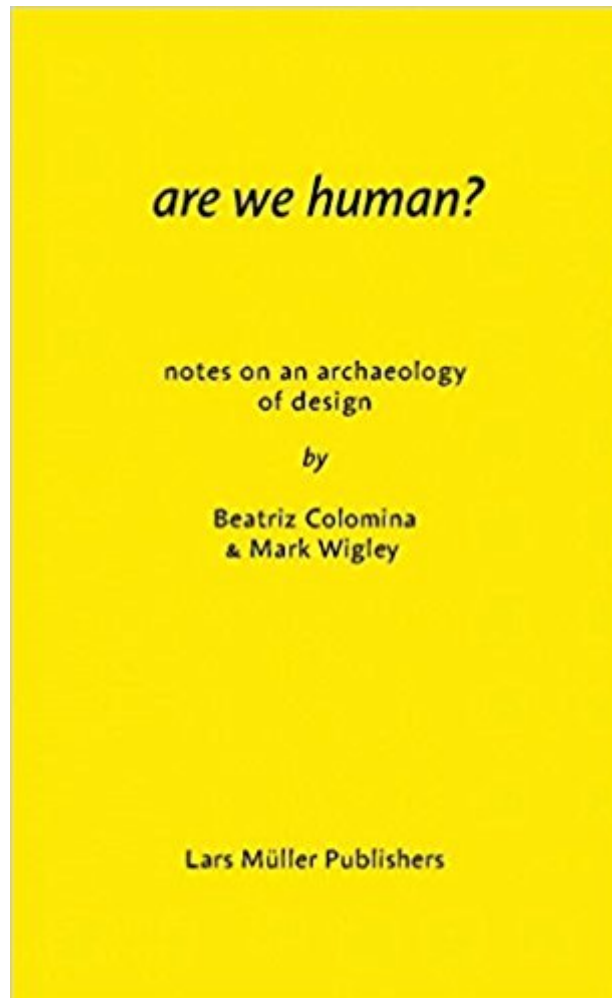




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Are We Human? Notes On An Archaeology Of Design



Synopsis

The question *Are We Human?* is both urgent and ancient. Beatriz Colomina and Mark Wigley offer a multilayered exploration of the intimate relationship between human and design and rethink the philosophy of design in a multi-dimensional exploration from the very first tools and ornaments to the constant buzz of social media. The average day involves the experience of thousands of layers of design that reach to outside space but also reach deep into our bodies and brains. Even the planet itself has been completely encrusted by design as a geological layer. There is no longer an outside to the world of design. Colomina's and Wigley's field notes offer an archaeology of the way design has gone viral and is now bigger than the world. They range across the last few hundred thousand years and the last few seconds to scrutinize the uniquely plastic relation between brain and artifact. A vivid portrait emerges. Design is what makes the human. It becomes the way humans ask questions and thereby continuously redesign themselves.

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Beatriz Colomina is Professor of Architecture at the Princeton University and Director of the interdisciplinary program Media and Modernity. She is a historian and theorist who has written extensively on questions of architecture, art, sexuality and media. Mark Wigley is a Professor of Architecture and Dean Emeritus of Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He is a historian and theorist who explores the intersection of architecture, art, philosophy, culture, and technology.

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