



# NUA Library

## Decolonising Architecture and Interior Design

The reading list below is a small selection of books on this topic, it is viewed as a starting point for your own research – we hope you find it insightful and thought provoking. See our Decolonising the Library webpage for more suggestions.

Allison, P (2006) [\*David Adjaye: houses: recycling, reconfiguring, rebuilding\*](#). London: Thames & Hudson.

An introduction to David Adjaye's small scale work, with an introduction by Stuart Hall; a documentation of thirteen of Adjaye's acclaimed residential projects; a series of visual essays; and essays from cultural critics who have been touched by his buildings. Adjaye was born in Tanzania and trained as an architect in London. Also see [Adjaye, Africa, Architecture](#).

Anderson, S., Wilson, M. and Hartt, D. (2021) [\*Reconstructions: architecture and blackness in America\*](#). New York: The Museum of Modern Art.

Produced alongside an exhibition of the same name at MoMA, New York, this volume describes itself as a field guide argues that American racial injustice is fundamentally spatial. Discussing anti-black histories and future narratives calling for architects to reconstruct the American build environment. Architects, designers, artists and writers were invited to contribute to reimagine ten American cities and celebrate individuals and communities who have mobilized Black cultural spaces across the US.

Cooke, S. (2021) [\*Hip-Hop Architecture\*](#). London: Bloomsbury.

As architecture grapples with its own racist legacy, *Hip-Hop Architecture* outlines a powerful new manifesto- the voice of the underrepresented, marginalized, and voiceless within the discipline. Exploring the production of spaces, buildings, and urban environments that embody the creative energies in hip-hop, it is a newly expanding design philosophy which sees architecture as a distinct part of hip-hop's cultural expression, and which uses hip-hop as a lens through which to provoke new architectural ideas.

Cheng, I., Davis, C. and Wilson, M. (2020) [\*Race and Modern Architecture: A critical history from the Enlightenment to the present\*](#). Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

This volume investigates how modern architecture discourse and practice from the Enlightenment to the present have been influenced by race – a concept of human difference that established hierarchies of power and domination between Europe and Europe's "other", by classifying human subjects into modern/non-modern, civilized/primitive, white/non-white, and human/less than human binaries.



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Jani, V. (2011) [\*Diversity in design: perspectives from the non-Western world\*](#).  
London: Fairchild.

*Diversity in Design: Perspectives from the non-Western World* encourages evaluation, appreciation, and comparison amongst diverse cultures by incorporating real-world non-Western design traditions into Western context. Each chapter represents a selected non-Western country written by native and resident experts and offers insight into that country's culture, highlighting the ways in which social and physical influences have affected the development of architecture and design. Contributors native to the featured countries offer insight into design philosophies, theories, principles and elements, symbolism, colors, patterns, and textiles from their regions.

### [Decolonising architecture](#)

An organisation based at University of Bath fighting for a new transparent and free form of education in architecture. "We believe in creating a future that is diverse, equal and inclusive to all". Check out their newsletter [DA Shout!](#)

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