In the introductory part of the book, the aver-
ment and plan of the book, the author pres-
est us with a phenomenological framework
his relationship with the concept of space
ents of the world, but rather “anthropo-
nations of the world, but rather “anthropo-
man territorialisation to deterritorialization
for a lot of subsequent research. Its main
hence the advice to
The Magic of Creating Real Space.
the problems by stating that: “A textbook
social in opening some important issues. It
without any deeper elaborations and insights, he builds a context in
as it is being constructed, si-
ment and plan of the book, the author pre-
also constructs. His explora-
tion as such, as he explains, stems from his
not, as some people would believe, a jour-
through “exotic and unexplored” desti-
sations of the world, but rather “anthropo-
logical magic”, as he himself calls it, by which
he is searching for the knowledge of the quo-
tidians in his experiences. Hence the advice to
any reader embarking on the adventure of
this book: embrace the concepts that
the book offers, and try to experience the
book through your own auto-ethnographic lens. Phenomenology might help the reader to
form his personal relationship with the
structure of the book which is divided into
four chapters: Can the Real Space Please
Stand Up, Defining Space, Creating Space.
The Magic of Creating Real Space.

The reader, armed with such an approach to
the text, becomes an active explorer of the
book, which might serve as an incentive, in-
spiration and a call for the usage of the read-
er's own creative force. Maybe that is the
main intricacy of the relations in space that
this book attempts to reveal. “Spreading Cul-
ture” in the title might lead us to discover a
possible goal of the author, whose decision to
use such a dense, collage like textual struc-
ture, which discards linear modes of thought,
demands that the reader invents a new read-
er/writer relationship, while at the same time,
inviting him to actively produce his own book. Through the author’s display of how relations-
ships between space and people are built, “Spreading Culture” urges us to physically experience the subtext of “How People Create Space”. In such a way, with the reader’s en-
gagement in the construction of his own
space so he could lead it from bodies and hu-
man territorialisation to deterritorialization
and dispersion, the author implies “the ne-
cessity of forming and crossing borders, with
all the magic of the temptation to move
across borders”.

New spatial relations and a shift from the
theoretical view of space that the author
talks about are interesting and important to
anyone connected with the theory of space in
any way, but the experience of the reader’s
journey can hardly help us clarify some of the
more complex theoretical concepts which the
book refers to. On the other hand, developing
the borders of the imagination of space re-
mains exceptionally relevant for the architec-
tural profession and informs many pedagogi-
cal practices of teaching spatial concepts. It
would be interesting, for instance, to conjoin
the chapter “The Creation of Space”, written
in ethnographic discourse, with recent archi-
tectural pedagogical research developed in
the period between 2011 and 2019 during the
graduate and post-graduate study of Diane
Agrest’s “Architecture of Nature: Nature of
Architecture” (2019) at the Irwin S. Chanin
School of Architecture at the Cooper Union in
New York City, which resulted in the men-
tioned book. The research is based on the
data collected in environmental studies, his-
tory of science, philosophy and art, reviewing
the materiality and effects of forces which
have impacted land through architectural
lens throughout history, and technics of visu-
alisation (drawing and diagram), broadening
and transcending the enforced borders of the
architecture.¹

In conclusion, this book is a piece of extensive
and personal ethnographic research that calls
for a lot of subsequent research. Its main
shortcoming is incoherence and poor connec-
tion between theory and empirical material,
but on the other hand, for the patient reader
this is precisely what could prove to be benefi-
cial in opening some important issues. It
seems that the author himself understood all
the problems by stating that: “A textbook
about space gets judged by the time it has
spent in the open, as it would be desirable for
every book challenged by a wide scope of in-
fluences – as well as for every space”.

¹ From a book review: https://www.amazon.com/Architec-
ture-Nature-Diana-Agrest/dp/1939621941 (25.4.2021.)