Introduction

Creating Spaces and Thresholds ______ 10
Topic ____________________________ 11
Aim ______________________________ 12
Outline and Structure ______________ 13

Appendix

Index ____________________________ 150
The Author ________________________ 153
Acknowledgments ________________ 153
Illustration Credits ______________ 154

1. Definitions of Thresholds and Space

The Idea of Space and Spatial Perception ___ 16
The Percipient Human _________________ 17
On the Searching Eye and the Searching Body _______________ 18
Perception of Movement Spaces ___________ 19

Historical Threshold Spaces ___________ 20
Thresholds—Doorsills ________________ 21
The Acropolis ________________________ 22
The Pantheon _________________________ 25
The Gothic Portal ______________________ 26
Japanese Homes ________________________ 28
Arcades ______________________________ 30
The Dissolution of Floor Plans in the Twentieth Century ____________ 32

Transitions in Art _________________ 33
Dan Graham: Present Continuous Past(s), New York, 1974 ________________ 34
Dani Karavan: Passages, Portbou, Spain, 1990–94 __________ 35
Bill Viola: Threshold, Frankfurt am Main, 1992 ___ 37
Lin Yilin: Safely Maneuvering across Lin He Road, Guangzhou, 1995 _____________ 39
Dan Graham: Fun House for Münster, 1997 ___ 40
Olafr Eliasson: Green River, Stockholm, 2000 __________ 42
Till Boettger, Schwellenraummaschine, Weimar, 2010 __________________________ 42
The Threshold as a Spatial Phenomenon ____________ 45

The Threshold Space ______________ 46
Grenzen (Borders/Boundaries/Limits) __________ 46
Schwellen (Thresholds) ____________ 47
Threshold Spaces ________________ 48
Equipment in Threshold Spaces _____________ 50
Threshold Space Closures ________________ 51
2. Threshold Space Analyses

Spatial Notation and Spatial Analyses 54
Space as Experienced/Represented Space 55
Analysis Techniques according to Schirmbeck 55
Adaptation of the Method 57
Threshold Analysis Parameters 58
Selection of Objects for Analysis 59

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts in Cambridge, Massachusetts 61
Le Corbusier, 1961–64

Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin 69
Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, 1962–68

Museu de Arte (MASP) in São Paulo 80
Lina Bo Bardi, 1957–68

Museum für angewandte Kunst in Frankfurt am Main 87
Richard Meier, 1979–85

Fondation Cartier in Paris 95
Jean Nouvel, 1991–94

Casa da Música in Porto 102
OMA, Rem Koolhaas and Ellen Van Loon, 1999–2005

3. Threshold Space Design Tools

Counterbalancing Pairs of Opposites 110
Open—closed 110
Delimitation 110
Sequence 112
Geometry 113
Topography 114
Materiality 115
Furnishings 116
Counterbalancing Ambiguity 117

Phases and Organization 122
Recognition 123
Approach 123
Reaching 123
Arrival 124
Orientation and Information 124
Monitoring 124
Exit 125

Sensitive Guidance 126
Positioning Thresholds 127
Private Realm 129

Essence and Potential 131
Spatial Potential 131
Increased Complexity 131
Access Control—Energy Efficiency 132
The Potential of Threshold Space Design 132

Application and Outlook 133
Analyses 133
Threshold Space Designs 140
Aspirations 146