CITY OF COLLISION
Jerusalem and the Principles of Conflict Urbanism

Almost eight decades of violent urban conflict have transformed Jerusalem into an extreme spatial configuration. From a Western perspective, Jerusalem is often regarded as unique: a place where colonial and terrorist violence blur distinctions between the military and the civilian. But as cities worldwide are increasingly subject to dramatic new security policies and preventative measures against real or imagined threats Jerusalem, as a laboratory of conflict urbanism is in fact closer than we think.

City of Collision presents a vivid picture of a city in a permanent state of destruction and reinvention, hostage to political planning, collective fear and physical and mental walls but also strategies of resilience, individual exchange and transgression. Thirty new essays by leading Palestinian, Israeli, and international architects, artists, sociologists and political commentators open up different perspectives on the complex and ambivalent urban reality of contemporary Jerusalem. Contributors include Meron Benvenisti, Sylvaine Bulle, Zvi Efrat, Orhan Esen, Michael Fischer, Stephen Graham, Derek Gregory, Rema Hammami, Sari Hanafi, Rassem Khamaisi, Nathan Marom, Rami Nasrallah, Alona Nitzan-Shiftan, Jack Persekian, Irit Rogoff, Sharon Rotbard, Salim Tamari, Eyal Weizman and Oren Yftachel. City of Collision also features specially commissioned photographs by Bas Princen and Polly Braden and is illustrated with over forty new detailed thematic maps.

City of Collision is edited by Philipp Misselwitz and Tim Rieniets and published in connection with the project ‚Grenzgeografien', a cooperation between the University of the Arts Berlin (UdK), Institute for Urban Design (ETH Zürich), Bezalel Academy of Art and Design (Jerusalem) and the International Peace and Cooperation Centre IPCC (Jerusalem). Philipp Misselwitz is an architect and writer based in Berlin currently running an UN research project on Refugee Camp Development. Tim Rieniets is an architect and teaches at the ETH in Zurich.

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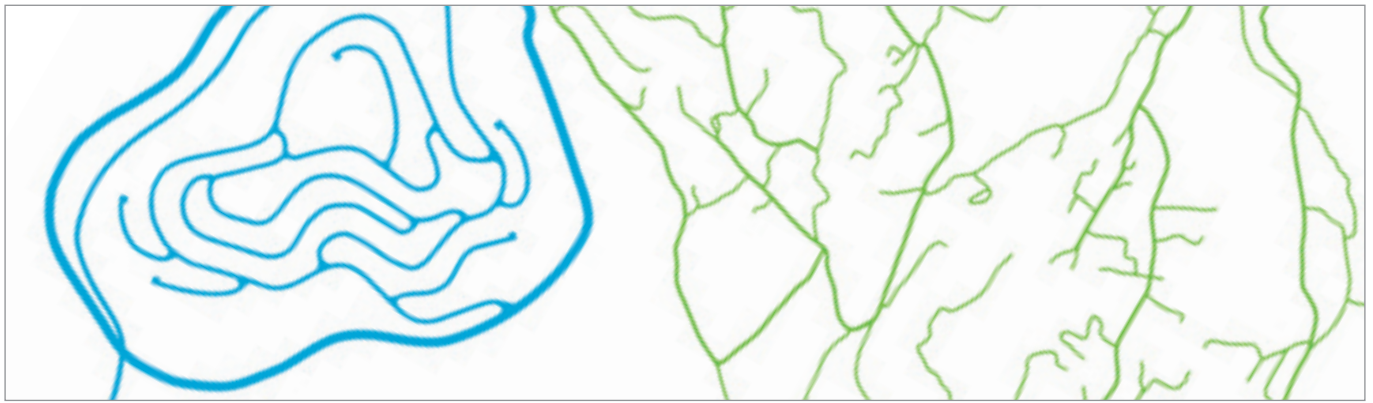
Road Systems: Har Homa / Sur Bahir

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P. Misselwitz & T. Rieniets
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R. Khamaisi
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S. Graham
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T. Berger
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Z. Mohammed
T. Abowd
A. Nitzan-Shiftan
N. Marom
S. Bulle
R. Nasrallah
J. Persekian with G. Eilat
G. Eilat

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