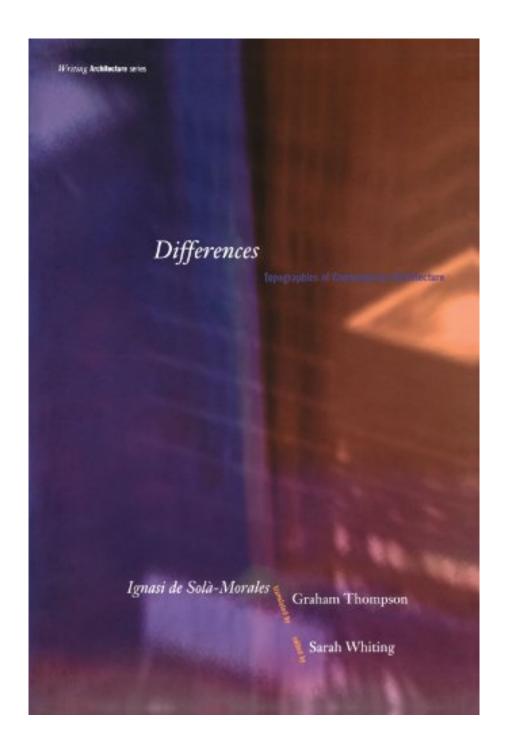


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"translated by Graham Thompson"

edited by Sarah Whiting

"Following traces that are neither modern nor postmodern, Ignasi de Sol-Morales opens a deterritorialized territory harboring rich possibilities for architectural theory and practice. Philosophically astute and critically savvy, "Differences" resists the fashionable allure of nihilism by discerning creative resources circulating in the chaotic currents of contemporary culture."

-- Mark C. Taylor, Preston S. Parish Professor of Humanities, Williams College

"Ignasi de Sol-Morales' term "starting points" perfectly captures the light and acute temperament of these essays. With the nimble ease of Deleuzean vectors, these writings start from contemporary practice and move into fresh horizons of architectural thinking. At a time when most architectural writing seems to fall within either the limits of journalism or the rigorous territories of academic research, this collection of texts draws an unfrequented path of discourse, a "topography" that becomes an invitation to approach architectural ideas through pleasures of reading."

-- Xavier Costa, Head, Department of Architecture, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Spain "Differences" brings together ten essays written over the past decade by the distinguished Spanish architect and theorist Ignasi de Sol-Morales. Many of the essays have never previously been translated, and the author has provided a new introduction especially for this English edition.

• Sales Rank: #1721412 in Books

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It's starting to make sense!

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This collection of essays by Solà-Morales is a very good place to start if you want to understand contempory architectural thought in a wider perspective. Although the author has his own particular viewpoint and refers to the theory and practice of many different architects, artists and philosophers, he always has important points to make in each essay. The structure of the book as autonomous essays with themes which recur throughout the book enable an understanding which does not depend on rigorous knowledge of philosophical lines of thought. In this way the book provides a useful starting point for deeper inquiry into how the

modernist project in all disciplines has fragmented. Solà-Morales is comprehensive and far-sighted in his acknowledgement of lines of thought and action such as the radical critique of the 60's and it's significance to architecture. The main premise of the book is a particular way of thinking with which Solà-Morales tries to place architectural works and thought. His enthusiastic reinterpretation of the work of Mies in 'Mies van der Rohe and Minimalism' is remarkable in it's clarity. I found his praise of the work of contempory architects such as Foster, a little too optimistic in relation to the current situation however (High tech, functionalism or rhetoric).

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Indifferences

By A Customer

The mediocrity of thought culled in these essays is equal to the quality of the translation. De Sola-Morales was a fine architect and an important theorist. His death was a great loss to the community of minds that comprise our discipline. This collection is far from his best effort. Look elsewhere, particularly his essay in the 2G publication of the Barcelona Pavilion reconstruction which demonstrates the nimble intellect of a cultured man.

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a good way to see architecture.

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Personally, I think that is a good book. Other readers may not buy what the writer thinks but I think that it is really good to know an opinion and to understand his argument. This book inspires me to rethinking about architecture in a deeper and alternative way and help me to know what I want to pursuit in the future. The writer comments on different styles of the contemporary architecture and he implies a new way of future architecture.

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