

Elisa Valero Ramos Architect, Professor of Architectural Projects Superior Technical School of Architecture Granada, Spain

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Light In Architecture: The Intangible Material

David Dorenbaum in conversation with architect Elisa Valero Ramos, author of Light In Architecture: The Intangible Material. Trans. Helena Scott. Newcastle upon Tyne: RIBA Publishing, 2015

"Whether you consider modern architecture or the works of the Masters down the ages, there is always a key message to be found: through light, architecture is humanized." Elisa Valero Ramos

The architect can be a victim to light — perhaps in the belief that a flood of light was good in itself. On the contrary, Valero advocates its judicious distribution. 'Architecture', she reminds her readers, 'could even be described as the creation of appropriate shade.' She warns restorers that light is, of all materials, the only one that never ages — he dance and shimmer of it is essential - Joseph Rykwert, from the Foreword.

In México Elisa Valero Ramos engaged in her first work with the restoration of Félix Candela's work, 'Los Manantiales' in 1996, since then she has been working in a small studio in Granada, near the Alhambra. Her constructed work has been awarded in Italy, France, Switzerland and Spain and widely published in books and magazines. She has been a visiting professor in more than twenty-five schools in Europe and America and the author of a dozen books, including "The theory of the diamond and the architectural project" (published in Spain, Italy and France) and "Light in Architecture, the Intangible Material" (with three editions in Spain and one in the United Kingdom). In 2012 she obtained the chair of architectural projects at the University of Granada, where she directs a research group aimed at developing low-cost, lowenergy construction systems. Convinced of the urgent need to respect nature, she explores new paths for architecture that have earned her the Swiss Architectural Award in 2018 and the Andalusia Architecture Prize in the innovation and construction category in 2022.