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The Australian Ugliness

By Robin Boyd

Text Publishing Co, Australia, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 196 x 128 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Fifty years after its first publication, Robin Boyd's bestselling *The Australian Ugliness* remains the definitive statement on how we live and think in the environments we create for ourselves. In it Boyd railed against Australia's promotion of ornament, decorative approach to design and slavish imitation of all things American. The basis of the Australian ugliness, he wrote, is an unwillingness to be committed on the level of ideas. In all the arts of living, in the shaping of all her artefacts, as in politics, Australia shuffles about vigorously in the middle - as she estimates the middle - of the road, picking up disconnected ideas wherever she finds them. Boyd was a fierce critic, and an advocate of good design. He understood the significance of the connection between people and their dwellings, and argued passionately for a national architecture forged from a genuine Australian identity. His concerns are as important now, in an era of sustainability, suburban sprawl and inner-city redevelopment, as they were half a century ago. Caustic and brilliant, *The Australian Ugliness* is a masterpiece that enables...

Reviews

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