



The Art of City Design

Urban Architecture and Human Experience

Frank Wolden

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- The San Diego story from the redevelopment of downtown to the creative revival of the in-city communities as the context for Frank Wolden's work
- The decision by Frank Wolden to take an unconventional approach to urban architecture focused on a broader approach to design informed by his background in fine art
- Franks projects demonstrate that the creative force behind 20th century starchitecture and the objectives of responsible urban design are not mutually exclusive
- The book illustrates a blending of creative architecture with responsible urban design attracting architects, urban planners, landscape architects and design students seeking to understand how cities can be designed to promote creative urban experiences

The city is, first and foremost, an experience. It's made of architecture, but the experience goes beyond the expression of each individual building forming a collage of images created by the work of many over time. In the book Frank Wolden presents 35 years of work illustrating the evolution of his ideas on the art of city design. The projects presented range from creative infill in downtown San Diego to visionary master plans for cities across the globe. Frank's design philosophy starts with a creative view of the city where everything from background buildings to iconic super stars are part of a larger urban experience. At the core of his design approach is the breakdown of the architectural object into smaller parts and pieces that connect with the surrounding urban context and result in a human scale experience. Beyond response to context is a search for ideas that drive design, Frank's background in fine art inspires a fusion of art, architecture, and urban design focused on the design of places that promote creative experiences and enrich urban life. **The Art of City Design** illustrates Frank Wolden's philosophy on urban architecture through the presentation of 21 high profile projects from San Diego to Shanghai China.

For the past 30 years, **Frank Wolden** has worked as a "hands-on" designer leading creative teams of architects and planners on projects ranging from individual buildings designed to connect with complex urban settings, to large-scale visionary master plans. His background in fine arts is reflected in his commitment to an "idea driven design process" where projects focus on human experiences and tell stories of the places they create. For over 20 years Frank Wolden has served as adjunct faculty to the NewSchool of Architecture and Design where he acted as a distinguished professor of practice. Frank has worked as a collaborating professor for the Tricontinental Studio through the University of Europa de Madrid and has lectured extensively from the NewSchool to the University of Michigan. Other contributors; Mike Stepper, David McCullough.

