

Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture: A Biography and History

Thomas S. Hines

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Thomas S. Hines : Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture: A Biography and History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture: A Biography and History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I was extremely disappointed by the quality of the picturesBy Dan WebsterI was extremely disappointed by the quality of the pictures. Even though they are black and white, I was expecting better. As an architect, I would have liked to have seen more information about the houses and less about Neutra's personal life. However, if the point of the book was to describe Neutra's struggles with life, it was an excellent book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Michael J. LockeWonderful addition to my architectural library.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hines on NeutraBy CitroenguyHines book is just excellent. I loved his inclusion of relationship descriptions and insights into Neutra's personality. Of course, his coverage of Neutra's architectural creations was wonderful.

Richard Neutra's work, his life experience, and his search for modern architecture coincided neatly with the lifespan of the modern movement. He experienced the buoyant struggles of the movement's early years, the heady triumph of its mid-century ascendancy, and the critique it faced in the 1960s and 1970s. His reputation enjoyed a resurgence that was hard to predict when Richard Neutra and the Search for Modern Architecture was first published over twenty years

ago. In his seminal critical biography of this modernist master, Thomas S. Hines explores the efforts of Neutra and his modernist contemporaries to find the forms that would be most expressive of the twentieth century. In researching this classic of architectural scholarship, Hines enjoyed unparalleled access to the Neutra archives. Its collection of outstanding black-and-white photography includes a remarkable cache of photographs taken by Julius Shulman-the undisputed master of twentieth-century architectural photography-whose work is beautifully featured here. This revised edition of Richard Neutra includes a new introduction by the author. "This study, part biography, part architectural analysis, is a modern masterpiece of architectural history. The prose is lucid and sometimes elegant-very much like the work of Richard Neutra which it so brilliantly examines." -Peter Gay

"Hines's approach to architectural history is that of social and historical interpretation. . . . [His] raconteurial gifts make this the most eminently readable architectural biography in recent years. But his firm command of the documentary material both archival and public, written and oral on Neutra's life and career gives the narrative a convincing authority." -- Martin Filler, *Art in America* "Hines's book is a sensitive, forthright and eloquently written tribute to Neutra, written with admiration but without illusion." -- Paul Goldberger, *New York Times Book* "One of the striking virtues of Hines' study is that it gives due attention to Neutra's family, his upbringing, his education, and -- something we still lack for many of his contemporaries (his experience in the First World War and its disastrous aftermath. . . . Whether Neutra's star is in the ascendant or in decline, Hines follows him step by step, patiently, shrewdly, judiciously, revealingly." (Reyner Banham, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* "From the Inside Flap" "This study, part biography and part architectural analysis, is a modern masterpiece of architectural history. The prose is lucid and sometimes elegant very much like the work of Richard Neutra which it so brilliantly examines." Peter Gay, *Yale University* "An important contribution to the understanding of 'modernist' culture in the United States and a perceptive analysis of the achievement of a major American architect, with a European background and an international reputation." William Jordy, *Brown University*