

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART REISSUES THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN

THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN by Arthur Drexler, a comprehensive study originally published by The Museum of Modern Art in 1955, has been reprinted for the Museum by Arno Press.

Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, traces the development of Japanese architecture from ancient pit dwellings to contemporary banks. The first section treats the environment and religious beliefs that have influenced all Japanese art; the second section is concerned with traditional principles of structure and design; and the third is devoted primarily to buildings considered masterpieces by the Japanese. Mr. Drexler also discusses in detail the Japanese garden, so important in Japanese architecture.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN contains a twenty-five page supplement on the famous Japanese Exhibition House and garden built in Japan in 1953 and reconstructed at The Museum of Modern Art, where it was on view during the summers of 1954 and 1955. The House, designed by Junzo Yoshimura, is based on sixteenth and seventeenth century prototypes whose characteristics are considered by Western architects to be of continuing relevance. In 1956, the Exhibition House was transferred to the Fairmount Park Commission in Philadelphia.

In a 1957 review, the College Art Journal stated that THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN "remains a book of major, and even in some respects, of unique importance.... It is one of the few books ever to point out the structurally irrational but aesthetically impelled features peculiar to Japanese architecture. It is an outstanding work in the fairness of its coverage...."

THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN is one of fifteen significant out-of-print titles, influential in determining much of today's knowledge of modern art, that are now being reprinted. This is the first time the Museum has licensed reprints, and it is

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hoped that the success of this initial venture will enable the Museum to continue to expand its reprint list.

The reprints of Museum of Modern Art books have been printed by an offset process. The text and plates have been photographed separately from the original editions and the color and black-and-white plates rescreened in black and white for maximum fidelity. Errata slips from the original editions have been printed on separate pages and bound into the books. The paper and bindings have been chosen to ensure the long life of these library-grade editions.

The Museum of Modern Art has published over 60 books on architecture and design. Among those in print are: MODERN GARDENS AND THE LANDSCAPE by Elizabeth Kassler, ARCHITECTURE WITHOUT ARCHITECTS by Bernard Rudofsky, and TWENTIETH CENTURY ENGINEERING edited by Arthur Drexler. Later this month the Museum will publish COMPLEXITY AND CONTRADICTION IN ARCHITECTURE by Robert Venturi, the first in a projected series of Museum of Modern Art Papers on Architecture.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN has 288 pages and is profusely illustrated with 235 black-and-white photographs and plans. It is \$12.00 and may be ordered from Arno Press, Inc., 4 East 43 Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. It is also on sale at the Museum Bookstore, 11 West 53 Street.

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Additional information and descriptive brochures on the reprint program from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Patricia B. Kaplan, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.