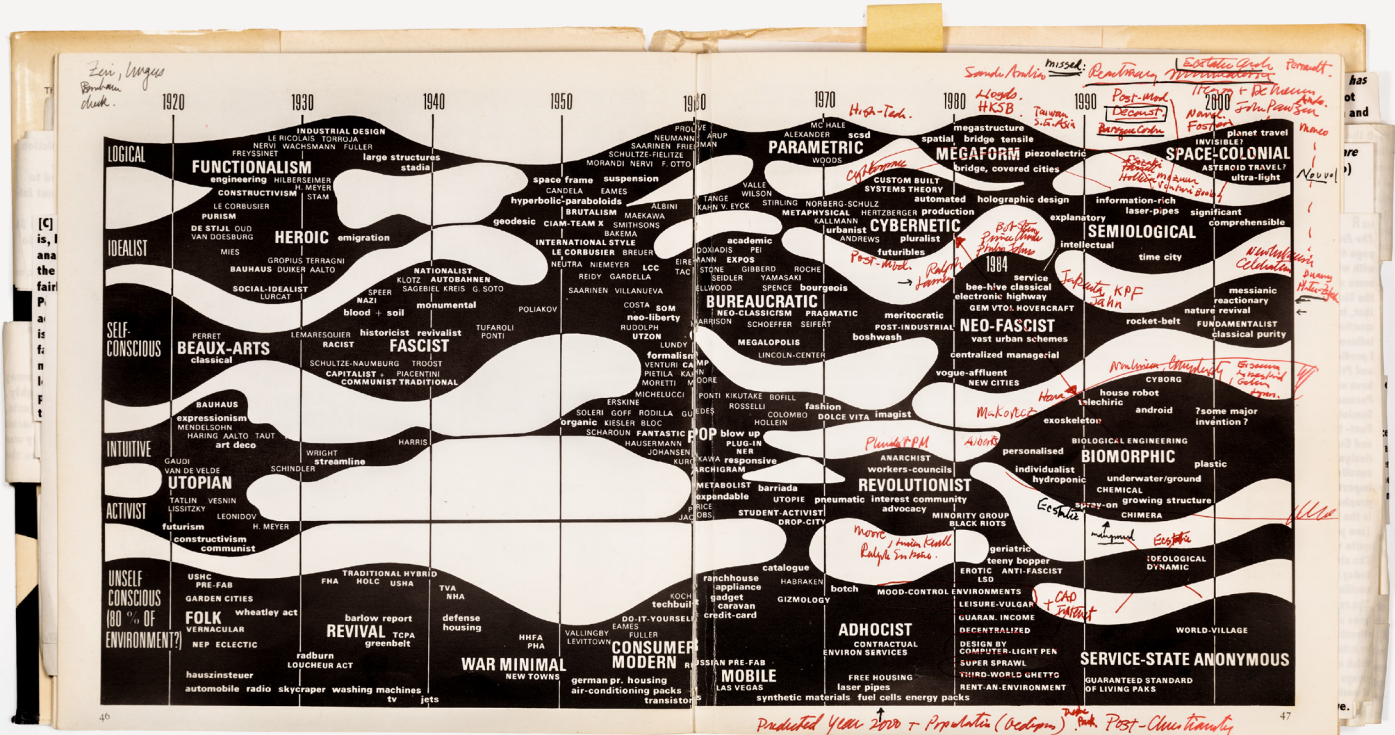


Press File



Chronograms of Architecture

14.05.25 — 28.09.25

C I.II.III.IV. A
Culture — Architecture

www.civa.brussels
Rue de l'Ermitage 55
1050 Brussels

Contemporary architecture emerges from a richly diverse and highly tuned architecture culture; a constructed discourse, with a constantly written and rewritten history. In an attempt to grasp and reckon with the historical moment that he was living in, Charles Jencks, the legendary father of post-modernism, developed Evolutionary Tree drawings. These drawings, which are somewhere between a diagram and a map, laid out six ideologies that allowed him to categorize all the “-isms” of present, past, and future architectural culture. Architects, buildings, social trends, and technical innovations were plotted on a timeline in relation to these streams. What resulted is the now-iconic image of a series of undulating blobs tracing architecture and society’s pulsations between different ideals through time.

