

Some Place Like Home: Using Design Psychology to Create Ideal Places

By Toby Israel



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Both an accessible and fascinating title, this book reveals how our past experiences and psychological developments inform the choices we make today when selecting a place that we truly feel is our "home"

It considers our "environmental autobiographies" and our psychological development in respect to urban experiences, focusing on the personal stories of Charles Jencks, Michael Graves and Andres Duany, three of the most prominent figures of our time from the world of design

Both theoretical and practical exercises involve the reader in understanding and improving the quality of their own environment. An entirely new approach to architectural design which combines aesthetics and psychology

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Editorial Review

Review

- "Some Place Like Home....considered the bible of the field." (LA Times, March 15, 2007)
- "...explores a new field of work...features exercises so readers can analyse their own past..." (*Design Week*, December 2003)
- "...an extraordinary book, intellectually written...includes thought-provoking exercises...will make you a believer..." (*Design Management Review*, Spring 2004)

From the Back Cover

Defined as "the practice of architecture, planning and interior design in which psychology is the principal design tool", the purpose of Design Psychology is to create environments that reflect the individual or group as well as encourage positive change.

Some Place Like Home introduces the new field of Design Psychology, using in-depth interviews with design superstars Michael Graves, Andres Duany and Charles Jencks to examine how places from the past contain the seeds of future choices – for home locations, dwellings and interior design.

The Design Psychology Exercises used to delve into the 'environmental autobiographies' of Graves, Jencks and Duany can in turn be used by readers, themselves, to explore their own environmental treasure chests.

The last portion of the book focuses on the practical application of Design Psychology by showing examples of residential, corporate and institutional projects created via the Design Psychology process. A Design Psychology Toolbox, provided at the end of the book, gives readers hands-on programming exercises they can use to explore and design from their most fulfilling inner experiences.

This is a groundbreaking, 'must read' book for anyone seeking to create an ideal environment that feels "Some Place Like Home".

About the Author

TOBY F ISRAEL, PhD, is an environmental/design psychologist with over 25 years of experience in design and psychology, the arts, and education. She has served as the Visual Arts Coordinator for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, as an environmental consultant in the USA and UK and as a Senior Lecturer at the University of Lincoln. Now living in the USA, she acts as an advisor/market researcher for educational institutions as well as for the homebuilding and design industry. She speaks both nationally and internationally, spreading the word about Design Psychology.

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