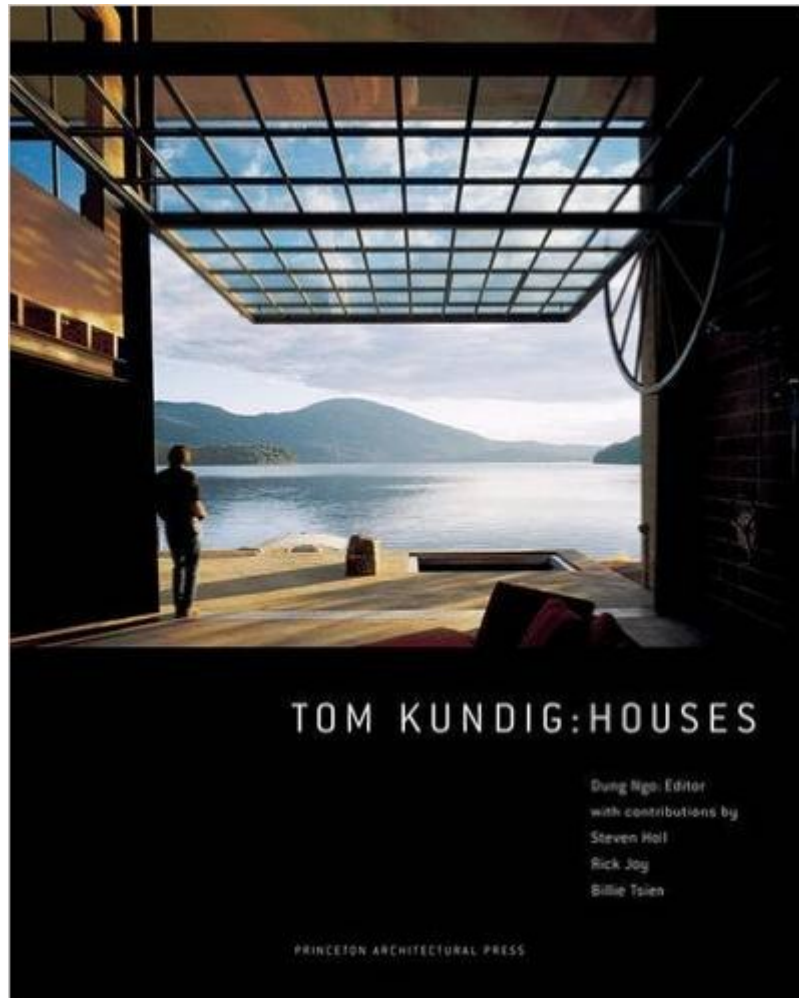


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Tom Kundig: Houses



Synopsis

The work of Seattle-based architect Tom Kundig has been called both raw and refined, as well as super-crafted and warm. Kundig's projects, especially his houses, uniquely combine these two seemingly disparate sets of characteristics to produce some of the most inventive structures found in the architecture world today. Kundig's internationally acclaimed work is inspired by both the industrial structures with which he grew up in the Pacific Northwest and the vibrant craft cultures that are fostered there. His buildings uniquely meld industrial sensibilities and materials such as Cor-ten steel and concrete with an intuitive understanding of scale. As Kundig states, "The idea is insuperable from the fabrication, inseparable from the materials used." Tom Kundig: Houses presents five projects in depth, from their early conceptual sketches to their final lovingly wrought, intimate details. Kundig's houses reflect a sustained and active collaborative process between designer, craftsmen, and owners, resulting in houses that bring to life the architect's intentions, the materials used, and lines of unforgettable beauty.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I own many books dedicated to a single architect's work. Often times these type of books display two or three rooms of a house and never get into the nitty gritty of a project. "Tom Kundig: Houses" is different. This book leaves little to the imagination, offering sometimes up to 15-20 pages to a single project. The pictures are very clear and tell a lot about the concept of a house as a whole. The only knock I'd say is that every project is so similar to the next that it becomes hard to differentiate. But if you admire his style, that shouldn't be much of a problem.

I first came across Tom Kundig's works in the monograph for Olson Sundberg Kindig Allen's monograph (Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects: Architecture, Art, and Craft) and was amazed then at the refined "human" touch of materials and finishes chosen for the projects. This book focuses further on this aesthetic appeal by showcasing Tom Kundig's houses only. It shows some of the numerous sketches and drawings that Tom Kundig drew in order to convey his ideas to the client/contractor. The level of details depicted in the photography is also breathtaking as it reveals the intricate details of bespoke door handles, hinges, rollers that the architect custom designed. I only wish I knew how long and how much each of his projects must've costed his clients because this level of detail in any residence is very, very rare. I highly recommend this book for anyone that is interested in modern houses that uses rustic materials in a refined composition~amassingdesign.blogspot

Well made and laid out book. Shows floor plans and plenty of descriptions. IMHO, Tom Kundig is the Frank L. Wright of the 21st Century with his unique designs and innovations. Architecture that is thinking "outside the box". Have had many of my friends browse through this book at my house, and their expression and comments are always "WOW!". I really like the Delta Shelter in the book. Many inspirations for my future Dream Cabin.

We bought this with Tom's sequel "Houses 2" and its one of my favourites of all time now. Primarily pictorial, with excellent quality photography and inclusion of designer's diagrams. There's always something new to notice on each page and the surrounding landscapes on most pictures are worth admiring in their own right! This and Houses 2 will be one of the few books we bring with us when we relocate internationally in the near future. Highly recommended to anyone interested in architecture, design, photography, landscapes or just an interesting book to leave out for guests.

Im an architect, i have dreamt of the rich client that lets me do different stuff with little regard for money. Well, For tom Kunding, that dream came true. The book is awesome. A walk through of his houses, his dreams, and a weird (but fascinating) combination of a modernist that loves and understands materials and handcraft. everything is understood in the big scale (1:100 or 1:250) but detailed and thought in a 1:10 or 1:5. its incredible.

Bought with Houses 2 by same architect. Reviews ranked it above Houses 2, but I think Houses 2

was better, for my interests anyway. I did enjoy the architect's obsession with machines, but personally couldn't live with them. I did like what he did with industrial materials, steel and concrete.

This book has some amazing abstract style houses, every house has some style of mechanical system whether it be lights lowering from the ceiling to window shutters, There is no book out there with such a variety of industrial style homes. Would recommend to anyone who like houses out of the ordinary. George (NZ)

It has it all...big picture (site info, plans/sections/elevations and design sketches) to little picture (construction details and process). Too bad the recently published Ebsworth monograph isn't as comprehensive as this...Update (12/2015): In my opinion, this book sets the gold standard for a book depicting an architect's residential work. There are all scales of photographs (exterior, interior, close-up details, sequences of season, sequences of moving components), developmental sketches, computer renderings/studies, hardline drawings - it has it all. The "gizmos" are featured heavily, giving you the opportunity to dig into the fabrication, installation and operation of these fascinating mechanisms. Unfortunately, the following volumes, "Houses 2" and "Works" fall far short of this format.

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