



Form+Code in Design, Art, and Architecture (Design Briefs)

By Casey Reas, Chandler McWilliams

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The last decade has witnessed a proliferation of artists whose primary medium is software. Algorithmic processes, harnessed through the medium of computer code, allow artists to generate increasingly complex visual forms that they otherwise might not have been able to imagine, let alone delineate. The newest volume in our Design Brief series *Form+Code in Design, Art, and Architecture* is a non-technical introduction to the history, theory, and practice of software in the arts. Organized into themes linked to aspects of code—repetition, transformation, parameters, visualization, and simulation—each of the book's sections contains an essay, code samples, and numerous illustrations. An accompanying website (www.formandcode.com) features code samples in various programming languages for the examples in the book. An ideal introductory text for digital design and media arts courses, this unique primer will also appeal to students and professionals looking for a survey of this exciting new area of artistic production.

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Editorial Review

Review

DOMENICO QUARANTA

Elegant as an algorithm, clear as a program, and as enthralling as a video game, Form+Code is a powerful tool, both as a tutorial and as an in-depth analysis of the aesthetics of the information age.

MICHAEL MEREDITH

Form+Code offers a concise overview of computation in artistic and design practices, but it isn't a textbook. It's filled with beautiful images but it isn't a coffee table book. It is a manual for those of us searching for alternative aesthetics and methods of creation. It provides views into other worlds which exist beyond the familiar.

LAUREN CORNELL

Form+Code illuminates creative possibilities for code across a wide range of fields, demonstrating its potential to enliven existing forms and build new models for expression for artists, designers, and architects alike.

KARSTEN SCHMIDT

This incredibly rich study of the history and possibilities of creating media through code is a must-have reference collection.

JOHN MAEDA

The nature of form in the digital age is trapped in the invisible realm of code. Form+Code makes that world visible to the community that stands to gain the most from it: artists and designers.

GREG LYNN

At long last, here is a publication that looks comprehensively at the contemporary digital medium with clarity, at its recent past and into the future. This book is filled with the most beautiful and intelligent images you can find in one book on digital design.

About the Author

Casey Reas is a professor in the Department of Design Media Arts at UCLA and a graduate of the MIT Media Laboratory. Reas' software has been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions at museums and galleries in the United States, Europe, and Asia. With Ben Fry, he co-founded Processing in 2001. He is the co-author of "Processing: A Programming Handbook for Visual Designers and Artists" (2007) and "Form+Code in Design, Art, and Architecture" (2010). His work is archived at <http://www.reas.com>

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