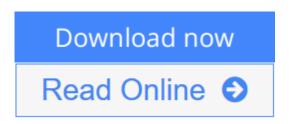


Oswald Mathias Ungers: Morphologie: City Metaphors

Oswald Mathias Ungers



Oswald Mathias Ungers: Morphologie: City Metaphors Oswald Mathias Ungers

First published in 1982, German architect Oswald Mathias Ungers' *City Metaphors* juxtaposes more than 100 various city maps throughout history with images of flora and fauna and other images from science and nature. Ungers assigns each a title--a single descriptive word printed in both English and German. In Ungers' vision, the divisions of Venice are transformed into a handshake and the 1809 plan of St Gallen becomes a womb. Ungers writes in his foreword: "Without a comprehensive vision reality will appear as a mass of unrelated phenomenon and meaningless facts, in other words, totally chaotic. In such a world it would be like living in a vacuum; everything would be of equal importance; nothing could attract our attention; and there would be no possibility to utilize the mind." A classic of creative cartography and visual thinking, *City Metaphors* is also an experiment in conscious vision-building.

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Oswald Mathias Ungers: Morphologie: City Metaphors Oswald Mathias Ungers Bibliography

- Rank: #1397899 in Books
- Published on: 2011-06-30
- Original language: German
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.96" h x .43" w x 5.58" l, .56 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 116 pages

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