THE CITY, HUMANITY AND SCIENCE:

The two cultures and the creation of value

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Abstract

1959 the novelist and civil servant, C.P.Snow delivered a lecture in Cambridge entitled "The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution". If nothing else, the idea that the arts and the sciences are two separate cultures was attractive enough that his thesis rapidly gained currency and is still talked about today as characterising a major schism in society. In this talk I will discuss what the study of cities (a science) tells us about architecture (the mother of the arts), and how these two come together in the creation of value. I will argue that the ultimate value we should strive to create in cities cannot be achieved without both arts and science coming together in a single enterprise.