

Subject: re: Announcing two books by two ACSF members - Alberto Pérez-Gómez & Thomas Barrie
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 18:44:57 Eastern Standard Time
From: Julio Bermudez
To: (Architecture, Culture & Spirituality Forum) ACSF
Attachments: Barrie_House&Home_comp.pdf

Dear ACSF members

We are very proud to announce two excellent books written by two recognized scholars and ACSF members.

House and Home: Cultural Contexts, Ontological Roles by Thomas Barrie
Routledge --- <http://www.routledge.com/9781138947160>

House and home are words routinely used to describe where and how one lives. This book challenges these predominant definitions and argues that domesticity fundamentally satisfies the human need to create and inhabit a defined place in the world. Consequently, house and home have performed numerous cultural and ontological roles, and have been assiduously represented in scripture, literature, art, and philosophy. This book presents how the search for home in an unpredictable world led people to create myths about the origins of architecture, houses for their gods, and house tombs for eternal life. Turning to more recent topics, it discusses how writers often used simple huts as a means to address the essentials of existence, modernist architects envisioned the capacity of house and home to improve society, and the suburban house was positioned as a superior setting for culture and family. Throughout the book house and home are critically examined to illustrate the perennial role and capacity of architecture to articulate the human condition, position it more meaningfully in the world, and assist in our collective homecoming.

"With this book Thomas Barrie offers us neither a guide to how to build, nor a history of domestic architecture, nor a survey of significant houses, although a concern with all three informs his discussion of house and home. At issue is something more fundamental: the need for both physical and spiritual shelter that is inseparable from human being; the way houses and thoughts about houses, especially in literature, have articulated changing convictions concerning how human beings should take their place in the world, how they should relate to an encompassing reality, to others, and to themselves."

Karsten Harries, Howard H Newman Professor of Philosophy, Yale University

See attached for further information.

Attunement. Architectural Meaning after the Crisis of Modern Science by Alberto Pérez-Gómez
The MIT Press --- <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/attunement>

Architecture remains in crisis, its social relevance lost between the two poles of formal innovation and technical sustainability. In *Attunement*, Alberto Pérez-Gómez calls for an architecture that can enhance our human values and capacities, an architecture that is

connected—attuned—to its location and its inhabitants. Architecture, Pérez-Gómez explains, operates as a communicative setting for societies; its beauty and its meaning lie in its connection to human health and self-understanding.

Our physical places are of utmost importance for our well-being. Drawing on recent work in embodied cognition, Pérez-Gómez argues that the environment, including the built environment, matters not only as a material ecology but because it is nothing less than a constituent part of our consciousness. To be fully self-aware, we need an external environment replete with meanings and emotions.

Pérez-Gómez views architecture through the lens of mood and atmosphere, linking these ideas to the key German concept of *Stimmung*—attunement—and its roots in Pythagorean harmony and Vitruvian temperance or proportion. He considers the primacy of place over space; the linguistic aspect of architecture—the voices of architecture and the voice of the architect; architecture as a multisensory (not pictorial) experience, with Piranesi, Ledoux, and Hejduk as examples of metaphorical modeling; and how *Stimmung* might be put to work today to realize the contemporary possibilities of attunement.

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"leap and the net will appear"