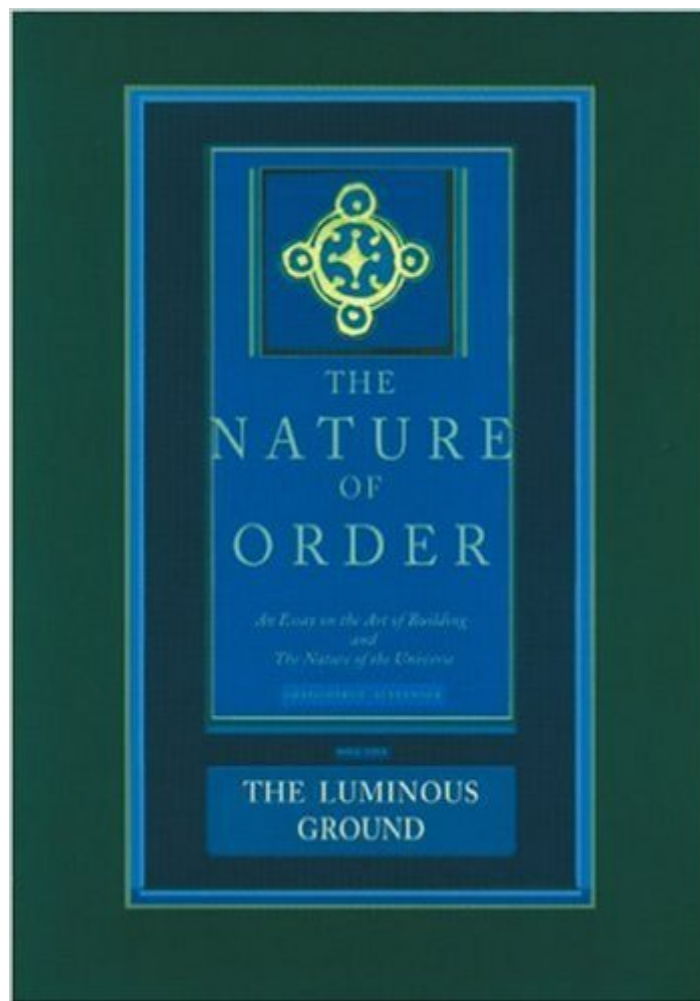


The book was found

The Nature Of Order: An Essay On The Art Of Building And The Nature Of The Universe, Book 4 - The Luminous Ground (Center For Environmental Structure, Vol. 12)



Synopsis

Book Four presents a new cosmology that arises from the careful study of architecture and art, and above all from the practice of the arts. It is a cosmology which places the I, our experience of self, as the linking stem that unites each individual with the whole, connecting consciousness and matter.

Book Information

Hardcover: 356 pages

Publisher: Routledge; 1 edition (November 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0972652949

ISBN-13: 978-0972652940

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 7.9 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #283,908 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > Aesthetics #148 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Landscape #184 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Aesthetics

Customer Reviews

This four-volume work is Christopher Alexander's magnum opus of architectural philosophy, and a book on which he has been working for over twenty years. Like Steven Wolfram's "A New Kind of Science" -- to which it has been compared by a number of authors -- it is long (almost 2,000 pages), richly illustrated, and suggestive of nothing less than a new scientific world view. The essence of that view is this: the universe is not made of "things," but of patterns, of complex, interactive geometries. Furthermore, this way of understanding the world can unlock marvelous secrets of nature, and perhaps even make possible a renaissance of human-scale design and technology. As to the second assertion, one may be appropriately skeptical until more evidence is seen. As to the first, there are emerging echoes of this world view across the sciences, in quantum physics, in biology, in the mathematics of complexity and elsewhere. Theorists and philosophers throughout the twentieth century have noted the gradual shift of scientific world view away from objects and toward processes, described by Whitehead, Bergson and many others. Alexander, like Wolfram, takes it a step further, arguing that we are on the verge of supplanting the Cartesian model altogether, and embarking on a revolutionary new phase in the understanding of the geometry of nature. This is much more than speculative mysticism, as some poorly-read critics will doubtless be eager to claim.

The Cambridge-educated mathematician backs up his beautifully illustrated assertions with copious mathematical formulas and notes, and he includes extensive discussions of the philosophical ideas of Descartes, Newton, Whitehead and many others.

