

Columbia University GSAPP

Fall 2015

Bernard Tschumi

Advanced Studio

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Concept and Interaction

"Architecture is the materialization of concepts" is the general theme of most of our section's studios. Each studio is formulated as part of a series confronting current architectural issues with a hypothesis. This fall, the hypothesis will be:

"What is most important in architecture is not what it looks like but what it does."

Let's take a simple example. Imagine you are designing a house or a palace, and begin testing two different concepts. In the first, each room leads directly to another room, so that you have to cross the first room in order to get to the second room and the second room to enter the third room, and so forth. This is the way most houses or palaces were designed until the 17th century. Now, let's imagine you draw a corridor that gives access to each room individually, bypassing the need to enter other rooms to arrive at your destination. Not surprisingly, the interactions of the inhabitants of the space will be substantially different in each case.

As important as what the two houses or palaces look like is the effect of their different layouts ("enfilade" vs. "corridor") on their everyday use and the resulting social relations among the inhabitants.

Site/Program

Six programs (library, science museum, research labs, lecture hall, amusement arcade, love hotel) will be allocated to pairs of students by lottery. The site is a typical Manhattan block, made up of six lots 100 x 100 x 200 feet each.

Preliminary Reading List

Mark Jarzombek, "Corridor Spaces," *Critical Inquiry*, Summer 2010

Rafael Moneo, "On Typology," *Oppositions* 13, Summer 1978

Bernard Tschumi, "Violence of Architecture" (1982), reprinted in *Architecture and Disjunction*. Cambridge, MA and London: The MIT Press, 1994.

Alison and Peter Smithson (eds.), *Team 10 Primer*. Boston: The MIT Press, 1968

Roland Barthes, "An Introduction to the Structural Analysis of Narratives" (1966), originally published in *Communications*

Dates

Intro: Friday, September 11, 2pm

Presentation exercise 1: Monday, September 14 2pm

Mid-review date: Thursday, October 29 1pm – 7pm

Final Presentation date: Thursday, December 10 1pm - 7pm

All reviews will be held in Ware Lounge unless otherwise noted.