

Contents

- Cover Guest editor Royston Landau
 596 Cosmorama
 602 Eco-tech
 603 Books
 604 Adhocism: the case for improvisation Charles Jencks
- 608 Complexity: or how to see the wood in spite of the trees
 Edited and introduced by Royston Landau
- 611 Lancelot Law Whyte
 614 Hasan Ozbekhan
 618 Miroslav Valach
 622 Gordon Pask
 624 Howard Odum and Larry Peterson
 629 Stafford Beer
 633 Geoffrey Vickers
 635 Royston Landau/Russell Ackoff



- 637 Britton Harris
 638 Avery Johnson
 641 Alton J. de Long
 645 Cedric Price
- 648 Symposium
 653 Catalogue
 655 Glasgow Charles McKean
 658 Cuba Robert del Quiaro

This month

AD and guest editor, Roy Landau, are once again considering the basic contextual philosophies of architecture and planning; looking in depth at the complexities of Complexity (in a sequel to the September 1969 issue entitled 'Despite popular demand, AD is thinking about architecture and planning.')

The need for an understanding of complexity is all too evident.

Few current social and political preoccupations can be understood or solved without an acceptance of an 'holistic' view of systems — a look at the whole picture as against the 'atomistic' viewpoint of the specialist, who sees the world as a conglomeration of separate items that make up the whole but are not interactive.

Complexity is reflected in many facets of contemporary life — with a shift in such attitudes as the moves from beach cleaning to ecology, from bureaucracy to participation, from centralisation to fragmentation, and from closed systems to open systems.

These articles are important for understanding total systems the potential they imply and their application to real problems the problems of societies, of cities, of resources and of individuals.