STATEMENT ABOUT THE BOOK

Inspired by Alain de Botton’s seminal text, *The architecture of happiness*, CoopArt and de Burtons present a visual enquiry into the homes, their design and contents of collected personal artefacts, that are represented as saleable for a potential new owner.

The book is presented in eight visual chapters, each of which address a distinct question on: ideals, desire, values, emotions, identity, taste, ambitions, and worth. This critique investigates these psychological themes through the photographic representations offered as the best view or aspect of each home as presented on www.realestate.com.

From the humble vernacular wool shearing shed to some of the more exotic religious or Spanish inspired interpretations, CoopArt and de Burtons consider how the personal styles and designs of these regional homes may offer potential glimpses into the happiness of home ownership.

This book contributes to a larger discussion about what we know as ‘home’, and what makes us happy.
Lindy Osborne Burton
I was originally educated in South Africa and later moved to Australia, where I commenced working as an architect at Cox Rayner Architects in Brisbane. I quickly developed a specialisation in the design of complex public and institutional buildings—my architectural portfolio is extensive and includes over 70 building projects, including the Princess Alexandra Hospital Redevelopment, the Artspace Mackay Gallery and the Southbank Education & Training Precinct.

Following 12 years of practice as an architect where I received 14 professional design awards, I chose to pursue a full-time academic career. Now the Master of Architecture Course Coordinator at Queensland University of Technology, my research interests centre on transformative architectural education, the design of innovative learning and healthcare environments, and the interstitial spaces between art and architecture. I have recently completed a PhD dissertation on experimentations in transformative pedagogy and space.

I am an active member of several professional committees including the Australian Institute of Architects and the Association for Learning Environments in Australasia. My teaching excellence has been recognised at QUT with a dean’s performance award and a vice-chancellor’s performance award, and nationally through an Office for Learning and Teaching citation for outstanding contributions to student learning.

Neil Burton
While I trained as an earth scientist, my career later transitioned into the business world where I entered the world of management in the building materials business. Photography, however, has always been my true calling in life and I have been immersed in the art, craft and technical aspects of photography for 45 years.

I am passionate about, and dedicated to, the understanding of complex technology in the production both high quality digital images and prints. My photography has also been recognised through success in the AIPP Australian Professional Photography Awards.

The natural world, including the magnificent landscapes of South East Queensland, has long been a focus for my photographic endeavours. Notably images I have made of remote parts of Moreton were used in the battle to protect the island from sand mining, which was later gazetted as a National Park.

Geoscience has both shaped my understanding of place, and provided a good foundation for my current practice in architectural photography. My visual work is underpinned by the interplay of my knowledge of geology, geomorphology and photography into an imaginary 3D overlay.