

ANDO

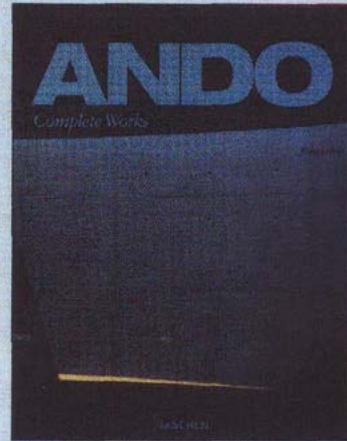
Complete Works

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Like a slab of raw concrete, this 6kg survey of Tadao Ando's works asserts with its extra large format a mode of comprehending architecture: it is better to look than to read. The 40 x 30cm full colour photographs are necessary, it seems, to experience the dynamism of Ando's structures. Staring at pictures of his Rokko Housing complex, an ongoing masterwork carved into the Rokko Mountains, dissonance and complexity emerge out of apparently simple pattern; the irregular topography asserts itself from below. "I would like to create public spaces ... that make one almost giddy by their richness and variety", Ando said. With this publication the sense-effect is achieved: a smaller

book might have just been twee.

Faithfully documenting 36 representative works from around the world, including Awaji-Yumebutai, the Naoshima Contemporary Art Museum and the Church of the Light, Ando: Complete Works also includes very recent and ongoing designs. The library of the Shiba Ryotaro Museum, completed in 2001, is brilliantly inventive, giving the impression of a universe of books worthy of Borges or Calvino. Indeed the Complete Works is structured to suggest an artist at the height of his powers. Now 63, Ando is the only architect to win the Pritzker, the Carlsberg, the Praemium Imperiale, and the Kyoto Prize.



1. Penthouse in Manhattan, New York, USA.
2. Nariwa Museum, Okayama, Japan.
3. Awaji-Yumebutai, Tsuna, Hyogo, Japan.

