#### Contents

xiii List of Text Figures xiv List of Cartoons Acknowledgements χV by Heinz Von Foerster xvii Preface The structure of the book. The analogy of a crystal. Prologue How the reader can move back and forth in the book between bundles of issues. Some Ground Rules xxv Commitment and Priorities xxv Urban Ecology xxvi Structure into Narrative xxvi 1 Chapter 1 Syndrome A detached look at the natural and the man-made. City crises are symptoms of human growth and change. The man-made environment has reached an ecological scale. A closer look at the illusions of familiar reality and new realities. Planning Places 4 Pathology of Affluence 6 The Myth Makers 7 Ecology and Expertise 7 Visible Pattern - Invisible Order 10 Pattern of Interaction 12 Temperature Town - Tropical Metropolis 12 Orders and Images 13 New Forestry 14 Chapter 2 17 Commitment and Priorities Adjustment, interaction and their underlying order. Planning as declaration of human needs and priorities. Urbanization as ends and means. Complementarity of social ends and technical means. Meaningful community. Contradiction and Complementarity 20 Urban Evolution 20 Technological Transformations 22 Ends and Means 22 Planless Planning 23 Decision Process 25 vii

Goals and Commitments 26
Commitment and the Urban Spectrum 26
Commitment and Prediction 27
Commitment to Community 28
Ecological Scale 28
Commitment and Risk 29
Design Extended 30

Chapter 3

### Orbits of Time

31

Human evolution has different tempos. The 'third ecology' of the man-made environment. The collective process and institutional lag. Growing interdependence: mobility and communications.

Evolutionary Clocks 35
The Third Ecology 38
Human Habitats 39
Tools and Obsolescence 41
Tools: Quantities – Qualities 41
Change and Comprehension 43
Social Structure – Technological Effect 44
Territorial Anarchy 45
Myths and Mayhem 47
Metabolism and Pollution 48

Chapter 4

#### Search for a Model

51

(a) Growth in quantities, change in quality. Complexity and simplicity. Man's technological extension and evolution of his humaneness.

Orders of Interaction 54 Ideology and Responsibility 54 Chaos to Order 55 Environmental Design 56 New Needs – New Tools 57 Complexity and Simplicity 58 Man's Extensions 58

(b) Continuous process or completed form. New components of dynamic order. An urban theory for a physical model. A short synoptic view of search for models.

Dynamic Order 60 Complementary Components 62 Models and Method 62 Park Systems, Green Belts 63

viii

Years of Manifestos 63 Action – Reaction 65 Collaboration in Complexity 65 Constants and Variables 66

(c) Search for system. Organizing components for urbanism. Division or cohesion. Stereotypes as technological fallout.

Search for Equilibrium 66
Division and Cohesion 68
True Travel-Time 68
Multi Polar Pressures 69
Technological Process – Social Structure 70
Ends and Means 72
Technological Fallout 73

# Chapter 5

### Exchange is Meeting

75

Maximization of choice. Where men and machines meet. Exchanges between transportation systems as places of concourse. Urban weights and measures. A tool for sorting complexity.

Planning for Options 78
Flows and Containers 80
Commitment and Priorities 81
Urban Realms 82
Targets and Exchanges 84
Permanence and Change 85
Urban Weights and Measures 86
Dismal Orbits 86
Open System -- Dynamic Order 87
Commitment and Tool 88
Dismal Design 88

### Chapter 6

# Social Purpose - Physical Components

91

Variety and mix. City-scape, water and landscape. Public concourse as urban catalyst. New components and old rearranged. Public mobility in a multi-polar system. Zoning for mix.

Territorial Anarchy – Cultural Stereotyping 94
Scenario for Urbanism 95
High Technology – High Cost 97
Concourse as Catalyst 100
Theory and System 102
Starts and Priorities 102

Panacea or Solutions 104
Transit and Pedestrian Primacy 105
Urban Realms — Urban Places 108
Multi-Polar System 110
Information and Contact 111
Specialties and Staples 111
Mix in Place 112

Chapter 7

#### Toward a Model

115

Commitment into model. Flows, containers, exchanges; hierarchies of social and technical components in their natural place. Programming social goals, principles of organization, operational means in an open system. Description of some tentative models.

System into Model 118
Flows and Containers 118
Nature of Space 121
Urban and Ex-Urban 122
Loops of Interaction 123
Open System 124
Models X 1, 2, 3, etc. 127
Hierarchies and Exchanges 128
Models and Measures 129

Chapter 8

# Theory and Practice

133

Who lives where, why and how they move toward what. Systematic segregation or natural mix. A description of typical urban failures and of some excellent exceptions.

Costly Mobility 136
Segregation as System 138
Democracy and Urbanity 138
Pseudo-Places 139
Vehicles Versus People 142
What Does Johnny See? 143
Preludes and Epilogues 145
Complementary Contrasts 145
Dangerous Diffusion 146
Where Can Johnny Be? 147
Breathing Spaces 148

Chapter 9

Hierarchy of Community

151

Territories and fields. Containers for concourse, community, democracy and learning. Pedestrians,

passengers and places. A description of some civil places old and new, and some faces of community.

Territories, Orbits and Fields 154
Civil Places 155
Excellent Prototype 156
Learning Places 157
Where Does Johnny Go? 160
Paradox of Plenty 161
Particular Constants 162
Communication and Contacts 162
Shape of Concourse 163
Community Advantage 164
Pedestrians, Passengers, Places 165
What Johnny Sees 167
Faces of Community 167
Extended and Deprived 168

Chapter 10

# **Building Bridges**

171

The ecology of the intellectual environment. Intelligence, intuition and urban culture. A description of some professional dilemmas and failures. Some suggestions for the education of environmentalists and urban designers.

Ecology of Ideology 174
Professional Obsolescence 174
Pseudo-Realities 175
Pseudo-Consensus 176
Technophiles and Technophobes 178
Specialists and Generalists 178
Methodology for Understanding 179
Comprehensive Plan-Design 179
Intelligence and Intuition 181
Semantic Hurdles 182
Urban System, Eco-System 183
Model for Education 184
Design as Catalyst 186

Epilogue

## The Structure of Priorities

187

A summary and description of some guaranteed norms for all in an urban environment. Urbanism as evolution toward community.

Pathology of Redeployment 190 Clocks out of Kilter 191

	Community in Concourse 192 Guaranteed Urban Norms 192 Urban Warp and Woof 194 Socio-Ends — Techno-Means 195 Contradiction into Complementarity 195 Stepping Stones 196 Which Johnny Does What? 196 Shape of Excellence 196 Pressures and Priorities 197	
Appendix 1	Crystalline Structure of Contents	199
Appendix 2	Sorting Complexity	206
Appendix 3	Critique through Commitment	217
	Grid as Tool for Criticism 217 Critique: Reston 218 Hook 221 Cumbernauld 223 Milton Keynes 226 Dublin University 229 Berlin Free University 233 Tokyo: Metropolitan Bridge Extension 235 Postscript 239	
Glossary		241
Index		245