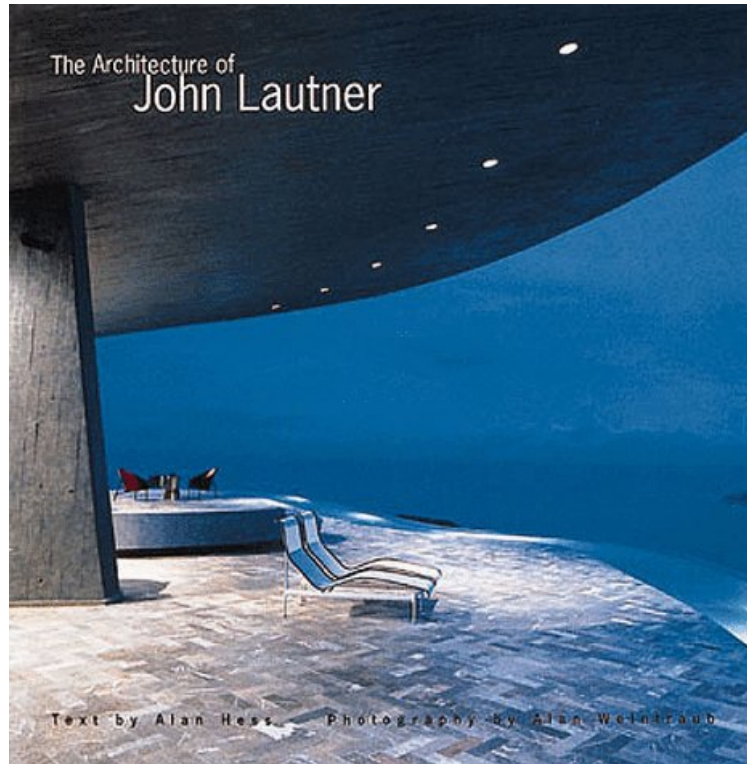


(Download) The Architecture of John Lautner

## The Architecture of John Lautner

Alan Hess

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**Alan Hess : The Architecture of John Lautner** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Architecture of John Lautner:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Lautner IlluminatedBy C. caseyMy revised review of this book:I initially purchased this book to educate myself when I hired Arthur Dyson, a colleague of Lautner's, to design our home. This is the best Lautner book I have found. It is the hard cover version published by Rizzoli. It includes a comprehensive chronology of his residences and a textual narrative that outlines his professional career. The quality of all the photos is excellent, having very good composition, lighting, resolution, and contrast. I also own John Lautner, Architect by Escher, and Lautner by Barbara-Ann Campbell-Lange. Those are also good books, but not nearly as high quality as The Architecture of John Lautner. For details, see my reviews of those books on . For photos of my house, designed by Arthur Dyson and built completely by my weary old hands, see [...]My earlier review of this book:This picture book of Lautner's work provides a new perspective to the innovative work of the architect. Although many of the buildings are captured in other publications, the images are different than anything out there. Reproduction quality is excellent, as well as composition.Only way to improve this one is with a virtual tour. It would also be nice if the industry acknowledged this superior architecture - this is art, not just structure, and its truly American architecture. Current architectural trends are decidedly un-American; from Mediterranean, Spanish revivalism to Victorian - its all big time popular, but pure facade when compared to directly to American, European, and Asian modernism....2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Architecture of John Lautner ReviewBy JMcKayThe book illustrates John

Lautner's work in photos beautifully, but it lacks plans to allow the reader to grasp the projects better. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice Images and Good Read By Photogirl Did a report in school on this architect - this is a nice book a lovely visual essay with good information on this talented man.

John Lautner's sixty years in architecture comprise one of the great unexamined careers of the twentieth century. Rooted in a personal design philosophy that is the imaginative extension of the organic architectural theories of Frank Lloyd Wright (he was one of Wright's first apprentices), his exuberant designs and broad spectrum of approaches epitomize the landscape of southern California—from the fifties techno-optimism of the drive-in, freeway, and Cadillac tail fin to the structural innovation of opulent hilltop houses overlooking the ocean. Despite the extraordinary technical achievements of his concrete roofs, steel cantilevers, and double curves, dynamic engineering is never the main point of his work. The push-button glass walls and retracting roofs, however innovative, always serve to create humane spaces that allow occupants to commune with nature and themselves. Lautner's career began at Wright's Taliesin in 1933 and continued after his arrival in Los Angeles in 1938. The book traces the unfolding of his protean conceptions up to his death in 1994. During the forties and fifties, he established his own architecture office and designed several small and medium-sized houses of unusual daring and freedom. His eye-popping designs for roadside coffee shops—the celebrated Googie's, with jazzy roof lines and kaleidoscopic geometry—and California houses sporting hexagonal roofs, free-floating walls, and indoor-outdoor pools, are among these. In the sixties, the now-iconic Chemosphere, Elrod, and Silvertop houses were built. Extravagance and the refinement of his bold expressions mark the buildings of the final phase, the seventies to nineties. For these houses Lautner's athletic use of concrete reaches its zenith. The sweep of the curves and play between site and structure create dizzily fantastic forms that are indicative of both the core and the frontiers of the twentieth-century American psyche. This volume, with its authoritative text by Alan Hess and full-color and black-and-white photography by Alan Weintraub, splendidly captures the breathtaking interior spaces and extraordinary vistas that characterize the work of an architect who is increasingly seen as one of the great American masters of the twentieth century.

"John Lautner, one of the recognized geniuses of California modernism." --Bob Colacello, Vanity Fair