

The mechanism to achieve a sense of unity is primarily the Gestalt law of similarity although the other Gestalt laws of visual organization can also be applied (see Lang, 1987). In urban design similarity has generally been assumed to be a matter of style. It has, however, been suggested that instead of a 'skin-deep' stylistic unity that there should be a 'critical reinterpretation' of the 'underlying system' of unity in each building (Mitchell, 2003). The trouble is that unless this is explained to observers, the unity is not seen. There is, however, a unity in chaos too!