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## A GRID AND A CONVERSATION



Morris Adjmi Architects

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**Morris Adjmi Architects**

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- Showcases its well-deserved reputation for sophisticated contemporary designs and thoughtful revitalizations of historic and post-industrial urban fabrics, such as the Samsung building along New York City's High Line, the Wythe Hotel in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, The Schumacher, 134 Wooster, and 414 West 14th Street
- Interlaces scholarly and insightful reflections throughout, including conversations with Bill Higgins, Charles Blaichman, Fred Bland, Judith Saltzman, Lyle Starr, Jimmy Stamp, and Diane Ghirardo
- Expands on the philosophies and insights gleaned from the previous ten-year partnership with the Italian architect, designer, and scholar Aldo Rossi

*A Grid and a Conversation* presents a survey of work by the New York City based firm Morris Adjmi Architects, well known for the Samsung building along the High Line and the Wythe Hotel in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. This firm interprets the complex forces that shape our cities to create buildings that are contextual yet unmistakably contemporary. Deeply embedded in the firm's practice is a belief in the Renaissance tradition of architecture, wherein buildings are inextricable from their cultural situation and intellectual function. With a rapidly rising profile and projects under construction in major cities across America, Morris Adjmi Architects is building on its previous ten-year partnership with the Italian architect, designer and scholar Aldo Rossi, with an understanding that the built environment is constantly evolving as it both absorbs and reacts to greater historical narratives; and this rich inheritance unfolds through a distinctive formal language and creative use of materials inspired by its urban milieu. From unexpected twists on classic building types like the all-glass interpretation of a cast-iron facade or the ghostly metallic duplicate of a brick warehouse, to the literally twisting steel tower that embodies the collision of Manhattan's two primary street grids, this text traces the development and distillation of MA's unique practice through key projects completed during its first 20 years. *A Grid and a Conversation* is interlaced with reflections from writers, scholars, and collaborators, including Diane Ghirardo, Bill Higgins, and Jimmy Stamp. These essays and conversations offer an insight into the array of influences that shape the work of Morris Adjmi Architects.

**Morris Adjmi Architects** (MA) interprets the historic forces that shape our cities to design buildings that are both contextual and contemporary. The firm's diverse team of architects and interior designers is guided by a shared belief that timeless ideas about beauty and harmony can be integrated into the modern built environment, but the expression of those ideas must reflect the way we live today. MA's collaborative, research-based approach has helped establish the firm as a leader in the revitalisation of post-industrial neighbourhoods and historic districts with commercial, residential, and cultural projects that are imbued with a distinct sense of place and purpose. Morris Adjmi established MA in New York City in 1997 following a 13-year, collaboration with Pritzker Prize-winning architect, Aldo Rossi. On that strong foundation, he built a practice inspired by the arts and by new technologies as well as history and tradition. Today, with projects under construction around the country, the firm is recognised for its thoughtful engagement with context, creative use of materials, and sophisticated designs.

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