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New Books on Le Corbusier

Le Corbusier and the Occult J. K Birksted. MIT Press, 2009. 416 pp., 177 illus, cloth, £28.95. ISBN: 978-0-262-02648-2

Le Corbusier: Elements of a Synthesis Stanislaus von Moos. 010 Publishers, 2009. 352 pp., 400 illus, paper, €29.50. ISBN: 978-90-6450-642-0

Le Corbusier and P. Jeanneret: v. 12: Villa Saboye, "Les Heures Claires" 1928–1963 Josep Quetglas. Rueda, 2004. 80 pp., cloth, £9.95. ISBN: 978-8-4720-7157-5

Le Corbusier and the Concept of Self Simon Richards. Yale University Press, 2003. 296 pp., cloth, £25.00. ISBN: 0-300-09565-1

Raumplan Versus Plan Libre: Adolf Loos/Le Corbusier Max Risselada (ed.). 010 Publishers, 2008. 200 pp., paper, €29.50. ISBN: 978-90-6450-665-9

Le Corbusier in Detail Flora Samuel. Architectural Press, 2007. 264 pp., paper, £29.00. ISBN: 978-0-7506-6354-0

Le Corbusier: The Art of Architecture Alexander von Vegesack & Mateo Kries (eds.). Vitra Design Museum, 2007. 398 pp., cloth, £64.49. ISBN: 978-3-931-93672-3

Le Corbusier: A Life Nicholas Fox Weber. Random House, 2008. 848 pp., cloth, \$45.00. ISBN: 978-0-375-41043-7

[Tim Benton](#)

Journal of Design History, Volume 22, Issue 3, 1 September 2009, Pages 271–284,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jdh/epp028>

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There is life in the old dog yet. Forty years after the death of the author, and that of the architect Le Corbusier (1887–1965), weighty volumes are still emerging on the man labelled ‘architect of the century’ by the Arts Council in 1987.¹ The disturbance caused by Le Corbusier to his contemporaries and succeeding generations lends an edge to much of the writing. The beauty and audacity of some of his buildings still have the power to muffle criticism. Above all, his refusal to stand still has made him an awkward target for all but the most ignorant critics.

...

The sheer quantity and complexity of the archives are also significant. Despite the significant existing literature on Le Corbusier (more than on any other twentieth-century architect), the books considered here include...

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