The Nature of Order Volume 1: The Phenomenon of Life Christopher Alexander This is a book that will haunt you. You think you have "seen" its purpose, and then you'll reread something, and see new depths, reach new insights. You'll be frustrated you don't have it with you to refer to at odd moments, when one of its passages starts ringing bells, and illuminating bits of your experience in new ways. Chris Alexander talks about his journey over twenty five years to write the book, and the efforts over five to ten years by students to grasp and articulate and internalise his ideas. But don't let these time scale put you off. It is also a wonderfully illuminating book, and very clearly written. The use of hundreds of contrasting photos of buildings, carpets, ceramics, parking areas, and so on to illuminate the concepts, and the presence of more or less life, is nothing short of breath-taking. I found only one pair of pictures leaving me feeling equivocal about what Chris was trying to communicate. If you are interested in art, architecture, design, learning, cognition, religion, then you will gain immense value from this book, whether from a furiously busy two weeks on a loan from the library, or a purchase to treasure and explore for the rest of your life. The excerpts from the 476 pages identify and briefly explain the fifteen properties, and attempt to give you a hint of the power of this book... the structure I identify as the foundation of all order is also personal. As we learn to understand it, we shall see that our own feeling, the feeling of what it is to be a person, rooted, happy, alive in oneself, straightforward, and ordinary, is itself inextricably connected with order.

22. Real life. ..

"The Nature of Order" is a series of four books, a work that has taken 30 years to complete. It is an ambitious attempt at synthesis, a near-impossible challenge to join together, in one generative thought, all the aspects of man in the universe. Consequently, the critical and wary reader will possibly detect traces of what could possibly resemble an immense megalomania, as Christopher Alexander aims to reunite physics, biology, and the wholeness of human beings in a geometric conception of the universe. Nevertheless, this same reaction is triggered by every real effort of synthetic thought that tries to build a vision of the world less fragmented than today's. Often in the scientific community, great researchers allow themselves, towards the end of their career, some philosophical height in order to consider the world in the light of the particular discoveries they have made. Some of them -- the most reductionistic -- try to explain whole phenomena by a

generalisation of laws they had previously discovered in a particular context. In fact, they reduce the whole world to the phenomena they are able to explain, and try to affirm the supremacy of a particular point of view. These are, for example, the common "all is social", or "all is biological", explanations. Some other scientists, much less pretentious, explain that their discoveries come to support or to lighten in some way certain elements of forgotten and ancestral wisdom. Thus, they indirectly point towards a return of those wisdoms, but without necessarily showing the way.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Nature of Order: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe, Book 4 - The Luminous Ground (Center for Environmental Structure, Vol. 12) The Nature of Order: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe, Book 3 - A Vision of a Living World (Center for Environmental Structure, Vol. 11) The Nature of Order: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe, Book 1 - The Phenomenon of Life (Center for Environmental Structure, Vol. 9) The Process of Creating Life: Nature of Order, Book 2: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe (The Nature of Order)(Flexible) The Battle for the Life and Beauty of the Earth: A Struggle Between Two World-Systems (Center for Environmental Structure) A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction (Center for Environmental Structure) Order,Order,Order - Kids Coding book (Coding Palz - Computer programming for kids) Christmas Mail Order Angels #1: A collection of 6 historical romantic novellas of mail order brides (Mail Order Angels Collection) College Essay Essentials: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing a Successful College Admissions Essay Mighty Oak Guide to Mastering the 2016 ACT Essay: For the new (2016-) 36-point ACT essay How to Write a New Killer ACT Essay: An Award-Winning Author's Practical Writing Tips on ACT Essay Prep Data Structure and Algorithmic Thinking with Python: Data Structure and Algorithmic Puzzles Sync: How Order Emerges From Chaos In the Universe, Nature, and Daily Life Ground-penetrating Radar for Geoarchaeology (Analytical Methods in Earth and Environmental Science) Rethinking Park Protection: Treading the Uncommon Ground of Environmental Beliefs The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) ICMI's Pocket Guide to Call Center Management Terms: The Essential Reference for Contact Center, Help Desk and Customer Care Professionals The Urantia Revelation: The Structure and Meaning of the Universe Explained, Third Edition The Jazz of Physics: The Secret Link Between Music and the Structure of the Universe CCNA Data Center - Introducing Cisco Data Center Networking Study Guide: Exam 640-911

[Dmca](#)