



## Cities: Reimagining the Urban

By Ash Amin, Nigel Thrift

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**Cities: Reimagining the Urban** By Ash Amin, Nigel Thrift

This book develops a fresh and challenging perspective on the city. Drawing on a wide and diverse range of material and texts, it argues that too much contemporary urban theory is based on nostalgia for a humane, face-to-face and bounded city. Amin and Thrift maintain that the traditional divide between the city and the rest of the world has been perforated through urban encroachment, the thickening of the links between the two, and urbanization as a way of life.

They outline an innovative sociology of the city that scatters urban life along a series of sites and circulations, reinstating previously suppressed areas of contemporary urban life: from the presence of non-human activity to the centrality of distant connections. The implications of this viewpoint are traced through a series of chapters on power, economy and democracy.

This concise and accessible book will be of interest to students and scholars in sociology, geography, urban studies, cultural studies and politics.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"An important recent intervention in debates about the city, and a response to the tendency of urban geography to focus on the big issues at the expense of the everyday. It places the seemingly trivial and mundane at the heart of a reimagined geography of cities as connected, distributed and plural."

**Times Higher Education**

"In this important and provocative book, Amin and Thrift set out the rudiments of what might be termed a 'post -urban sociology...The book is certainly an intellectual tour-de-force. It fizzes with ideas and brings a range of novel perspectives to bear...I will certainly be looking forward to reading the future works of these writers"

**Sociology**

"A wonderfully incisive dissection of new configurations of "cities" in the contemporary world."

**John Urry, Lancaster University**

"A brilliant re-viewing of cities. Bursting with fresh insights, it demands that we see and hear urban life and the everyday workings of the metropolis in new ways, that we re-cognize urban complexities, that we resensitize ourselves to all the transitory conjunctures and disjunctures through which the urban is perpetually (re)constituted, that we reconceive the terrain of urban political possibility. In short, if there is one book to be read on contemporary urban phenomena, this is unquestionably it."

**Allan Pred, University of California at Berkeley**

#### From the Back Cover

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#### About the Author

**Ash Amin** is Professor of Geography at the University of Durham.

**Nigel Thrift** is Professor of Geographical Sciences at the University of Bristol.

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