

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910826542603321
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Titolo	Unless : the Seagram Building construction ecology // Kiel Moe
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY : , : Actar Publishers, , 2021 ©2021
ISBN	9781638409144 1638409145 9781948765398 194876539X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (302 pages) : illustrations (some color), maps (chiefly color)
Disciplina	720.47
Soggetti	Architecture - Environmental aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Title page -- Contents -- Prologue: Unless -- Introduction: The Terrestrial Life of Large Urban Spaces -- Framework: The Architecture of Unequal Exchange -- Framework: Construction Ecology -- Technomass and Technofossils -- Dies, Dyes and Dies -- Transparency: Literal and Terrestrial -- Getting Stone -- Conclusion: Gaia is in the Details -- Acknowledgements -- List of Illustrations.
Sommario/riassunto	Dissects the construction ecology, material geographies, and world-systems of a most modern of modern architectures: the Seagram Building. In doing so, it aims to describe how humans and nature interact with the thin crust of the planet through architecture. In particular, the immense material, energy and labor involved in building require a fresh interpretation that better situates the ecological and social potential of design. The enhancement of a particular building should be inextricable from the enhancement of its world-system and construction ecology. A “beautiful” building engendered through the vulgarity of uneven exchanges and processes of underdevelopment is no longer a tenable conceit in such a framework. Unless architects begin to describe buildings as terrestrial events and artifacts, architects will—to our collective and professional peril—continue to operate

outside the key environmental dynamics and key political processes of this century.
