EXHIBITION
LIGHT CONSTRUCTION

DATES
September 21, 1995 - January 2, 1996

ORGANIZATION
Organized by Terence Riley, Chief Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, The Museum of Modern Art

CONTENT
The exhibition presents more than thirty recent projects by thirty architects and artists from eleven countries that reveal an emerging sensibility in contemporary architecture. The works demonstrate new attitudes toward forms and surfaces, defining an architecture of transparency and translucency. In this architecture of "lightness," buildings become intangible, structures shed their weight, and facades seem unstable and ambiguous. While much of the work recalls the visionary projects of such earlier modernists as Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Pierre Chareau, it is also profoundly influenced by such aspects of contemporary culture as the computer and electronic media.

LIGHT CONSTRUCTION consists of models, large-scale photographs, and drawings. Both built works, such as the Fondation Cartier by Jean Nouvel (France) and the ITM Building by Toyo Ito (Japan), and projected works, such as the Salzburg Congress Center by Fumihiko Maki (Japan) and the Helsinki Museum of Contemporary Art by Steven Holl (United States), are included. The exhibition also features projects that go beyond the traditional definitions of architecture, including Ice Fences, a landscape installation by Michael van Walkenburgh (United States), an urban park pavilion for a New York rooftop by Dan Graham (United States), and theatrical set designs by Tod Williams and Billie Tsien (United States).

PUBLICATION

SYMPOSIUM
Coorganized by The Museum of Modern Art and Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Speakers and dates to be announced.

For further information, contact Alexandra Partow, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9750.