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Table of Contents and Prologue

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Prologue

Beyond Complacency

"It's too pretty. It's not dealing with reality. I see reality as harsher: people bite each other. My take on things comes from that point of view."

—Frank O. Gehry

Complacency has become the plague of our society. No longer are we working towards a better society, a utopia. Instead we seem content with our own over-indulgence, like a man after a large meal. We now find ourselves in the post-industrial age, with the dreams of the industrialist seeming quite shallow in their realization. The extra time granted us through our many modern conveniences has been filled not with meaning but with meaninglessness. The schools teach students to be productive members of society but never teach them how to live, never to go beyond the "A" or never to ask the truly intelligent question. They are only taught the proper answer.

The art of architecture has fallen to the complacency of our society, providing the client with an average solution to a functional problem, thus reducing an art form into just a profession. "The problem with architecture today is that there are 10,000 guys doing five things."

—Eric Owen Moss

It is this self satisfaction with a meaningless society that architects must directly confront with their architecture. The architect must shatter the walls of the prison he has created, challenging the complacency of our society.

It is our quest to shatter these self-imposed walls, within the pages of Oz 9, and explore the meaningful depths of what lies beyond complacency.

C.N.S.
K.E.T.