

JOHN CHILTON
Dr John Chilton is a Civil Engineer and Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Architecture, University of Nottingham where he has taught structures since 1988. With a special interest in the history, design and construction of innovative and non-conventional structures, he is an active member of the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures (IASS). He sits on the IASS Executive Council and chairs the IASS Working Group on Spatial Wood Structures.

The Engineer's Contribution to Contemporary Architecture

HEINZ
ISLER

Best known for his amazing free-form shell structures, Heinz Isler has inspired both architects and engineers with his dazzling creations. His work transcends the definition of mere structural engineering to the extent of becoming structural art. This book considers the unique work of this exceptional engineer.

Isler's primary medium of expression is the reinforced concrete shell. Rejecting the use of mathematical formulae, he approaches the challenges of each new structure by using physical modelling to determine the form and subsequently to investigate its stability. Harmonious, natural and inspiring structures are the result. Isler's sensitivity for the natural world is expressed in the quiet beauty of the shell forms that he has designed, which merge more easily into the landscape than most modern buildings. He creates structures of high efficiency with the lowest possible environmental impact.

The author takes a look at Isler's major works, at the philosophy behind these works and at Isler's methods. This fascinating look at the work of a pioneer in his field will prove exhilarating.