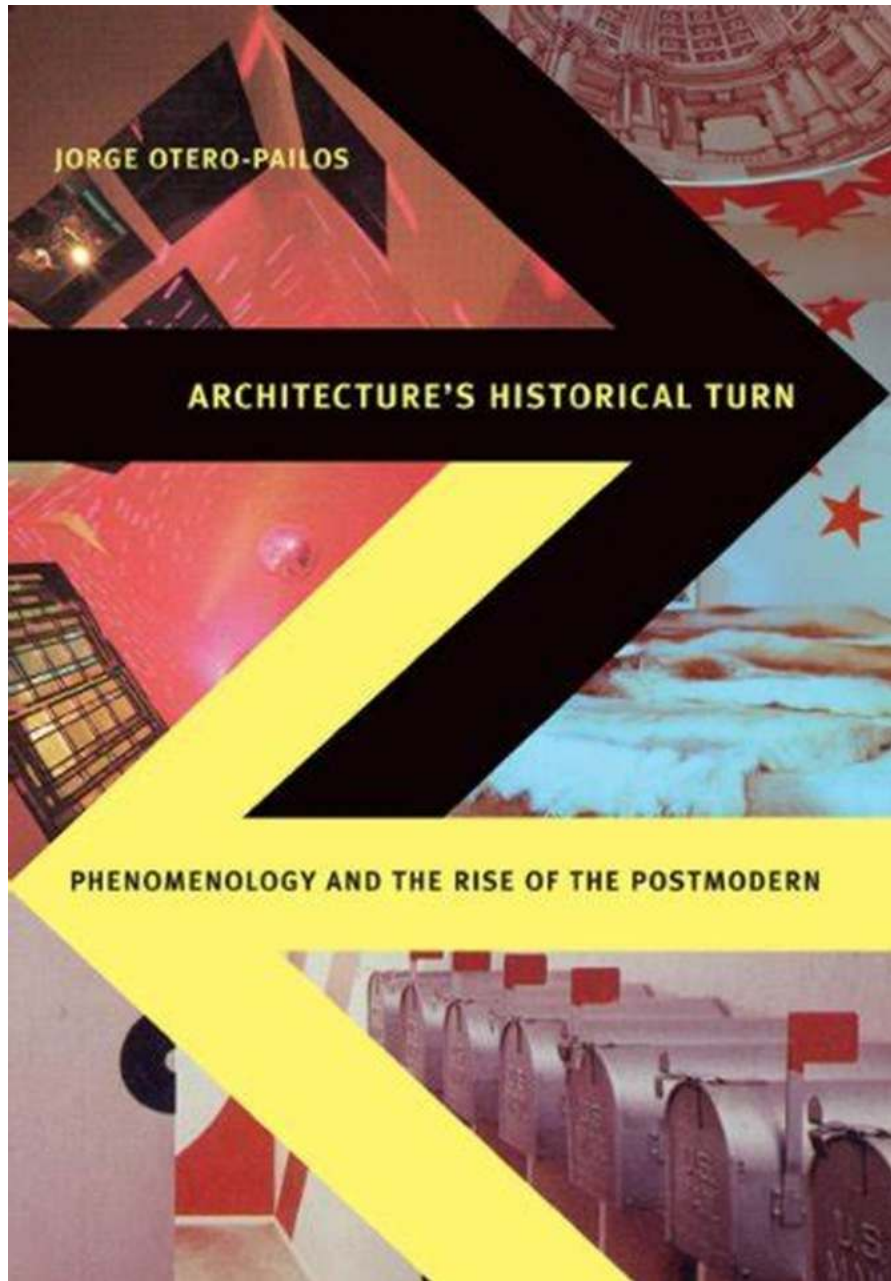


# Phenomenology And The Rise Of The Postmodern

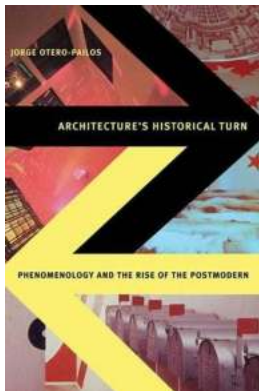


What is the relationship between phenomenology and the rise of the postmodern? How does the philosophical movement of phenomenology pave the way for the emergence of postmodern thought? In this article, we will explore the

connections between these two intellectual currents and delve into their significance in shaping contemporary culture and thinking.

## Understanding Phenomenology

Phenomenology is a philosophical approach that focuses on the subjective experiences and consciousness of individuals. It seeks to understand the structures and meanings of these experiences rather than focusing on objective realities or external stimuli. The phenomenological method involves suspension of judgment, description of experiences in their pure form, and an emphasis on the subjective first-person perspective.



