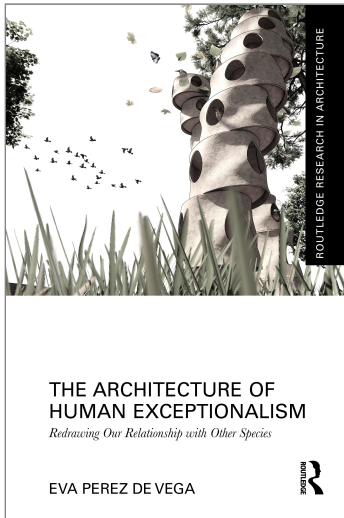


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The Architecture of Human Exceptionalism

Redrawing Our Relationship with Other Species

By Eva Perez de Vega

This book challenges the assumption that architecture is a human-centered endeavor and calls for a fundamental shift in how we engage with the built environment. By examining how speciesist assumptions rooted in human exceptionalism shape architectural thought and practice, it asks how architecture might respond differently in a world defined by ecological entanglement rather than human dominance.

Drawing on ecofeminist interpretations of Spinoza's philosophical work, the book develops a conceptual framework for redrawing human relations with other species. Philosophical inquiry and architectural representation operate together as modes of interrogation, with drawing understood as a form of thinking from the position of an architect engaged in multispecies relationality. The central claim is that by engaging with niche construction, architecture can become a vehicle for ecological empathy, shifting practice away from domination and toward enmeshment with the environment.

The book is intended for architects, designers, and scholars working across architecture, environmental humanities, and philosophy, as well as students and readers interested in climate ethics, multispecies theory, and the transformative potential of design.

Critics' Review

In her timely and poignant work, *The Architecture of Human Exceptionalism*, Eva Perez de Vega explores a different kind of world-building – a world in which architecture offers a vehicle for ecological empathy to live more intelligently with, and not merely on, our earth.

Robert Kirkbride, *Parsons School of Design + PreservationWorks*.

Humans are niche constructing animals – but so are an indefinite number of other species. Eva Perez de Vega's *The Architecture of Human Exceptionalism* is a timely and original intervention that joins a critique of human hybris with a compelling multi-species construction of the forms of what she calls ecotecture. This book should change everyone's understanding about the meaning of architecture.

J.M. Bernstein, *New School for Social Research*.