Unconventional Computing: Design Methods for Adaptive Architecture

By Rachel Armstrong

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Unconventional Computing: Design Methods for Adaptive Architecture is an exploration of the emerging terrain of negotiated acts of co-design between humans, nonhumans and matter, where spatial programs are regarded as acts of persuasion, cooperation and symbiosis. These acts of design and production are not at odds with nature but are seamlessly entwined with its processes. Unconventional computing offers a platform where information and matter are coupled. Rather than being an afterthought to geometry in the design process, materials can participate directly in design solutions. The book aims to expand tools and approaches for responsive and adaptable methods of architectural design and production. Contributors from the fields of science, design and computation suggest that unconventional computing can be a synergetic practice that integrates established methods including parametrics, digital prototyping, landscape design and cybernetics. The convergence of these methods produce potent possibilities for emerging material practices.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Rachel Armstrong is a Senior TED Fellow and Co-Director of AVATAR (Advanced Virtual and Technological Architectural Research) at University of Greenwich, London. Simone Ferracina is an architectural designer with an interest in cybernetics and immersive environments.

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