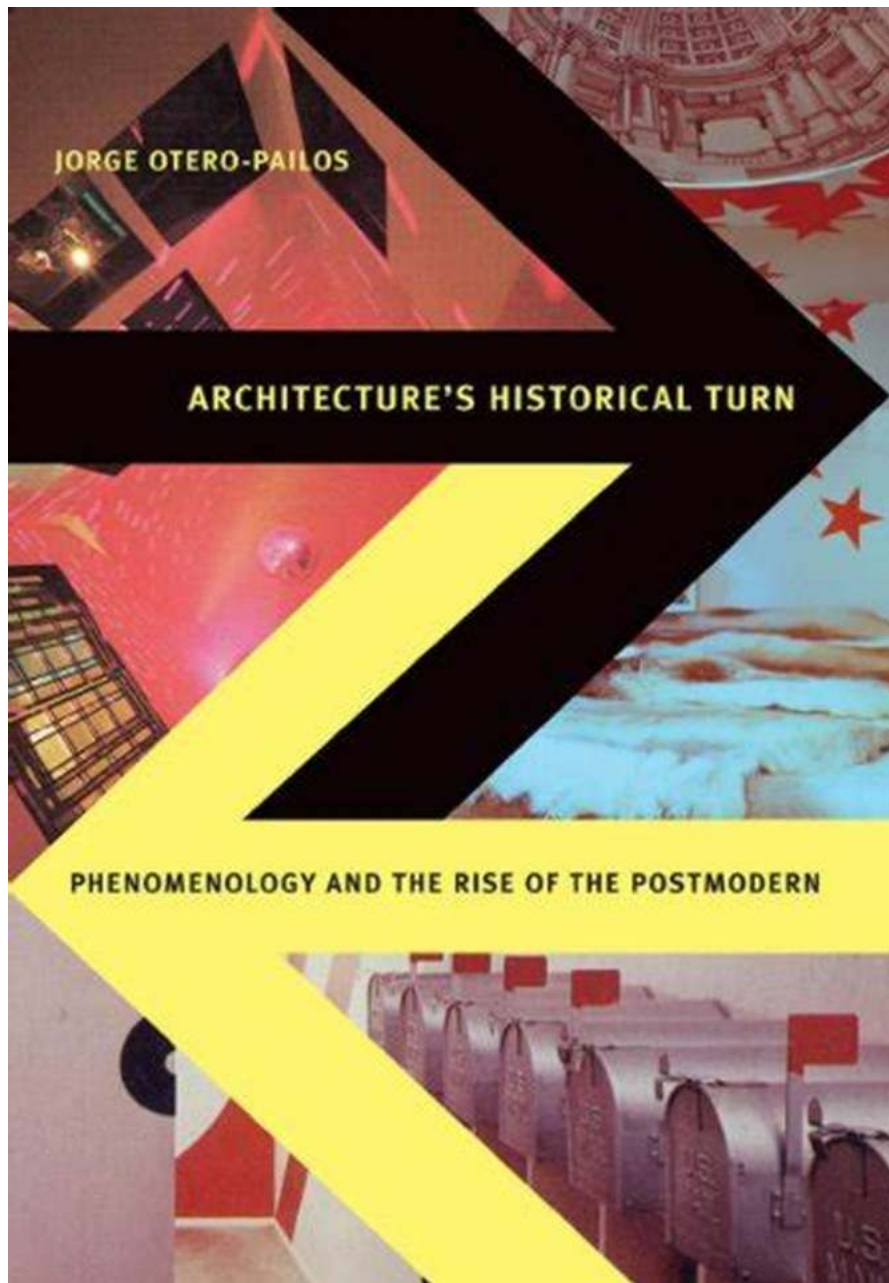
## Architecture's Historical Turn: Phenomenology and the Rise of the Postmodern

by Jorge Otero-Pailos (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 17811 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 320 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported





## **The Birth of Phenomenology**

Phenomenology emerged in the early 20th century with the work of philosopher Edmund Husserl. Husserl believed that by bracketing out preconceived notions and assumptions, we can observe phenomena in their essence and gain a deeper understanding of consciousness. He argued that consciousness is not directed towards objects, but rather towards the experience of those objects.

## **The Impact of Phenomenology**

The influence of phenomenology can be seen in various fields such as psychology, sociology, literature, and even architecture. Psychologists have incorporated phenomenological methods to study consciousness and subjective experiences, while sociologists have used it to examine the lived experiences of various social groups.

## **The Postmodern Turn**

The postmodern movement emerged as a response to modernism, challenging its emphasis on objective truths and grand narratives. Postmodernism rejects universal claims and instead embraces a fragmented and diverse worldview. It questions the notion of an absolute reality and highlights the social, historical, and cultural factors that shape our understanding of the world.

## **The Connection**

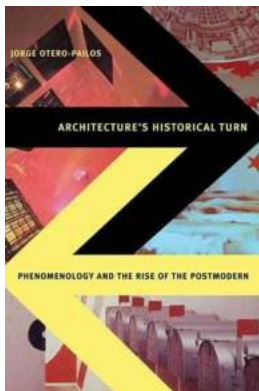
So, how does phenomenology connect with the rise of the postmodern? Phenomenology's emphasis on subjectivity and the exploration of individual experiences has contributed to the postmodern idea that reality is subjective and socially constructed. Both phenomenology and postmodernism emphasize the importance of perspective, context, and the multiplicity of meanings.

