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# OVERDRIVE

L.A. CONSTRUCTS THE FUTURE 1940-1990

EDITED BY WIM DE WIT AND CHRISTOPHER JAMES ALEXANDER

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# Overdrive L A Constructs The Future 1940 1990

**Christoph Lindner, Miriam Meissner**



## **Overdrive L A Constructs The Future 1940 1990:**

Overdrive Wim de Wit, Christopher James Alexander, 2013 This is a fascinating and intelligently illustrated study of architectural innovation in Los Angeles From 1940 to 1990 Los Angeles rapidly evolved into one of the most populous and influential industrial economic and creative capitals in the world During this era the region was transformed into a laboratory for cutting edge architecture Overdrive examines these experiments and their impacts on modern design reframes the perceptions of Los Angeles dynamic built environment and amplifies the exploration of the city s vibrant architectural legacy The drawings models and images highlighted by Overdrive reveal the complex and often underappreciated facets of Los Angeles and illustrate how the metropolis became an internationally recognized destination with a unique design vocabulary canonical landmarks and a coveted lifestyle Federal Register ,2013-03 *Ed Ruscha and the Great American West* Karin Breuer, D.J. Waldie, Ed Ruscha, 2016-07-12 The renowned artist Ed Ruscha was born in Nebraska grew up in Oklahoma and has lived and worked in Southern California since the late 1950s Beginning in 1956 road trips across the American Southwest furnished a conceptual trove of themes and motifs that he mined throughout his career The everyday landscapes of the West especially as experienced from the automobile gas stations billboards building facades parking lots and long stretches of roadway are the primary motifs of his often deadpan and instantly recognizable paintings and works on paper as well as his influential artist books such as *Twentysix Gasoline Stations* and *All the Buildings on the Sunset Strip* His iconic word images declaring *Adios Rodeo* *Wheels over Indian Trails* and *Honey I Twisted through More Damn Traffic to Get Here* further underscore a contemporary Western sensibility Ruscha s interest in what the real West has become and Hollywood s version of it plays out across his oeuvre The cinematic sources of his subject matter can be seen in his silhouette pictures which often appear to be grainy stills from old Hollywood movies They feature images of the contemporary West such as parking lots and swimming pools but also of its historical past covered wagons buffalo teepees and howling coyotes Featuring essays by Karin Breuer and D J Waldie plus a fascinating interview with the artist conducted by Kerry Broucher this stunning catalogue produced in close collaboration with the Ruscha studio offers the first full exploration of the painter s lifelong fascination with the romantic concept and modern reality of the evolving American West Published in association with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Exhibition dates de Young San Francisco July 16 October 9 2016 **Planet Utopia** Mark Featherstone, 2017-02-17 It has become clear that utopian thought has returned to the political scene Featherstone traces the history of utopia and also discusses a number of contemporary case studies This examination of the nature of utopian politics in the twenty first century will be essential reading for political scientists and sociologists *L.A. [Ten]* Stephen John Phillips, 2014 This book offers a casual witty and approachable retrospective on the characters environment and cultural history of L A architecture as remembered through a series of oral history interviews with the architects conducted by Stephen Phillips alongside Wim de Wit Christopher Alexander and the students of the Cal Poly L A Metro

Program in Architecture and Urban Design     *J. R. Davidson* Lilian Pfaff, 2019-09-02 Julius Ralph Davidson is widely known as the architect of Thomas Mann's house. Born 1889 in Berlin, Davidson left Germany in 1923 and emigrated to the USA. In Los Angeles, he designed some 150 projects, among them three houses for the experimental Case Study House Program. This long overdue publication is a comprehensive documentation of Davidson's life and work, highlighting J. R.'s contribution to modernism in California in the 1930s and 1940s.