The exhibition *Chronograms of Architecture* showcases Jencks’ key diagrams, spanning from 1920 to 2000, along with eight newly commissioned diagrams by 8 teams of contemporary architects, researchers and graphic designers, reflecting on the historical moment that we live in today. While none can possibly present a total account, in their own way they each reveal critical and urgent ways of seeing, understanding, and working in the architectural culture of the present. These eight diagrams—perhaps eight streams of a map of now—provoke questions around the techno-optimism and techno-bureaucracy, feminist spatial practice and racial disparity, the ecological implications and productive conditions of architecture, and circular building strategies and the definition of the discipline.

Originally exhibited in London at the Architectural Association, the exhibition at CIVA in Brussels is its first step of a world tour: from Brussels to South Africa, then Asia, the US, and back to London, accumulating new chronograms of architecture along the way. For CIVA, two new chronograms have been commissioned: one by London-based architect Maria Fedorchenko, the other by Rotor-founder Lionel Devlieger.

Highlighting the question of “writing history” the exhibition space is centered around a large element which is at once vitrine and auditorium and will host a series of talks and workshops by Mark Wigley, Isabelle Doucet, Mario Carpo, Lorenzo Pezzani, *Parasite 2.0* and many others.

Contributions by Pier Vittorio Aureli / Marson Korbi, Mario Carpo, Charles L. Davis II / Curry J. Hackett, Lionel Devlieger / Michael Ghyoot / Adam Przywara / Karen Steukers / Arne Vande Capelle / Louise Vanhee, Maria Fedorchenko / Yeliz Abdurahman, Francesca Hughes / Urtzi Grau, MOULD, and Bryony Roberts / Abriannah Aiken.

The exhibition coincides with an international symposium (13 May, 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) and is accompanied by a book (published by Spector Books, ISBN 978-3-95905-909-1).

Talks and workshops with Pier Vittorio Aureli, Daniel Barber, Mario Carpo, Sandrine Colard, Isabelle Doucet, Boris Hamzeian, Beatrice Lampariello, Parasite 2.0, Lorenzo Pezzani, Mark Wigley, Wouter Van Acker, Apolline Vranken, Benjamin Zurstrassen, and many more.

The exhibition Chronograms of Architecture is a collaboration between CIVA, e-flux Architecture and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House. The project Chronograms of Architecture originated as a collaboration between the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House and e-flux architecture.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR:
Nikolaus Hirsch

CURATORS:
Nick Axel, Silvia Franceschini, Nikolaus Hirsch,
Lily Jencks, Eszter Steierhoffer

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HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES:
[Via this link](#)

AN EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY CIVA WITH THE SUPPORT OF
Brussels Capital Region, [urban.brussels](#), [visit.brussels](#)

PARTNERS:
KANAL, Le Soir, A+

MOULD

'Architecture is Climate'

Textile, embroidery, projection, 2024

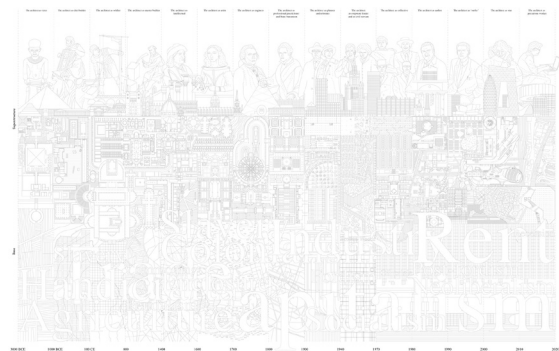
Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



Pier Vittorio Aureli and Marson Korbi,
'Base and Superstructure: A Vulgar Survey
of Western Architecture'