Additionally, by challenging the idea of objective truth, both phenomenology and postmodernism invite a critical examination of power structures and the ways in which knowledge is produced and distributed. They unravel the hidden assumptions and biases that shape our understanding of reality and encourage a more inclusive and diverse understanding of knowledge.

Phenomenology laid the groundwork for the rise of the postmodern by questioning traditional notions of objective truth and opening up the possibility for

diverse perspectives and interpretations. It paved the way for a more critical and inclusive approach to understanding reality and knowledge. The connection between phenomenology and the postmodern is an essential component in shaping contemporary culture and thinking.

Today, the influence of both phenomenology and postmodernism can still be felt in various academic disciplines, artistic expressions, and even everyday life. By embracing subjectivity, context, and multiplicity, we can gain a deeper appreciation for the complexities of human experiences and challenge our own preconceived notions about reality.



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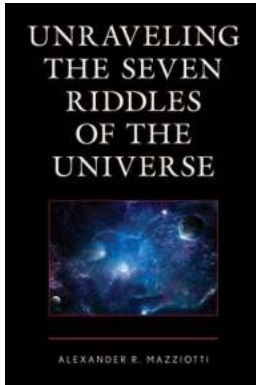


Architecture's Historical Turn traces the hidden history of architectural phenomenology, a movement that reflected a key turning point in the early phases of postmodernism and a legitimating source for those architects who first dared to confront history as an intellectual problem and not merely as a stylistic question.

Jorge Otero-Pailos shows how architectural phenomenology radically transformed how architects engaged, theorized, and produced history. In the first critical intellectual account of the movement, Otero-Pailos discusses the contributions of leading members, including Jean Labatut, Charles Moore, Christian Norberg-Schulz, and Kenneth Frampton. For architects maturing after World War II, Otero-Pailos contends, architectural history was a problem rather than a given. Paradoxically, their awareness of modernism's historicity led some of them to search for an ahistorical experiential constant that might underpin all architectural expression. They drew from phenomenology, exploring the work of Bachelard, Merleau-Ponty, Heidegger, and Ricoeur, which they translated for architectural audiences. Initially, the concept that experience could be a timeless architectural language provided a unifying intellectual basis for the stylistic pluralism that characterized postmodernism. It helped give theory—especially the theory of architectural history—a new importance over practice. However, as Otero-Pailos makes clear, architectural phenomenologists could not accept the idea of theory as an end in itself. In the mid-1980s they were caught in the contradictory and untenable position of having to formulate their own demotion of theory.

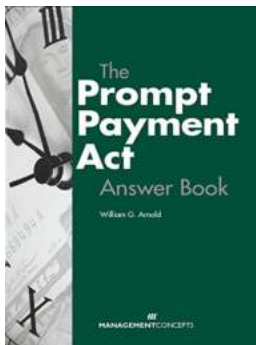
Otero-Pailos reveals how, ultimately, the rise of architectural phenomenology played a crucial double role in the rise of postmodernism, creating the antimodern specter of a historical consciousness and offering the modern notion of essential experience as the means to defeat it.





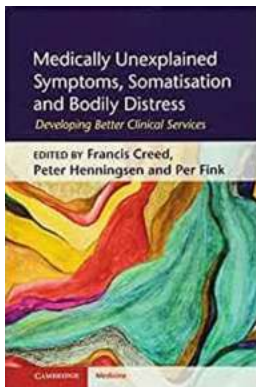
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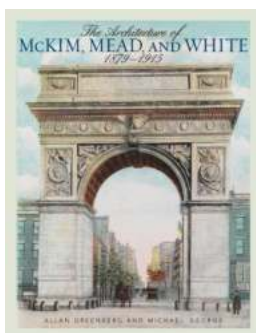
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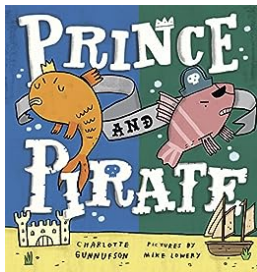
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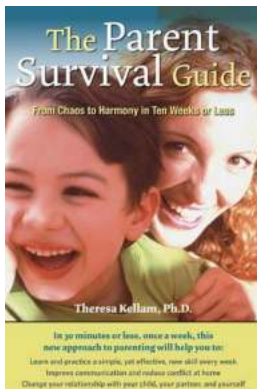
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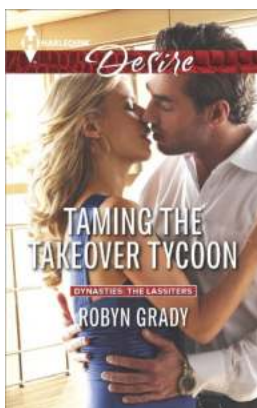
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