

**THE
OPEN
HAND**
**Essays
on
LeCorbusier**

The MIT Press
Cambridge,
Massachusetts,
and London,
England

**THE
OPEN
HAND**
**Essays
on
LeCorbusier** edited by Russell Walden

First MIT Press paperback edition, 1982

Copyright © 1977 by

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

The following figures © F.L.C. / ADAGP, Paris / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York 2020: fig. 1, fig. 3, fig. 4, figs. 7-9, fig. 12, fig. 18, figs. 22-24, figs. 31-38, fig. 43, figs. 45-51, figs. 54-55, fig. 58, figs. 61-73, fig. 83, fig. 86, fig. 98, figs. 100-101, fig. 108, fig. 117, fig. 120, fig. 123, figs. 129-131, fig. 133, fig. 138, fig. 140.

Open access edition funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Humanities Open Book Program.

The text of this book is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivatives 4.0 International License:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

This book was set in Univers by DEKR Corporation printed on R&E Book by Murray Printing Company and bound in G.S.B. #9 by Murray Printing Company in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

The Open hand.

Includes index.

1. Jeanneret-Gris, Charles Édouard, 1887-1965—

Addresses, essays, lectures. 2. Architecture,

Modern—20th century—Addresses, essays, lectures.

I. Walden, Russell.

NA1053.J4063 720'.92'4 76-40046

ISBN 0-262-23074-7 (hard)

0-262-73062-6 (paper)

Over this passage on
page 8 of his 1908
French translation of
Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke
Zarathustra*, Le Corbusier
wrote in 1961, "La main
ouverte."

Le Corbusier, *Le Poème
de l'angle droit*.

See! I am tired of my wisdom,
like a bee that has collected too much honey,
I need hands which stretch out for it.

I should like to give it away and
distribute it until the wise among men
become happy again in their foolishness,
and the poor happy in their riches.

Pleine main j'ai reçu
pleine main je donne.

Contents

Foreword viii
André Wogenscky

Acknowledgments xiii

Introduction 1
Russell Walden

**Romanticism, Rationalism, and
the Domino System** 14
Paul Turner

Part One
**The
Intellectual
Formation
of
Le Corbusier**

**Le Corbusier, Ruskin, the Tree, and
the Open Hand** 42
Mary Patricia May Sekler
**Le Corbusier in an Unpublished Dossier
and a Little-Known Novel** 96
Maurice Favre

Part Two
**Habitation
and
Le Corbusier's
Purist
Position:
Creation,
Propaganda,
and
Defense**

**New Light on Le Corbusier's Early Years
in Paris: The La Roche-Jeanneret Houses** 116
Russell Walden
**Le Corbusier at Pessac:
Professional and Client Responsibilities** 162
Brian Brace Taylor
**Le Corbusier on the Tightrope of
Functionalism** 186
Charles Jencks

Part Three

**The
Urban
Utopia:
Le Corbusier's
Ideas,
Plans,
and
Politics**

**A Vision of Utopia:
Optimistic Foundations of Le Corbusier's
*Doctrine d'urbanisme*** 216

Anthony Sutcliffe

**From the Radiant City to Vichy:
Le Corbusier's Plans and Politics, 1928-1942** 244

Robert Fishman

Part Four

**The
Spiritual
and
Technological
Paradox
of
Le Corbusier**

Le Corbusier and the Theological Program 286

Martin Purdy

Le Corbusier's Technological Dilemma 322

John Winter

Le Corbusier at Chandigarh 350

Maxwell Fry

Le Corbusier as I Knew Him 364

Jane B. Drew

Part Five

**Chandigarh:
Realization,
Reminiscences,
and
Sociopolitical
Realities**

Chandigarh as a Place to Live in 374

Madhu Sarin

**The Politics of the Open Hand:
Notes on Le Corbusier and Nehru
at Chandigarh** 412

Stanislaus von Moos

Notes on the Contributors 458

List of Illustrations 465

Index 471

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/5146.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/5146.001.0001)

The Open Hand

Essays on Le Corbusier

Edited by: Russell Walden

Citation:

The Open Hand: Essays on Le Corbusier

Edited by: Russell Walden

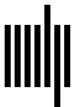
DOI: [10.7551/mitpress/5146.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/5146.001.0001)

ISBN (electronic): 9780262367882

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 1982

The open access edition of this book was made possible by generous funding and support from The National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Humanities Open Book Program.



The MIT Press

First MIT Press paperback edition, 1982

Copyright © 1977 by

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

The following figures © F.L.C. / ADAGP, Paris / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York 2020: fig. 1, fig. 3, fig. 4, figs. 7-9, fig. 12, fig. 18, figs. 22-24, figs. 31-38, fig. 43, figs. 45-51, figs. 54-55, fig. 58, figs. 61-73, fig. 83, fig. 86, fig. 98, figs. 100-101, fig. 108, fig. 117, fig. 120, fig. 123, figs. 129-131, fig. 133, fig. 138, fig. 140.

Open access edition funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Humanities Open Book Program.

The text of this book is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivatives 4.0 International License:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

This book was set in Univers by DEKR Corporation printed on R&E Book by Murray Printing Company and bound in G.S.B. #9 by Murray Printing Company in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

The Open hand.

Includes index.

1. Jeanneret-Gris, Charles Édouard, 1887-1965—

Addresses, essays, lectures. 2. Architecture,

Modern—20th century—Addresses, essays, lectures.

I. Walden, Russell.

NA1053.J4063 720'.92'4 76-40046

ISBN 0-262-23074-7 (hard)

0-262-73062-6 (paper)