

ARCH 5112 DESIGN STUDIO M1
PAUSE CITY
2014-2015 2nd Term

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Online course TBC
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DESCRIPTION

At times architects, in their egotistical pursuit to erect buildings, lose track of the city and the elements that constitute the fabric of the urban surroundings. This semester we will focus on the pauses that make-up the city, the vacant spaces that arise out of situations that both architects and planners cannot control.

We live in an era where the Museum has become a default cultural commodity, an indispensable piece of the urban jigsaw for any self-respecting 21st Century city. Often situated in segregated cultural districts they no longer follow the institutional system "collect to display" rather the structure has been inverted to follow the dictum "display to collect".

This semester we will speculate whether the Museum can be returned to the city; as an institution that celebrates urban life, leading to alternative architectural strategies that assemble fragments and celebrate the city that is beautifully incomplete. Our approach will be empirical, interpreting the city through direct contact, sampling and exploring the notion of "Pause".

Themes

Pause

Cities, when perceived and experienced as spatio-material artifacts developed over time, often appear to us as accumulations of 'effects'. Effects of which the 'causes' are mostly unperceivable. You might call these places the pauses of understanding. Pauses that embody a position of waiting and procrastination, so characteristic of situations about which we have yet to shape our own conceptions, situations which we have not yet been able to summarize.

Museum

Our challenge is to attempt to define what makes up a New Museum for Hong Kong today, as a counter position to the Guggenheim and MOMA ventures that have engulfed so many cities today, and in the process reveal the layers of complexity that define Hong Kong's urban condition.

Space

To design is to think of the space you are creating. Think of space as a solid (not as a void) and how you could make a mold to cast a space. Space isn't necessarily an enclosure, open fields can also generate space like an open landscape. The more you contemplate the word "space" the more you realize its richness; it is both specific and vague at the same time: space is a paradox.

OBJECTIVES

The course will pursue the development of the project as the material consequence of a spatial idea, by experimenting and verifying the project itself through models on a large scale and using different materials.

Brief

Site

The site will be a 100 x100 m block within Hong Kong, the exact site will be announced at the start of the semester.

After analyzing the site students will be asked to select a suitable site no bigger than 1200m² (30x40m) within the given block.

All students will have to select a different site, within the square.

Programme

Here follows an outline Programme which students are requested to follow but are free to alter and amend to suit their concept and site conditions.

The museum should not exceed 8, 000 m² and be subdivided as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| • Lobby | 400 m ² |
| • Temporary Galleries | 2,000 m ² |
| • Permanent Galleries | 1,300 m ² |
| • Auditorium | 450 m ² |
| • Restaurant | 300 m ² |
| • Library | 350 m ² |
| • Education | 200 m ² |
| • Store | 300 m ² |
| • Offices | 1,000 m ² |
| • Art Storage | 600 m ² |
| • Loading Area | 300 m ² |

ORGANIZATION

The studio will address one project for the duration of the semester.

The studio will follow a fixed methodology

The studio works with a set of tasks which the students are requested to follow

Methodology

Model

Starting from a cast space, students will be requested to constantly work with models during the course of the semester. The final proposal will be represented with a 1:50 cast plaster model.

Drawings

Drawing will be the medium to analyze and understand the spaces you have created in model. Sectional drawings will be our focus, where students will engage in activating and designing 3D spaces

Presentation

Throughout the semester all work will be geared to a final publication.

Pause City will be published on completion of the semester.

The format and the graphics of the book are to be selected and chosen at the start of the semester, from which point all students will have to work with this format.

Graphics

All material will be in Black and White (Drawings and Images)

All fonts will be Minion Pro

All CAD and pencil drawings have to be edited in AI

All layouts will have to be made in ID

Photography

This design studio puts a high importance on the photography of spaces from models.

Photography is seen as a medium to explore space.

All photographs have to be taken using a tripod and studio conditions

Tasks

All design studio tutorial will be taught collectively as a group session, all students are requested to attend all sessions.

We will meet twice a week: where one session will be collective presentation and the second individual, but all students will be asked to work collectively during the class

The 13 week semester will be divided into 5 tasks:

Task 1_Cast Pause_1 Week

Deliverables:

- Cast model in plaster

Define what ‘pause’ means.

Relate your thinking to both physical and abstract definitions of the word.

Don’t relate your exploration to simply urban and architectural manifestations

Explore the following conditions:

Vacant, empty, behind, hidden, in-between, interstitial, discontinuity, boundaries, void, boundaries, transitions.

Task 2_Site Analysis_2 Weeks

Deliverables:

- 1:500 Physical Model
- Rhino Model of the site
- Analytical Drawing: Plan 1:1000

Select a suitable “pause” site

Make a 1:500 model of the 100x100 m square - Team

Construct a Rhino Model of the site - Team

Drawings (Plans, Sections) analyzing the site properties: buildings, topography, infrastructure, etc.

