

Contents

Series Foreword xi

Acknowledgments xiii

Credits xv

Preface xvii

I The Models

Introduction 3

1. A New Architecture? 3
2. An Accidental Megastructure 8
3. Blur and Accident 13

The *Nomos* of the Cloud 19

4. Dividing Sovereignty 20
5. Over (and under) the Line 23
6. Land/Sea/Air/Cloud 28
7. The *Nomos* of the Cloud? 31
8. A Google *Grossraum*? 34

Platform and Stack, Model and Machine 41

9. Platforms 41
10. How Platforms Work 46
11. Stack as Model 52
12. Stack as Political Machine 55
13. Stacks That Were and Might Have Been 58

- 14. The Stack We Have 61
- 15. The Layers of The Stack 66

II The Layers

Earth Layer 75

- 16. Discovering or Inventing Computation? 76
- 17. Digestion 81
- 18. Geo-graphy and Geoaesthetics 83
- 19. From Global Surface to Planetary Skin 87
- 20. Smart Grid: Ouroboros 92
- 21. Sensing and Sovereignty; Polities of Supply and Effect 97
- 22. Designing for versus Designing with Emergencies 101
- 23. Designing the Earth Layer 105

Cloud Layer 109

- 24. Platform Geography 111
- 25. The First Sino-Google War of 2009 112
- 26. *Cloud* Infrastructure 115
- 27. *Cloud Polis* 119
- 28. Platform Wars 124
- 29. Facebook 125
- 30. Apple 128
- 31. Amazon 131
- 32. Google 134
- 33. Future *Cloud Polis* and Platforms 141

City Layer 147

- 34. Reversible Grids 149
- 35. City as Layer 151
- 36. Exposure and Control 155
- 37. Force Finding Function Finding Form 160
- 38. Envelope and Apparatus 163
- 39. Designing for Mixed Envelopes, Mixed Programs 168

40. Programs, Subjects, and Zombie Jurisdictions 172
41. Megastructure and Utopia 176
42. Platform Cities 183

Address Layer 191

43. Scale, Scope, and Structure 193
44. Deep Address 197
45. Objects in The Stack 200
46. Addressability and Technique 205
47. IPv6 207
48. Communication and Composition 210
49. Absolute Incommunication 212
50. Distortion and Genesis 214

Interface Layer 219

51. What Interfaces Are 220
52. Interfaces at Hand: From Object to Sign to Object 222
53. The Interface as Layer 228
54. Interfaces in The Stack 1: The Aesthetics of Logistics 230
55. Interfaces in The Stack 2: Apps and Programming the Space at Hand 236
56. Interfaces in The Stack 3: Theo-Interfaciality 239
57. Geoscapes: Interfaces Drawing Worlds 243

User Layer 251

58. Origins of the User 254
59. Finding the Universal User 256
60. Quantified Self and Its Mirror 260
61. Trace and Frame 265
62. Maximum User 267
63. Death of the User 271
64. Animal User 274
65. AI User 277
66. Machine User 279
67. From User-Centered Design to the Design of the User 284

III The Projects

The Stack to Come 293

68. Seeing The Stack We Have, Stacks to Come 293
69. Earth Layer to Come: God Bows to Math; Will Leviathan? 300
70. Cloud Layer to Come: Cloud Feudalism and Its Discontents 307
71. City Layer to Come: Multiple Utopias and Rough Totality 320
72. Address Layer to Come: Platform-of-Platforms 327
73. Interface Layer to Come: Ambient Interface 337
74. User Layer to Come: Inventing Users 343

The Black Stack 351

75. *Angelus Novus* Is Gone 351
76. The Stack and Its Others 355
77. Concluding Remarks on Design and The Black Stack 359

Glossary 367

Notes 377

Index 461