2023

Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



Bryony Roberts and Abriannah Aiken
'Feminist Spatial Practices'

Part 1, 2023

Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



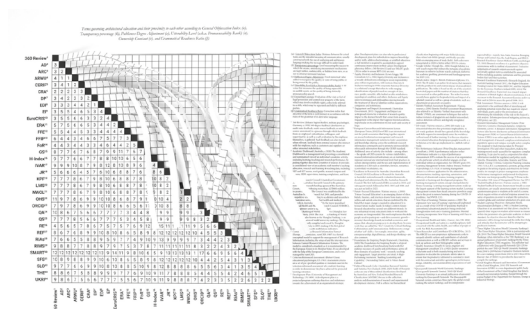
Bryony Roberts and Abriannah Aiken
 'Feminist Spatial Practices'
 Part 1, textile, 2023
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks
 Foundation at The Cosmic House



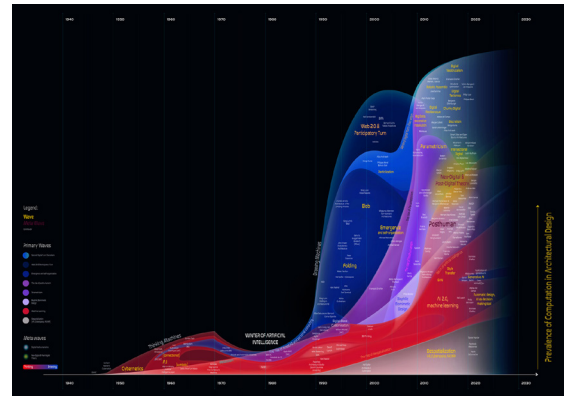
Feminist Spatial Practices Web Platform
 Design Identity: Omnivore
 (Julie Cho, Alice Chung, Karen Hsu)
 Website by: Rahul Subhash Shinde
 & Lukas Eigler-Harding
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks
 Foundation at The Cosmic House



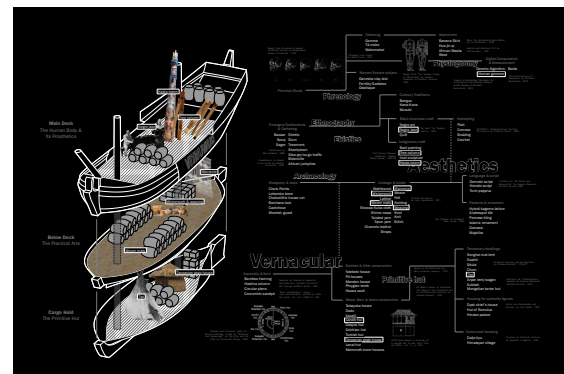
Urtzi Grau and Francesca Hughes
 'Cul-de-sac'
 Print on paper, 2023
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks
 Foundation at The Cosmic House



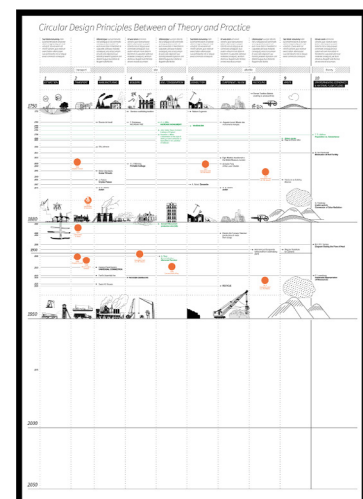
Mario Carpo, Mark Garcia and Steven Hutt
A short but believable history of the digital turn in architecture
 'Prevalence of Computation in Architectural Design'
 2023
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