Task 3_Space Models_ 3 Weeks

Deliverables:

- 5 models at 1:200 scale (white)

Working exclusively in 1:200 scale models, in one material (white), students are to develop their project from as a series of spaces.

Think about the atmosphere and character of the space – in terms of compression or release, high or low, bright or dark, etc...

Models have to follow an evolutionary process, starting off as approximations and gradually becoming “real” scaled spaces.

Conceptually students are to address the issue of Mass and Void, focusing on how various functions belong to either the Private or Public domain

Week 6_Midterm Review

Task 4_Architectural Definition_3 Weeks

Deliverables:

- 1:100 Model,
- 1:100 Plans,
- 1:100 Sections

Having conceptually fixed the framework of your project you have to now define the tectonic, circulation and layout of your building.

Working with Models and Drawings in parallel and importantly loyal to your “Conceptual DNA” students will develop a working model of the whole project.

Items to consider:

- Structural logic of the building (Concrete/Steel Frame)
- Materiality Interior/Exterior
- Circulation/Access
- Orientation/Sustainability

Task 5_Architectural Representation_4 Weeks

Deliverables:

- Final Publication,
- Final Panels,
- Final Model 1:50

During the last 4 weeks of the semester we will focus on two items:

Final Publication:

InDesign document where all student work is to be collated into one publication.

Final Representation

Students will be asked to produce final:

- Renderings x3, using both Rhino/Vray and model Photographs
- Overall Model Photo in Context
- Plans and Sections 1:200, 1:100
- Model 1:50 of whole project

ASSESSMENT

Design Project: 70%

Book/Publication team work: 20%

Studio Performance (process/attendance/etc.) 10%

COURSE FORMAT

Studio critiques, lectures, site visits, and in-class presentations by students. Attendance required. Monday & Thursday 13:30 – 18:30

FIELD TRIPS

Visits to sites/buildings in Hong Kong and the region, if scheduled, will take place during regular class meeting times. If necessary, transportation will be provided.

REFERENCES

10 Urban Museum References:

- 1_Whitney Museum (New York, USA), Marcel Breuer 1966
- 2_Soane Museum (London, UK), Sir John Soane 1813
- 3_Columba Museum (Cologne, GER), Peter Zumthor 2010
- 4_CaixaForum (Madrid, SPA), Herzog & de Meuron 2007
- 5_CastelVecchio (Verona, ITA), Carlo Scarpa 1973
- 6_Mimesis museum (Seoul, KOR), Alvaro Siza 2012
- 7_Museo del Faro (Cascais, POR) Aires Mateus 2007
- 8_Noguchi Museum (New York, USA), Isamu Noguchi 1985
- 9_Asian Society Museum (Hong Kong), Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects 2012
- 10_Sao Paolo Museum of Art (Sao Paolo, BRA), Lina Bo Bardi 1968

SCHEDULE

The Schedule will be organized in Tasks, each consisting of an Assignment, a working period and a Review. A detailed outline of each week is here attached as an appendix to this brief.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at the following website:

<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a statement that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

SCHEDULE

2015

Week 1_12 Mon – 15 Thr January

M> Introduction to Studio

M> Task 1 issued

T > Task 1 Studio crit (group)

Week 2_19 Mon – 22 Thr January

M> Task 1 Presentation

M> Task 2 issued

T > Site Visit

Week 3_26 Mon – 29 Thr January

M > Task 2 Studio crit (group)

T > Task 2 Studio crit (group)

Week 4_02 Mon – 05 Thr February

M > Task 2 Studio crit (group)

T > Task 2 Presentation and Review

Week 5_09 Mon – 12 Thr February

M > Task 3 Issued

T > Task 3 Studio crit (group)

Week 6_16 Mon – 19 Thr February

Lunar New Year (18th > 24th February)

M > Task 3 Studio crit (group)

Thursday 19th No Class

Week 7_23 Mon – 26 Thr February

Lunar New Year (18th > 24th February)

Monday 23rd No class

T > Mirterm Presentation of Tasks 1/2/3

Week 8_02 Mon – 05 Thr March

M > Task 4 Issued

T > Task 4 Studio crit (group)

Week 9_09 Mon – 12 Thr March

M > Task 4 Studio crit (group)

T > Task 4 Presentation

Week 10_16 Mon – 19 Thr March

M> Task 5 Issued - Representation

T > Task 5 Studio crit (group)

Week 11_23 Mon – 26 Thr March

M > Task 5 Studio crit (group)

T > Task 5 Studio crit (group)

Week 12_30 Mon – 02 Thr April

M > Task 5 Studio crit (group)

T > Task 5 Studio crit (group)

Week 13_06 Mon – 09 Thr April

Easter & Ching Ming Holidays (3rd > 7th April)
Monday 6th No class

Final Review April 23rd 2015