

# Attitude as Style — Rahel Belatchew, Architect



## **A + O Publishing are proud to announce the release of *Attitude as Style — Rahel Belatchew, Architect***

Rahel Belatchew is the founder of Belatchew Architects and has been described as one of the driving forces behind the emergence of a thriving and exciting architectural culture in Sweden, constantly engaged in and focused on seeing architecture as an answer to important questions facing society. Her architecture can be best understood as an innovative attitude rather than a certain style. The projects are based on careful analysis and reflect an attitude that treats each one as unique, with an individual—often sculptural—expression. There is consequently no general ‘building kit’ that the office utilises, and the results express the significant element of playfulness.

*Rahel Belatchew has never felt the need to deny history or context, but instead preferred to think about architecture and architectural history as a series of almost archaeological layers to be absorbed and supplemented rather than dismissed and demolished. — Paul Finch*

The office, based in Stockholm, is also known for the experimental studio Belatchew Labs—a separate branch of the architecture firm. With a conceptual approach, its focus is on the experimental side of architecture, with no restrictions. The primary purpose of the Belatchew Labs projects is to look beyond the ordinary—to immerse ourselves in current issues and then test ideas to address them. It is a sort of research and development approach. Rahel Belatchew plays an important role in the ongoing transformation processes in architecture. Persistently curious and fearless, she is on a journey of discovery headed for the future.

### **Facts**

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This monograph covers several key projects of Belatchew's architecture — such as the StrawScraper, the BuzzBuilding, Stockholm Loop, Discus, and Tensta Torn. It also includes texts by Daniel Golling, Paul Finch and Martin Rörby, as well as an interview with Rahel Belatchew by Nils Forsberg.

**Rahel Belatchew** founded Belatchew Architects in 2006. Her work has attracted significant international attention and earned her many awards such as Architect of the Year. She acts as the chief architect and oversees the design process to guarantee excellence and sustainability solutions.

**Daniel Golling** is curator at ArkDes (Sweden's National Centre for Architecture and Design). He has written about architecture and design for Swedish and international publications, was co-founder of the podcast and publishing house Summit and has curated exhibitions at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Stockholm and the Design Museum in Helsinki.

**Nils Forsberg** is a writer, art critic and editor-in-chief of the art quarterly *Konstperspektiv*. He has been writing about art, design and architecture for various publications since the 1990s. From 2019, he writes for the daily *Dagens Nyheter*.

**Martin Rörby** is an architectural historian, freelance researcher, writer and lecturer who regularly presents architecture in Swedish national television. From 2004 to 2014, he was the secretary general and director at the Council for Protection of Ecological and Aesthetic Matters in Stockholm.

**Paul Finch** has been programme director of the World Architecture Festival since 2008, and is also editorial director of *The Architectural Review/Architects' Journal*. He is former chairman of the Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment, chairing its London Olympics design review panel 2005–2012.



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