



New from DOM publishers:

Garegin Yeghoyan

Contemporary Villas in Armenia

A book like a rock: this description is particularly apt for the title *Contemporary Villas in Armenia*, since a piece of tuff has been embedded in the decorative slipcase of the monograph. Tuff is a type of rock that is indigenous to Armenia and thus a traditional building material in the country – one that the architect Garegin Yeghoyan uses purposefully.

Garegin Yeghoyan is one of the most well known architects of contemporary architecture in Armenia. This monograph presents ten private residences, built since 2000, which invoke the International Style in the context of traditional Armenian architecture. The buildings may be viewed against a backdrop of the natural environment and the 'structured chaos' of the vernacular fabric. Long-term urban-planning concepts and the involvement of trained architects are rather rare in contemporary Armenian architecture. Meanwhile, a small class of people were able to fulfil their dreams of owning a private house after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Many of these people availed themselves of grand villas that served as status symbols. Against this backdrop, the clear, modernist buildings by Yeghoyan appear almost like islands of contemporary architecture in a sea of convoluted structures.

Yeghoyan calls back on the long tradition of Armenian architecture, which is marked by simplicity and homogeneity. To this end, Tuff is a suitable building material, since it is easy to work with and features a wide range of colourful hues. The surface of the natural rock offers an antithesis to modern forms made of concrete and metal and is the principal feature of this architecture.

Those who want to learn more about Yerevan, known as the 'Pink City' – the cityscape is defined by Tuff rock, shimmering in colours from red and white to orange and black – can also gain a comprehensive picture in *Architectural Guide Yerevan*, also published by DOM publishers.



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190 images, softcover in decorative slip case

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