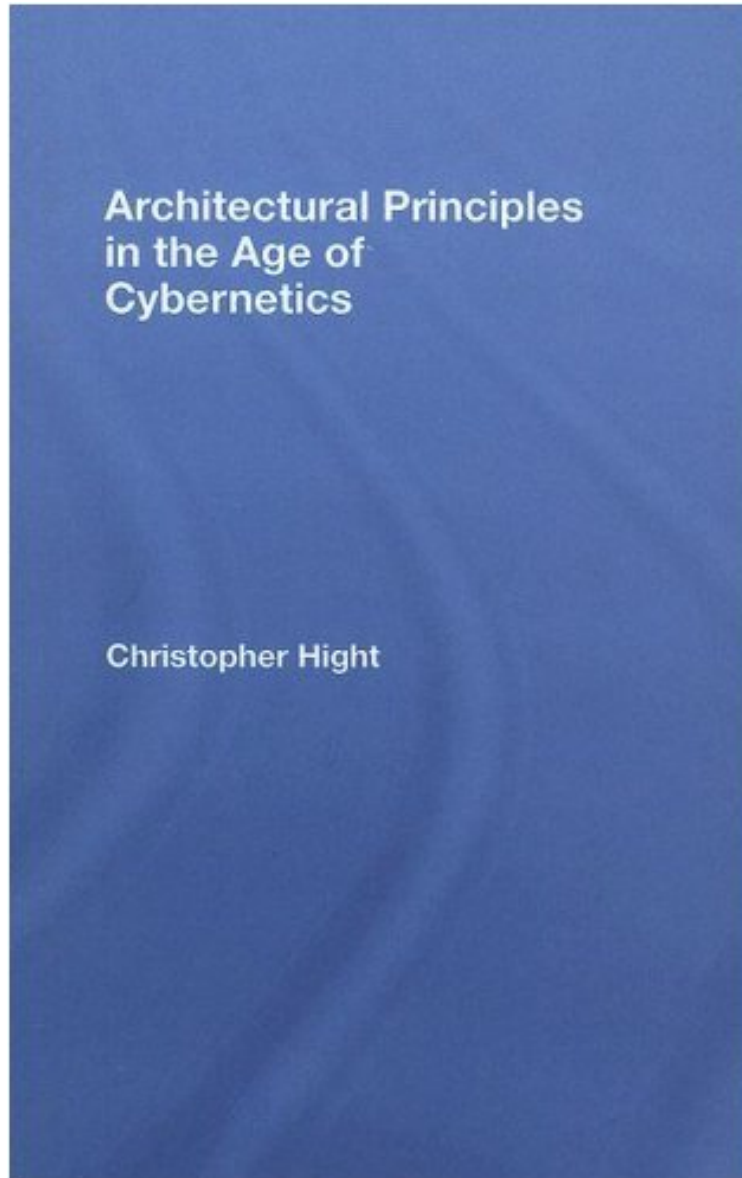


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# Architectural Principles in the Age of Cybernetics

*Christopher Hight*

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**Christopher Hight : Architectural Principles in the Age of Cybernetics** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architectural Principles in the Age of Cybernetics:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Strong rhetoric meets deep structureBy M. MooreIf there was a book to introduce graduate students of architecture, art history and modern humanist theory, this is it. With clear, dictated arguments and strong logical arrangement of sources and topics, it invites the reader to invest in the content. It presumes much, however, about the extent of knowledge concerning semiotics from its readers. It is a sustained

argument in several phases--citing Ernst Cassirer, Le Corbusier, Jakob Johann von Uexkull, Siegfried Giedion Joseph Rykwert, Merleau-Ponty and others--and at once maintains a fluidity of discourse and relentless brutality of presentation and refutation. I gave it one star less than perfect because, like all publications from MIT Press and Routledge it is a very abbreviated account of something that should be longer, often combining words that are difficult in themselves with a syntax that demands their lucidity. I like pentasyllabic words and erstwhile prefixes, but sometimes enough is enough. But it is not as bad as Deleuze and Guattari. Excellent bibliographic and scholarly references. Buy it only if seriously interested in the topics.

A theoretical history of anthropomorphism and proportion in modern architecture, this volume brings into focus the discourse around proportion with current problems of post-humanism in architecture alongside the new possibilities made available through digital technologies. The book examines how the body and its ordering has served as a central site of architectural discourse in recent decades, especially in attempts to reformulate architecture's relationship to humanism, modernism and technology. Challenging some concepts and categories of architectural history and situates current debates within a broader cultural and technological context, Hight makes complex ideas easily accessible. Extensively illustrated and written without academic jargon for an informed but non-specialized architectural audience, this book elucidates the often obscure debates of avant-garde architectural discourse and design, while demonstrating how these debates have affected everyday places and concepts of architecture. As a result, it will appeal to professional architects, academics and students, combining as it does an insightful introduction to the fundamental issues of architectural history and theory over the past fifty years with entirely new formulations of what that history is and means.

About the Author Christopher Hight teaches graduate and undergraduate design and theory at Rice University School of Architecture. He previously taught at the Architectural Association in the Design Research Laboratory and has worked and published internationally.