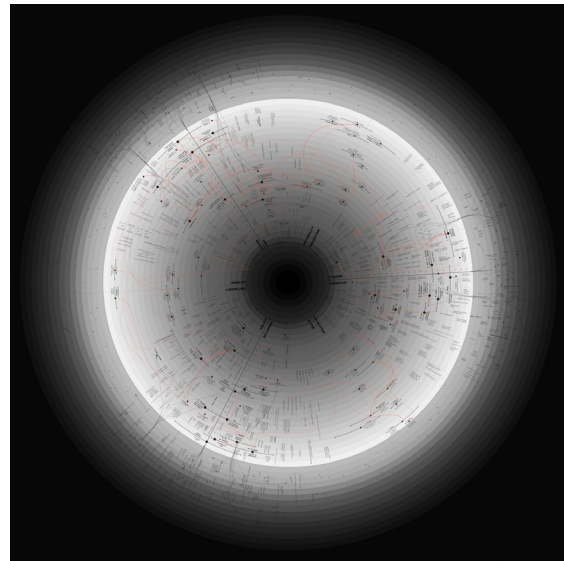
Charles L Davis II and Curry Hackett
Visualising the Racial Epistemologies of the Architectural Canon
 'The Middle Passage of Vernacular Art'
 2023
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



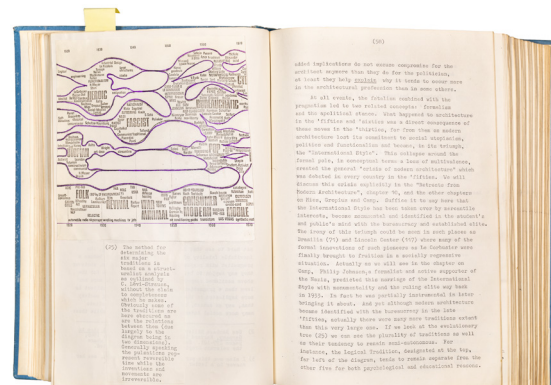
Lionel Devlieger, Michael Ghyoot, Adam Przywara,
 Karen Steukers, Arne Vande Capelle, Louise Vanhee
 'Circular Design Principles: Between Theory and Practice'
 Graphic Design: Moulay Guissé with Stijn Colon and
 Robbe Van der Mynsbrugge
 2025
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



Maria Fedorchenko and Yeliz Abdurahman
 'Chronogram of Chronograms: On Disciplinarity'
 Vinyl on plexiglass, 2025
 Courtesy of the artists and the Jencks
 Foundation at The Cosmic House



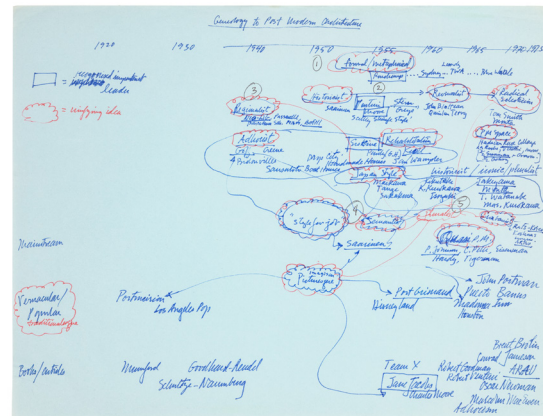
Charles Jencks
 'Modern Architecture – The Tradition Since 1945'
 PhD thesis submitted to the Bartlett School
 of Architecture, January 1970, copy
 Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



