interrelation
"reciprocal relationship"

wesley thomas kinsey
Columbia GSAPP 22-23
Architecture is the relationship between everything and everyone. It is the realization of cultures, the physical or non-physical interaction between humans and non-humans, and the inspired creation of all species. Architecture has changed throughout time and will continue to change as our relationships and discoveries draw us near to a coalesced world of interaction. Architecture plays a specific role in the next steps of human culture as it begins to define how humans respond to non-human entities. It has the unique ability to influence change throughout its community, region, or world.

Through my research on the sociological and psychological effects of architecture on humans, I have challenged the traditional canons recognizing architecture as something greater than just humanity, greater than design, and greater than thought. I embrace this challenge throughout my design process as I seek to identify how the identity, culture, environment, form, materials, and program of each of my designs inspire a future of architecture that responds to the intrinsic connection of all.
Project: Collective Space

Concept: One Ecological community provides a new way to interact with public space. A self-managed, collective space that occupies an abandoned urban site. A new architectural method to increase the capacity of the urban environment. One ecological community inspired by the use of many actors. Responding to a flat ontological view of humans and non-humans. The initial idea for one ecological community stems from the interactions of actors and users upon a single site. Humans are no longer the most important actor, mankind must coexist with nature by being its benefactor. The humans and non-humans will become the architects. Building their own conglomeration of materials, shading, insulation, protection, etc. They will interact as one ecosystem relying on one another. Without one, the others could not exist. Each portion is intrinsically connected to another. Each one relies on another for shelter, food, growth, or structure. The entire facility brings all of these connections into one place inspiring a new sustainable architecture, one where the human and non-humans interact for the betterment of one another.

Professor: Elias Anastas and Yousef Anastas

Year: Summer 2022
What is our body? Is our body just a conglomeration of inherited genomes and indoctrinated practices of current and past societies? Our bodies are our own, beyond the definition of a collective societal whole, more than the definition left behind by our ancestors. Our bodies are made up of complex mechanisms, fluids, structures, and other components that are often defined by our ancestors, toxins, and the world around us. Our bodies are a means of the future. Excerpt from environmental engagement transcalarity week reflecting on Astrid Neimanis, Audre Lorde, and Alexis Pauline’s writing and projects.

I constantly ask myself what is the future of architecture? What about architecture inspires the sociology and psychology of the current time? And what can architects do to design an architecture of the future that can introduce new sociology and psychology amongst cultures to recognize all people as human and worthy of love, freedom, and the pursuit of happiness? Excerpt from regrounding architecture transcalarity week reflecting on my personal history from an unrecognized native american tribe.

Architecture constantly spans the gap between disciplines, environments, cultures, and species. However, architecture typically only responds to human needs and human desires. It also struggles to include each human through colonial, racial, and cultural design. Architecture relies on the predominant cultural influence and often forgets the humanity of design.

... Non-humans have the autonomy to function inside their own sociological understandings. How may their sociological and potentially cultural interactions begin to shape architecture and design? Excerpt from trans-human transcalarity week reflecting on Vivian Despret’s writing and work.

How can architecture change and make an impact on cultural sociology to empower human rights and endeavor to create open spaces for all people?

... Architecture participates in all aspects of life. From humans to non-humans architecture has an impact. The impact can be designed for and must consider the condition of human rights. Designing for all people, inclusive in every aspect, and addressing future technologies as well as the real world. Borders are to be blurred and removed, allowing the accessibility of unalienable human rights. Architecture is to cultivate change by creating virtual, mental, and physical spaces that are accessible and safe for each person. Excerpt from arguments paper reflecting on Emmanuel Admassu’s lecture and writing.
Level 8 human apartments
Level 9 human apartments
Roof water collection, solar collection
Level 5 gathering/community space
Level 6 creatures of flight
Level 7 human apartments
Level 2 mammals
Level 3 urban farm
Level 4 urban farm
Level -2 compost
Level -1 education
Level 1 entry, pond, grazing
Specific tree species are used, such as the London Plane, that capture pollutants and clean the atmosphere. Containing hot air to heat spaces in the winter, and allowing hot air to escape in the summer.

One Ecological Community will be completed near year 50. The entire building will function autonomously from atmospheric connections to any outside resources. Returning both humanity and nature back to its conception. A conception of mutually beneficial relationships with agency for each actor. Each member lives to serve another and dies to serve others. These provide the main sources of energy and water.

Rain and sunlight provide water for humans, while solar generation supplies heat to the water and premises. Urban farming provides food and activities for the humans that dwell within the space or provide live amongst the surrounding neighborhood. Chickens and other birds provide feathers that can be stacked to create a seal.

As One Ecological Community slowly grows, plant and animal life will recognize the oasis as a place to seek shelter and conditions. Animals will contain small mammals, migratory birds, and insects. These species will contribute to plant growth through pollination and fertilization. The plants will return the favor by providing food for many of the species.

Water is provided to all growth through water collection systems. Rain water capture ensure appropriate water amounts year round.

