The Form of Cities offers a considered theoretical introduction to the art of designing cities. It encourages the reader to go beyond abstract social science into the realm of human experience, aesthetics and the creative process in order to understand why cities are how they are; and it demonstrates that cities are replete with symbolic values, collective memory, association and conflict. The book reviews existing theoretical interpretations underpinning the subject and suggests a new understanding based in political economy. It then refines this approach, elaborating particular ways of conceptualising the city, whether through aesthetics or the prism of gender. The result is an engagingly written text, eschewing jargon but retaining a sophisticated, interpretative edge.