**The Speculative City** Susanna Phillips Newbury, 2021-04-20 A forensic examination of the mutual relationship between art and real estate in a transforming Los Angeles. Underlying every great city is a rich and vibrant culture that shapes the texture of life within. In *The Speculative City*, Susanna Phillips Newbury teases out how art and Los Angeles shaped one another's evolution. She compellingly articulates how together they transformed the Southland, establishing the foundation for its contemporary art infrastructure and explains how artists came to influence Los Angeles's burgeoning definition as the global city of the twenty-first century. Pairing particular works of art with specific innovations in real estate development, *The Speculative City* reveals the connections between real estate and contemporary art as they constructed Los Angeles's present-day cityscape. From banal parking lots to Frank Gehry's designs for artists' studios and museums, Newbury examines pivotal interventions by artists and architects, city officials, and cultural philanthropists, concluding with an examination of how, in the wake of the 2008 global credit crisis, contemporary art emerged as a financial asset to fuel private wealth and urban gentrification. Both a history of the transformation of the Southland and a forensic examination of works of art, *The Speculative City* is a rich complement to the California chronicles by such writers as Rebecca Solnit and Mike Davis.

**Learning in the Anthropocene** Carl A. Maida, 2023-11-13 *Learning in the Anthropocene: Reimagining Education in the Twenty-First Century* reimagines the education of future generations in our complex society. Carl A. Maida argues we are living in an era of transition that has been repeatedly called an age of acceleration, and in this time of crisis, diverse constituencies will need to coalesce and create place-based arenas for critical inquiry and reflection around biodiversity, energy, and sustainability concerns. Education is therefore critical to the public sphere, which is polarized by contentious debates over class, ethnicity, culture, and more recently, the fate of the planet. He posits that two provinces, the school and society, can join together to afford students greater freedom to produce future knowledge by advancing experiential instructional approaches as humanity faces profound challenges to its existence.

**The Routledge Companion to Urban Imaginaries** Christoph Lindner, Miriam Meissner, 2018-09-28 *The Routledge Companion to Urban Imaginaries* delves into examples of urban imaginaries across multiple media and geographies, from new visions of smart, eco, and resilient cities to urban dystopias in popular culture, from architectural renderings of starchitecture and luxury living to performative activism for new spatial justice, and from speculative experiments in urban planning fiction and photography to augmented urban realities in crowd mapping and mobile apps. The volume brings various global perspectives together and into close dialogue to offer a broad interdisciplinary and critical overview of the current state of research on urban imaginaries.

Questioning the politics of urban imagination the companion gives particular attention to the role that urban imaginaries play in shaping the future of urban societies communities and built environments Throughout the companion issues of power resistance and uneven geographical development remain central Adopting a transnational perspective the volume challenges research on urban imaginaries from the perspective of globalization and postcolonial studies inviting critical reconsiderations of urbanism in its diverse current forms and definitions In the process the companion explores issues of Western centrism in urban research and design and accommodates current attempts to radically rethink urban form and experience This is an essential resource for scholars and graduate researchers in the fields of urban planning and architecture art media and cultural studies film visual and literary studies sociology and political science geography and anthropology

**Amplified Urbanism** Christopher James Alexander, Gloria Gerace Gerace, 2016-01-01 The book's title *Amplified Urbanism* relates to LOHA's design methodology which is rooted in creating fluid interaction between public and private spaces emphasizing social and civic connections and harnessing existing ecological and infrastructural patterns The purpose of the book is twofold to highlight projects that LOHA has been developing based upon this principle as well as to ask questions raise issues and provoke a wider discussion about these issues not only within the city of Los Angeles but across the fields of architecture and urban planning and in cities throughout the world To initiate these discussions from the most wide ranging platform LOHA has reached outside the world of architecture to connect with others who are considering our cities along similar lines Therefore this book takes the form of a series of essays by contributors such as David L Ulin Judith Lewis Mernit Linda C Samuels Wendy C Ortiz and Christopher James Alexander as well as reflections on the work of practitioners and urban activists such as Yuval Sharon Aaron Paley Julia Metzler Janette Sadik Khan John Bela and Shamayim Harris and Melanie Winter all of whom offer ideas about how our cities can advance in order to become dynamic sustainable and productive environments for all

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