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RUSSIAN CONSTRUCTIVISM & IAKOV CHERNIKHOV

Five years ago, Architectural Design published a pioneering study of the Soviet avantgardist Iakov Chernikhov. Since the publication of his famous books in the early 30s, he has been known throughout the world as the most inventive of the Soviet architects who pursued the constructive formal logics of the machine. In that AD study, Catherine Cooke gave the first serious account of the theory and teaching methods he presented in his various books. Through further research in unpublished texts and archives by his grandson, Moscow architect Andrei Chernikhov, the full scope of this remarkable man's work emerges as far wider, ranging from his earliest Suprematist-inspired abstraction to the Stalinist Classicism of his Palaces for Socialism. To coincide with the major travelling exhibition which Andrei Chernikhov has prepared, we devote another issue to the reassessment of Iakov Chernikhov, presenting his avant-garde work in the context of Suprematist and Constructivist architectural thinking around him, and publishing extensive amounts of hitherto unknown work for the first time.

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