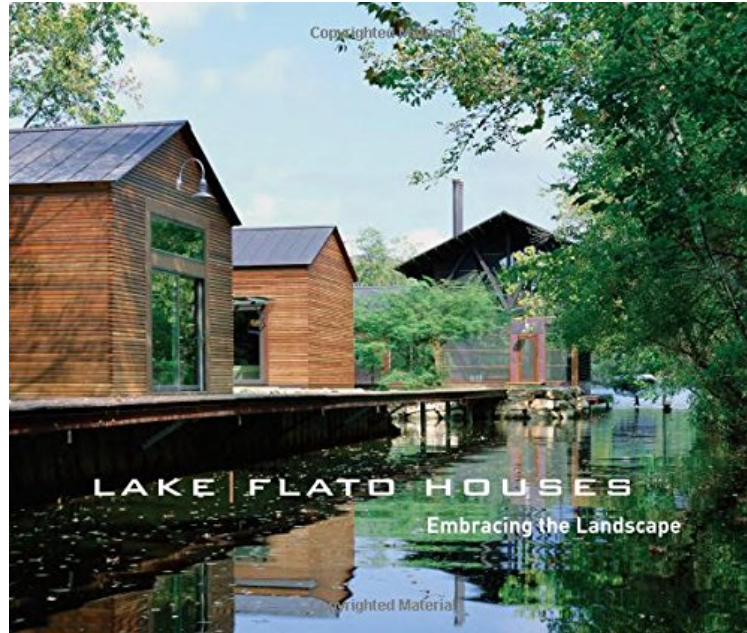


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Lake|Flato Houses: Embracing the Landscape

Lake|Flato, Frederick Steiner

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Lake|Flato, Frederick Steiner : Lake|Flato Houses: Embracing the Landscape before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lake|Flato Houses: Embracing the Landscape:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. A very nice book from a great architectBy bo sundiusA very nice book from a great architect. Good photos. There is one plan for each house. Too bad there are not more drawings. Sections and details must be beautiful but not included. But still the one plan for each shows their brilliance. Biggest problem is that while the print quality of the book is good the glue on the binding is cheap. Had the book for 12 hours and it's already coming apart. The layout of the book is great but the publishers botched it in the end with a cheap bind. Too bad. Would be five stars but this will not be a bound book for long....two stars.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful and fascinatingBy Kindle CustomerLoved the book, hated the binding (It's a heavy book with thick pages and the glued-on cover fell off the first day. Aggravating, especially in a book of this overall quality.) As far as the book's content goes, it's gorgeous. Lake/Flato are designing some extraordinary spaces and they're well-documented in the photos and text, which are more evenly balanced than in some books of this type. I especially liked the Brown and the Dunning desert houses, but almost all are interesting and novel in approach in one way or another, especially in the way they are set into the landscape. I wdo wish they'd designed the legs so the highest adjustment buttons weren't partially set inside the bench seat. They're not the easiest to get to, but at least you'll only need to change the leg heights once. I do wish the floor plans had better labelling, though, as many of them have some spaces that aren't in the key and other titles are uninformative. 'Storage' or 'studio', for instance, don't tell you much about the actual use... Overall, however, this is an exceptional record of the firm's work to date, and of interest to any design aficionado.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Superb residential architectureBy bumpyrI love the architecture. Beautiful use of materials, great integration into the landscape. I also really like that the division between indoor and outdoor is blurred very creatively. I'd always liked the work when I saw it in the magazines but this book

takes my understanding of the firm's work to a new level. I gave it 4 stars because second floor plans and scale are not included.

Lake|Flato Architects of San Antonio, Texas, is nationally and internationally acclaimed for buildings that respond organically to the natural environment. The firm uses local materials and workmanship, as well as a deep knowledge of vernacular traditions, to design buildings that are tactile and modern, environmentally responsible and authentic, artful and crafted. Lake|Flato won the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture in 2013, and it has also received the American Institute of Architects highest honor, the National Firm Award. In all, Lake|Flato has won more than 150 national and state design awards. Residential architecture has always been a priority for the firm, and Lake|Flato Houses showcases an extensive selection of landmark homes built since 1999. Color photographs and architectural commentary create a memorable portrait of houses from Texas to Montana. Reflecting the firm's emphasis on designing in harmony with the land, the houses are grouped by the habitats in which they're rooted: brushland, desert, hillside, mountains, city, and water. These groupings reveal how Lake|Flato works with the natural environment to create houses that merge into the landscape, blurring boundaries between inside and outside and accommodating the climate through both traditional and cutting-edge technologies. The sections are opened by noted architect and educator Frederick Steiner, who discusses Lake|Flato's unique responses to the forms and materials of the various landscapes. An introduction by journalist Guy Martin summarizes the history of Lake|Flato and its philosophy, and explores the impact of its work on sustainable architecture.

"As a way to both mark its 30th year and celebrate an unwavering approach to design, the firm recently released *Lake|Flato Houses: Embracing the Landscape* (University of Texas Press), a book that showcases how this philosophy succeeds in creating unique homes. Unlike commercial projects, homes have a scale and a need to connect to the environment that is more obvious, says Flato." (San Antonio Magazine 2014-07-10) About the Author Guy Martin has written for numerous magazines, including Cond Nast Traveler, Garden Gun, the (London) Observer, the (London) Sunday Telegraph, and the New Yorker. A native of Athens, Alabama, a small cotton town in the Tennessee Valley, he grew up in a house designed by the architect Paul Rudolph, who had been friends with his parents. Martin lives in Berlin, Germany, and New York City. Frederick Steiner, FASLA, is the Henry M. Rockwell Chair in Architecture and Dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Texas at Austin. His most recent books include *Design for a Vulnerable Planet*, *The Essential Ian McHarg: Writings on Design and Nature*, *Planning and Urban Design Standards: Student Edition* (with Kent Butler), and *Human Ecology: Following Nature's Lead*.