

BOOK REVIEW

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Form and Dichroic Light: Scott Hall at Carnegie Mellon University

by Michelle LaFoe and Isaac Campbell, Founders of OFFICE 52 Architecture

Foreword by Cesar Pelli, FAIA

Introduction by Michael J. Crosbie, FAIA

Leete's Island Books, Maine

Hard cover; 96 pages in color, 2018

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Keane states, "Your book offers so much methodology and insight from the choice to spread the building to the interactivity of the materials. It is a masterful project and an amazing read. I am looking forward to sharing it with my thesis students who are interested in designing buildings....This is the first use of dichroic glass on the exterior of a building that I have seen."



In their new book, LaFoe and Campbell, co-founders of OFFICE 52 Architecture, unfold the conscientious and creative response of architectural research as a meticulous yet open ended process. They share their studio work to show design as it responds

intimately to site constraints through creative iterative solutions and then reveals detail conceptual material strategies for expressing the marvels of nano-bio-energy in a new technology center for Carnegie Mellon University.

In addition to the skillful separation of programmatic areas into non-obtrusive, but activated edges of the site, the plan offers spacious color and texture-filled gathering and circulation areas in large airy volumes that invite but do not dominate the historical views. Upon approach the ceramic frit patterns shift in in scale while the dichroic glass changes in color as the sun moves throughout the day.

The mind of the architect is revealed in clearly explained scales of practices from nano to macro and ideation to constructed detail. *Form and Dichroic Light* is an informative and wonderful read about the adventures and challenges inherent in the practice of architecture for the architect, architectural client, and architect enthusiast!

Linda Keane
September 22, 2018



Detail, South Façade (left), Interior Collaboratory public space (right), Carnegie Mellon University Scott Hall, Photos by Jeremy Bittermann, Courtesy OFFICE 52 Architecture.