



# The Creative Capital of Cities: Interactive Knowledge Creation and the Urbanization Economies of Innovation

By *Stefan Krätke*

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## **The Creative Capital of Cities: Interactive Knowledge Creation and the Urbanization Economies of Innovation** By Stefan Krätke

This book challenges the new urban growth concepts of the creative class and creative industries from a critical urban theory perspective.

- Critiques Richard Florida's popular books about cities and the creative class
- Presents an alternative approach based on analyses of empirical research data concerning the German urban system and the case study regions, Hanover and Berlin
- Underscores that the culture industry takes a leading role in conforming with neoliberal conceptions of labor markets

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"On the whole, *The Creative Capital of Cities* makes a valuable contribution to the urban economic literature. It provides a critical and quite comprehensive overview of a number of issues that have so far been left too much aside in the current debate." (*J Hous and the Built Environ*, 8 September 2012)

#### Review

"This is an outstanding addition to our understanding of the role of creativity and innovation in urban growth and competition. Especially nuanced regarding governance implications, the rise of creative industries is firmly located within geographies of uneven development, with Harvey taking precedence over Florida in fruitful mixture of insightful theoretical engagement and significant empirical analyses."

—**Peter Taylor**, Northumbria University

"At last, a cogently argued and empirically well-founded analysis of the much-vaunted 'creative city'. Cutting through the hype, Stefan Krätke presents a compelling political economy of creative capital(ism), with important implications for both theory and policy."

—**Jamie Peck**, University of British Columbia

#### From the Back Cover

*The Creative Capital of Cities* challenges the new urban growth concepts of creative industries from a critical urban theory perspective. The author presents both technological creativity in knowledge-intensive industries and artistic creativity in the cultural economy sector in the analysis of the 'creative capital of cities'. Krätke develops a transdisciplinary approach to the analysis of creativity and knowledge generation in an urban context by combining perspectives of economic geography, regional research, and socio-cultural urban studies. Providing deep insights backed up by rigorous empirical analysis, *The Creative Capital of Cities* reveals the complex relational dimensions of creativity while offering an alternate path to the assessment of urban economic success.

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