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Nota di contenuto   1. The crisis of the object -- 2. Theatricality : the structure of tectonic -- 3. Peter Eisenman : in search of degree zero architecture -- 4. Bernard Tschumi : return of the object -- 5. Rem Koolhaas : exuberant object of delight -- 6. Zaha Hadid : proun without a cause! -- 7. Frank Gehry : roofing, wrapping, and wrapping the roof -- 8. Steven Holl : fabrication detailed -- 9. Surface : a-tectonic of roofing and wrapping.

Sommario/riassunto   Focusing on six leading contemporary architects: Peter Eisenman, Frank Gehry, Bernard Tschumi, Zaha Hadid, Rem Koolhaas and Steven Holl, this book puts forward a unique and insightful analysis of "neo-avant-garde" architecture. It discusses the spectacle and excess which permeates contemporary architecture in reference to the present aesthetic tendency for image making, but does so by applying the tectonic of theatricality discussed by the 19th-century German architect Gottfried Semper. In doing so, it breaks new ground by opening up a dialogue between the study of the past and the design of the present. The work of each discussed architect is seen as addressing a historiographical problem. To this end, and this is the second important aspect of this book, the chosen buildings are discussed in terms of the thematic of the culture of building (the tectonic of column and wall for example) rather the formal, and this through a discussion that is informed by the latest available theories. Having set the

aesthetic implication of the processes of the digitalization of architecture, the book's conclusion highlights "strategies" by which architecture might postpone the full consequences of digitalization, and thus the becoming of architecture as ornament on its own right.