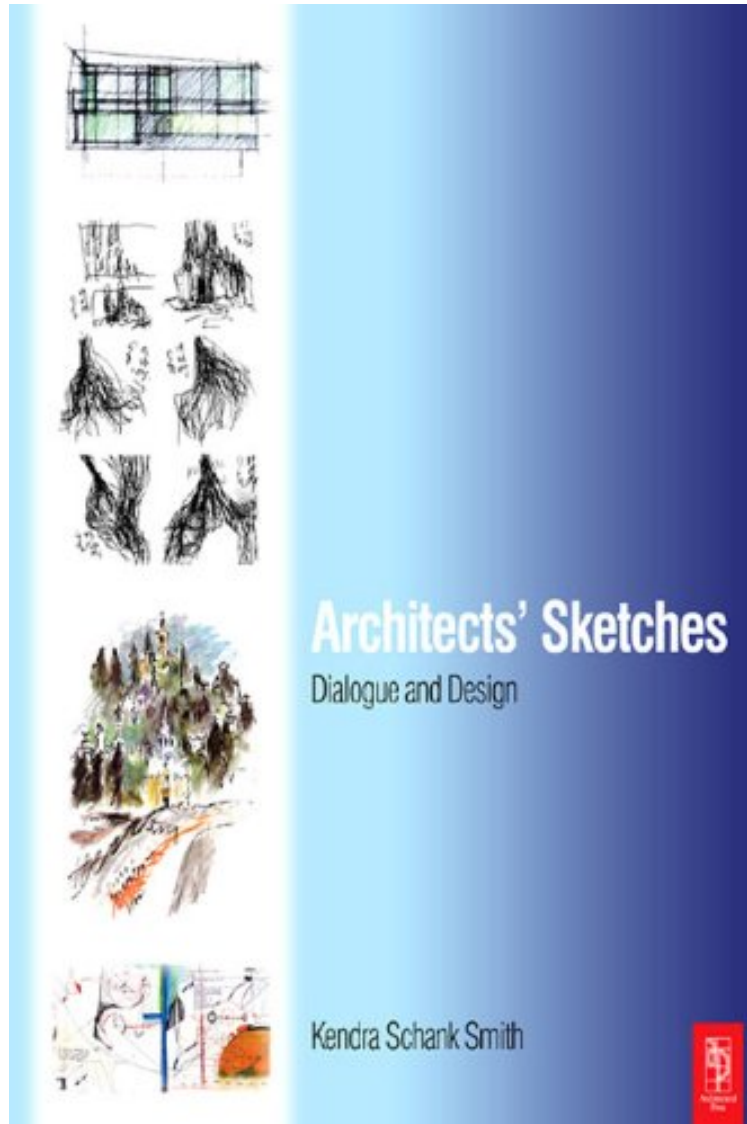


(Library ebook) Architects Sketches

# Architects Sketches

*Kendra Schank Smith*

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**Kendra Schank Smith : Architects Sketches** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architects Sketches:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Too academic By Scott Lloyd To be fair this book is not what I expected. I expected it to be principally a sketchbook of architectural ideas. But it is more of a mediation on how architects use sketches with much more text than I anticipated. There are usually illustrations on every spread but to my eye they are overwhelmed by text. The writing style is a little too verbose and academic for my tastes and I found little that was engaging. Each chapter has a bibliography for those who want to delve deeper into the subjects. My

emphasis is on the visual arts so architects may find this more satisfying than I do. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. For artists and students of urban design as well as architects

By Tracy Rowan  
My artistic talents don't lie in this direction, but all the same, the art of architecture is endlessly interesting to me. This volume of sketches by architects is a kind of bridge between the nuts-and-bolts of architectural design and fine arts which are far more accessible to most people. The sketches themselves convey not just the physical facts of the structure but the feel of it, the ideas behind the design. These drawings show the physical grace of a structure, and its energy in a way that the architectural drawings can't. They show us what the structure is meant to be. The stand-out drawing -- for me at least -- is a pastel by Cesar Pelli of the Petronas Towers. It's a simple, atmospheric sketch which trades detail for impression. It helps us understand the greater vision of the towers within a landscape. The text includes a quote from the architect explaining why he chose to image the towers in this way, and helps not only to explain the vision of the towers themselves but the creative process in which they took shape. In fact, the text is critical to full appreciation of this book. It's a wide-ranging discussion not only of architecture but that very creative process out of which all arts spring. I can't help but feel that this volume is an excellent aid to learning about all manner of design, not just architecture.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very few sketches, very dry text

By Catherine Todd  
As a non-architect builder, who buys lots and lots of architectural books, I was very disappointed in this slim tome (138 pages including index). There are so few sketches in here I am surprised it even carried that word in the title. The text may be interesting to full-fledged architects, but it left me completely dry. Page after page of solid text that is very hard to follow. Example: "In another way, Pedro, by drawing, could have been imprinting the perception on a field in his brain, in an attempt to lean it (or encode it). Whhhattt? I'm sure this book makes sense to some people whom I hope will derive great benefit from it. I don't usually review books I don't like or could not appreciate, but since I'm required to review this one I have. For people who want real sketches, and lots of them, with easily-followed descriptions, look elsewhere. This book reminds me of the old style boring descriptions of the great artists with poor illustrations and color plates and reams and reams of words. To me, that is not architecture nor is it art. It's falling asleep in a lecture class. I hope the author tries again with a good editor and graphic designer next time. I always hope to encourage everyone.

Concepts from architects' minds evolve through sketches and as a mode of transference are conveyed to the finished building. This book compares qualities of sketches to reveal unique approaches to the instruments of thinking in which all architects engage. It provides new insight into the relationship between architectural sketches and the process of creative manipulation. Sketches comprise a thinking mechanism, and through the qualities of ambiguity, quickness and change, they initiate a dialogue for architects. As a medium to facilitate communication, recording, discovery and evaluation, their pertinence lies in their ability to exhibit both the precise and the imprecise. Exploring four related theoretical approaches, play, memory-imagination-fantasy, caricature and the grotesque, the book shows how imprecision stimulates imagination to conceive new forms in the dialogue of architectural sketches.

About the Author  
Kendra Schank Smith is an associate professor and chair of Architectural Science at Ryerson University.