

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
April 1995

FACT SHEET

- 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** *Light Construction*, by Terence Riley. 160 pages. 178 illustrations (70 in color). Published by The Museum of Modern Art. Paperbound, \$29.95, distributed in the United States and Canada by Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York. Available at The MoMA Book Store.
- 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.

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