

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910794030803321
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Titolo	Rebuilding Story Worlds : The Obscure Cities by Schuiten and Peeters / / Jan Baetens
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, NJ : , : Rutgers University Press, , [2020] ©2020
ISBN	1-9788-0851-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (199 pages)
Collana	Critical Graphics
Disciplina	741.5/9493
Soggetti	Graphic novels - Belgium - History and criticism Comic books, strips, etc - Belgium - History and criticism
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- 1. A New Series, a New Type of Author -- 2. A World of Its Own -- 3. More Than a Possible World -- 4. Between Chapter and Series -- 5. A New Fantastic -- 6. In and Out the Medium -- 7. Doing Politics in Comics -- 8. Close-Reading The Leaning Girl -- 9. A Conversation with Benoît Peeters -- 10. Birth of an Album: The Theory of the Grain of Sand -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- References -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	A collaboration between Belgian artist François Schuiten and French writer Benoît Peeters, The Obscure Cities is one of the few comics series to achieve massive popularity while remaining highly experimental in form and content. Set in a parallel world, full of architecturally distinctive city-states, The Obscure Cities also represents one of the most impressive pieces of world-building in any form of literature. Rebuilding Story Worlds offers the first full-length study of this seminal series, exploring both the artistic traditions from which it emerges and the innovative ways it plays with genre, gender, and urban space. Comics scholar Jan Baetens examines how Schuiten's work as an architectural designer informs the series' concerns with the preservation of historic buildings. He also includes an original interview with Peeters, which reveals how poststructuralist critical theory influenced their construction of a rhizomatic fictional world, one which has made space for fan contributions through the Alta Plana website.

Synthesizing cutting-edge approaches from both literary and visual studies, *Rebuilding Story Worlds* will give readers a new appreciation for both the aesthetic ingenuity of *The Obscure Cities* and its nuanced conception of politics.
