



Peter Reyner Banham (1922–1988) remains one of the most important critics of architecture and design. His teaching in both Britain and North America influenced a generation and his writings – notably *Theory and Design in the First Machine Age* and *Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies* – continue to shape thinking today. The essays presented here are drawn from *The Banham Lectures*, a series of commemorative lectures on architecture, design and art by major contemporary scholars inspired by his work.

Jeremy Aynsley is Professor of Design History at the Royal College of Art, London, and author of *Graphic Design in Germany 1890–1945* and *Designing Modern Germany*.

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Rayner Banham is one of the greatest influences on Design and Architecture today. His work anticipated many of our contemporary preoccupations, integrating the study of pop art, industrial design and material culture for the first time. His interests strayed across an extraordinary range of subjects – from automobile styling to mobile homes and from science fiction films to our passion for gadgets – and his brilliant analyses remain landmarks in cultural and design criticism.

The Banham Lectures brings together leading critics who continue to be inspired by Banham's revolutionary work. Each presents their own analysis of a key issue in design, architecture or art. These essays explore topics as diverse as clothes and carpets, photography, the history of bedrooms, Flash Gordon and the car, postcards and popular art, how cities grow, the architecture of museums, Marcel Duchamp, dematerialisation, and the future of design. Just as Banham sought to overturn the views of previous generations, these critics aim to rethink the objects and buildings we use today.

Provocative, engaged and inspired, *The Banham Lectures* is essential reading for anyone interested in the world we have made.



DESIGN / ARCHITECTURE / POPULAR CULTURE



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THE BANHAM LECTURES

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THE BANHAM LECTURES

Essays on Designing the Future

EDITED BY JEREMY AYNSLEY & HARRIET ATKINSON

"These lively essays by distinguished authors highlight both the importance of design history and Reyner Banham's highly influential contributions to that history. The book will introduce Banham's zany and original voice to a new generation of readers who may not yet know what a signal role he played in shaping our views of modern architecture, popular culture and twentieth-century design."
Alice T. Friedman, Wellesley College

"Reyner Banham could not have hoped for a better testament to his lively intelligence than the incisive essays in this volume. His impact on several generations of architects, designers, and scholars is more than evident."
Victor Margolin, University of Illinois at Chicago

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