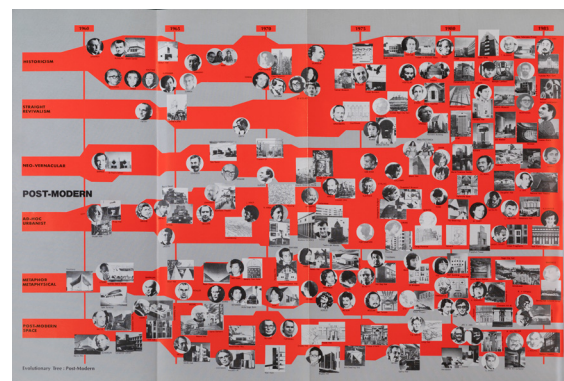
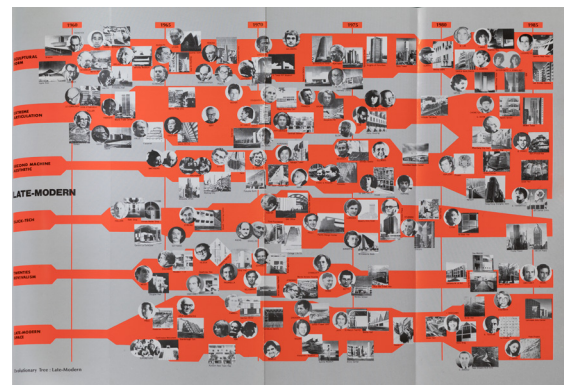
Charles Jencks
 'Post-Modern Evolutionary Tree'
 in *The Story of Post-Modernism*,
 London: John Wiley & Sons, 2011, page 48
 CIVA Collections, Brussels



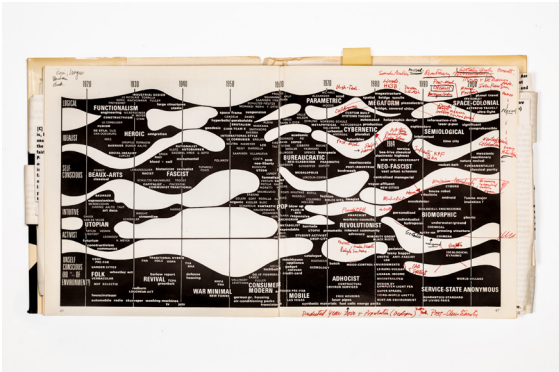
Charles Jencks
'Genealogy to Post-Modern Architecture'
Drawing, 1977, copy
Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



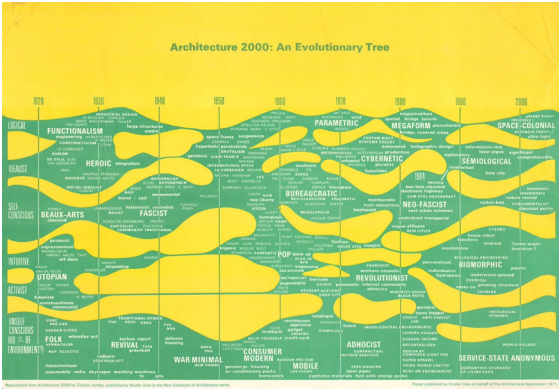
Charles Jencks
Diagrams in 'Battle of the Labels,
Late Modernism vs Post-Modernism'
in *Chāruzu Jenkusū: Shōchōteki kenchiku
o mezashite*, extra edition of *a + u*,
Tokyo: *a + u* publishing,
January 1986
CIVA Collections, Brussels



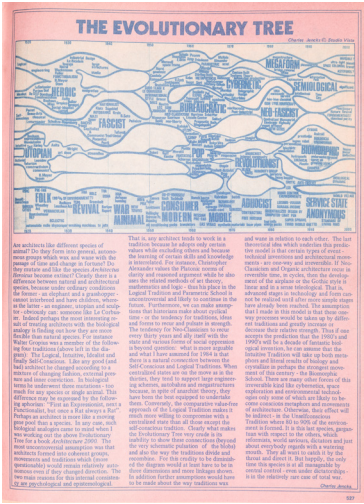
Charles Jencks
 'Evolutionary Tree to the year 2000
 (with annotations c. 1999)' in *Architecture 2000*
 London: Studio Vista, 1971, page 46
 Jencks Foundation at The Cosmic House



Charles Jencks
 'Architecture 2000: An Evolutionary Tree'
 Poster published by Studio Vista on behalf
 of the Architectural Association, 1971
 AA Archives



Charles Jencks
 'The Evolutionary Tree'
 in *Architectural Design*, October 1970, 7/6
 CIVA Collections, Brussels



Charles Jencks: New British Architecture
May 19, 1976
SCI-Arc, SCI-Arc Channel,
SCI-Arc Media Archive

