Architecture, Models, Photography

"Photographs are, of course, artefacts . . . in a world littered with photographic relics, [they seem] to have the status of found objects—unpremeditated slices of the world. Thus, they trade simultaneously on the prestige of art and the magic of the real. They are clouds of fantasy and pellets of information."
Susan Sontag, On Photography, pg. 69

This semester students will speculate on a design project through the act of making physical, material models and creating special photographs of them. The purpose is to explore the representation of architectural ideas and concepts through real models and their constructed yet abstracted images of architecture. We will develop methods of making drawings and models through techniques of relief, with effects that can be seen and felt. We will explore methods of making high- and low-tech models. In addition, the studio will manufacture and construct a set of images as the final creative work of the term. The studio will work with renowned artists in the mediums of photography and video.

The subject of these models and photographs will be a museum. Students will study creative work in the arts, architecture, and design through studio research and a proposed civic building. We will work closely with the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA) to propose an addition and expansion of their current building. Located less than half a mile from the White House sits the NMWA, an arts institution that houses over 3,000 works of art by women. For the purpose of this studio, students will envision the institution’s expansion and the potential for the existing building to grow beyond its structure(s), as well as imagine what it means for a museum to grow in all dimensions—physical, virtual, digital, etcetera. Building program is unlimited and may include gallery spaces, work spaces, living spaces, and more. Each student will have autonomy in proposing additional program, but will be required to relate any additions to the NMWA collection, archive, and museum experience. Each
Architecture, Models, Photography

student will also be responsible for studying the work of one woman artist and one woman architect during the term.

We will examine creative works by women artists, designers, thinkers, architects, and cultural figures.
We will examine the NMWA’s archive and holdings.
We will construct a new bibliography.
We will examine drawings.
We will examine videos.
We will examine architectural models.
We will curate a collection of artefacts.

In New York City, students will visit the MoMA, Met, and Cooper Hewitt, as well as an ANYSPACE exhibition on drawings. Students will also visit artists’ studio(s). And, during travel week in early March, students will visit the NMAC in Washington, D.C. for working session(s).

In addition, GSAPP will host a conference with women architects writing about their design work, as part of the initiative lead by Professor Hilary Sample titled “Women and Writing.”

We will examine artists including Polly Apfelbaum, Rachel Rose, Katharina Grosse, Mierle Laderman Ukeles, Kara Walker, Julie Mehretu, and Sarah Sze, as well as architects including Jeanne Gang, Liz Diller, Billie Tsien, and Denise Scott Brown . . . among others. We will study projects built for women and children and youths. We will study at architecture not only made by women but projects made for women. (Think: the Farnsworth House.)

Set within the formal setting of Washington, D.C., this studio focuses on women and design and tackles how architecture can be more radically inclusive.

We will read, design, and make models . . . and photographs of them. Everything you make this term should be considered a model. Even a diagram should be presented in model form. The final requirements will be photographs of models, printed large, with a series of physical models.

Readings


Architecture, Models, Photography


Architecture, Models, Photography

Schedule

W, Jan 17  Lottery
Th, Jan 18  Begin research and Reading Assignment #1: *On Photography*
M, Jan 22  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps
Th, Jan 25  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps, Reading discussion
M, Jan 29  James Casebere presentation Reading Assignment #2
Th, Feb.  1  Working session of model photos
M, Feb.  5  Rachel Rose presentation; Reading Assignment #3
Th, Feb.  8  Studio Site model working session
M, Feb. 12  Studio Pin Up
Th, Feb. 15  Michael Vahrenwald photography working session
M, Feb. 19  Studio Working Session
Th, Feb. 22  Desk Cfps
F, Feb. 23  Mid-Term Review 504/505 Avery
M, Feb. 26  Studio Visit to Polly Appelbaum; Reading Assignment #4
Th, March 1  Review work in advance of Washington D.C. Trip
M, March 5  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps, Kinne Week
Th, March 8  Washington, D.C. Studio Meeting
M, March 12  Spring Break
Th, March 15  Spring Break
M, March 19  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps
Th, March 22  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps
M, March 26  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps
Th, March 29  Studio Meeting and Desk Cfps
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M, April 2</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th, April 5</td>
<td>Studio Pin Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, April 9</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th, April 12</td>
<td>Visit MoMA; Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, April 16</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th, April 19</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F, April 20</td>
<td>Women and Writing conference, 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, April 23</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th, April 26</td>
<td>Studio Meeting and Desk Crites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F, April 27</td>
<td>Final Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>