

****KARAKUSEVIC CARSON ARCHITECTS PRESS RELEASE****

'Social Housing – Definitions & Design Exemplars (SECOND EDITION)'

NEW BOOK Explores a new generation of Social Housing projects from across Europe - By Paul Karakusevic and Abigail Batchelor.

Across Europe, architects working on social housing are at the forefront of new dwelling design, playing a crucial role in the reinvention of our cities. As public housing groups and communities take on the housing crisis, they must today navigate a range of crucial contemporary urban issues, including genuine affordability, demographic change and climate adaptation.

Examining 25 exemplar case studies from across the UK and Europe – including Austria, Belgium, France, Norway, Spain and Switzerland – and with contributions from leading practitioners and their clients, Social Housing explores alternative routes to designing and delivering affordable housing.

A new edition of the landmark 2017 volume, the book explores urban typology, building reuse, climate resilience, ageing populations and material innovation. Encompassing holistic approaches to dwelling design, it offers a practical guide and inspiration for housing practitioners, students and pioneers to learn, adapt and propose solutions for the future.

Featuring exemplary projects from: Karakusevic Carson Architects, Adam Khan Architects, Al-Jawad Pike, Antoine Regnault Architecture, Apparata Architects, Archio, Architectures Raphaël Gabrion, Bajet Giramé, Binst Architects, Boman, Bourbouze & Graindorge, Carles G. Oliver (with Xim Moyá + Antonio Martín + Alfonso Reina + Miguel Nevado), Cierito Estudio, Clauss Kahl Merz Atelier, Collective Architecture, DBLV Architekten, Déchelette Architecture, einszueins architektur, Espinet Ubach, François Brugel Architectes Associés, h2o Architectes, Helen & Hard, Jaccaud + Associés, Mæ, Mary Duggan Architects, Mikhail Riches, ORG Urbanism Architecture and Peris+Toral Arquitectes.

Interviews and commentary from: Kate Macintosh (architect, London, UK), Osama Shoush (Southwark Council, London, UK), Javier Buron (NASUVINSA, Navarra, Spain) Benjamin Cadranel (citydev.brussels, Brussels, Belgium), Mellis Haward (architect, London, UK), Cécile Belard du Plantys + Hélène Schwoerer (Paris Habitat, France) and Collective Architecture (Glasgow, UK).

Paul Karakusevic, Karakusevic Carson Architects

“European housing has long been informed by the free and easy exchange of ideas between cities and nation states, this book celebrates and reinvigorates that tradition with a set of projects and commentaries that should provoke and inspire housing designers and delivery bodies everywhere. There is no shortage of ways to conceive new social housing, this book provides ample demonstration of that fact.”

Abigail Batchelor, Karakusevic Carson Architects + KBB Architecture

“It’s been 10 years since we researched the first volume of the book and the shift in the location of projects of interest has been marked. Ideas around co-location have been reinforced in Brussels, ambitious environmental and reuse strategies dominate in Paris and in Catalonia, a new culture for delivering public housing has been established. Across Europe these projects demonstrate the positive impact of urban policy on housing design.”

'Social Housing – Definitions & Design Exemplars' is available to BUY NOW from RIBA Bookshop online at: <https://www.ribabooks.com/social-housing-definitions-and-new-design-exemplars> 9781915722430

NOTES TO EDITORS

Paul Karakusevic (co-author)

Principal, Karakusevic Carson Architects

Paul is the founder of Karakusevic Carson Architects. Over the past 20+ years, he has worked with local government bodies and communities to improve the design and delivery of social housing, and he is a panel member of the UK housing minister's Design and Placemaking Advisory Board. His studio has completed major public housing schemes in London and it has ongoing projects across the city, in Europe, North America and Australia. Paul has lectured at leading universities and institutes around the world and in 2021 co-authored Public Housing Works, followed by Retrofit Social Housing: A Practical Guide for Local Authorities & Registered Providers of Social Housing in 2023 and Dual Cities – Social Housing in London + New York in 2025.

Abigail Batchelor (co-author)

Associate Director at Karakusevic Carson Architects, London & Director of KBB Architecture, Paris

Abigail is an architect and urban designer who trained at the University of Sheffield and London School of Economics; she is a housing specialist with over 20 years' experience and built projects in the UK, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Her practice focuses on public sector housing and masterplanning. Abigail co-authored the first edition of Social Housing: Definitions & Design Exemplars and co-led the RIBA-funded research study Revolutionary Low Rise with Mike Althorpe. She has taught widely, including on the City Design programme at the Royal College of Art, and was course leader of the Housing and Urbanism Master's at the Architectural Association.

Karakusevic Carson Architects

Karakusevic Carson are award-winning architects and urban designers at the forefront of public housing design and major civic projects in the UK and internationally. Formed almost two decades ago to raise the standard of social housing after almost 40 years of neglect, the studio works with the public sector and communities to create equitable and liveable homes and neighbourhoods that reflect civic need.

Alexander Boxill (publication design)

Alexander Boxill is a multi-award-winning design consultancy founded in 1994 based in London. Clients include; the Victoria & Albert Museum, Hayward Gallery, Icon magazine, Architectural Review, Thames & Hudson, Laurence King Publishing and Phaidon. Co-founder Violetta Boxill, a graduate of the RCA, served as Chair of the Editorial Design Organisation and numerous major design awards juries and has written on design for leading publications.

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As the leading global publisher of architecture books, RIBA Publishing aspires to inquire, inform and delight. Seeking out the intelligence that enables architects and designers to do their jobs better, publications support students of all ages in their studies and help clients to make informed decisions, while responding to a wider cultural appetite for architectural knowledge.

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