Excavated earth creates above ground structures that are sustainable. Lessons from nature are taken into other communities and shown how crops and care to create similar structures. Sheep are provided grazing on the building along with nature and shown how to create similar structures.
Architectural education breaks down conventional ideas and expands the way students think until they see the world through a different lens - a kaleidoscopic lens that makes it impossible to ignore the multitude of assemblies involved in creating architecture. The studio's primary purpose is to provide a gathering space, where students learn by doing, collaborating, observing, and being observed. Rather than being an enclosed room, the studio must become the movement of the building, performing as a spread of active spaces for gathering and the constant repositioning of the architectural lens.
What is the role of architectural schools and the studio?

The studio maximizes the potential of encountering as one moves through the spaces. Students learn in a collaborative atmosphere by doing, observing, and being observed.
When considering the spectacularity within the education system in the United States it is to consider the space outside of the classroom while keeping the teaching space familiar to past generations without variations or new techniques.

He continues on to say, "Adelbert Ames, Jr., has described perception as the 'ongoing interaction of three components of your total situation… the demonstrations also disclosed that the content of perception was at least in part a consequence of the 'object' of the perception; that is, was dynamically related to unperceived light ray bundles impinging on your eyes and to your physiological structure patterns.'" (Arnheim, What do the Eyes Contribute?)

How must we change the tradition of the past to teach only what we know and encourage the student to go beyond our perceived spectacular abilities?
The top floor slab of any new interior construction must take the estimated existing roof structure into consideration.
Kaleidoscopic Assemblies explore new paths and imagine new ways of understanding architecture - shaking up the discourse and re-assembling fragments into a new architectural perception.
The book itself has a personality of one similar to a god. It will not be handled the same as any other book, it will not rest with them, nor will it be read upon a typical desk. It requires something greater for itself. Soleri ensures his personality and beliefs are fully engulfed within his theory of arcology.

The title of the book directly relates to the passage out of Genesis; however in Soleri’s version it is arcology that is created through the city and man creates it. “Man” is now suggested as the god figure and “the city” is man’s creation.

Soleri’s self-righteousness causes him to believe man has sinned in his eyes and must repent, turn away, or earn its way into the afterlife, or in Soleri’s case, the city as an arcology.

Soleri further directs the reader to believe that man is a living creature, designed and created to reside upon the earth as a natural object. Man has thus run away from its original condition as nature and in doing so has created an unnatural way of life.

I return to my bedroom each day after experiencing and recognizing the sins of the world Soleri describes while also asking forgiveness for those I have committed myself. Content with the glaring looks of the book upon my wall. Knowing it is judging my every design decision form here on forward, looking over me counting my sins against arcology. Ensuring I still think of it every day ossifying its ideals into my thoughts. Promising its sovereignty over all my ideals. Its preservation ensured through its concealed pages and through the thoughts of all who have opened them. Knowing it’s the savior of the world, it rests peacefully above my head.
Think Tanks

Project:
Radical Re-Use; an exploration of housing

Project Type:
Urban design, multi-family housing

Concept:
Bulk Fuel Storage Facilities are an object of historical oil capitalism in Los Angeles. The storage facilities have remained within the city providing residents with toxic and volatile environments. Many of these facilities reside near the Port of LA in a significantly underserved region. Bulk fuel storage facilities are built in a highly mechanical and functional manner. These facilities are slowly diminishing as oil and other non-renewable energy sources are being replaced by renewable energy.

Each unit provides an encasement that could be used for living and other facilities. Each unit is contained within a larger industrial farm containing 10-100 units. The large facilities provide an opportunity to create new communities and neighborhoods within these industrial districts.

The new living environment amongst the bulk fuel storage facilities will create a complete environmental dichotomy from what existed before. The units will retain their integrity as objects, yet used for other purposes, while the landscape around will recognize the functional industrial landscape while reinterpreting it into a completely sustainable, carbon-zero community. The community will provide an oasis for humans and non-humans to gather together away from the surrounding urban context.

The project will explore ways of reintegrating bulk fuel storage facilities into the changing urban landscape while retaining their industrial heritage. Designed in concentric rings of living and parks, completely sustainable, megastructural, or plug-in-able, the Los Angeles bulk fuel storage facilities will rejuvenate the surrounding context.

Professor:
Olga Aleksakova, Joel McCullough

Year:
Spring 2023
What is Housing?

What occurs outside?

What occurs in-between?
disconnected housing through industrial corridor

reconnect neighborhoods through industrial landscapes
Proposed Los Angeles plan

- Housing
- Industrial
- Green-space
- Water
existing site

remediation scheme

WATER
- Rain Collection
- Water Purification
- Water Reuse
- Flood Mitigation

Eco Remediation
- Green Growth (Museum)
- Plant Growth
- Transition to Natural
- Urban Farm

COMMUNITY
- Oases
- Park
- Shopping/Economy
- School

LIVING
- High Density
- Bio-Beans/Well
- Community
- Family
architecture has the opportunity to observe and understand the action of spectators and users of each of our designs. Most of the time a building is constructed and there might be a occupational research done later on to understand the satisfaction of a building, however this research doesn’t seem to translate directly to the next designs.

Architects seem to only participate in a single act, we design. Many times we are not the clients, we are not interacting with the architecture, nor are we watching the people.

however it still promotes more actions from architects into understanding the severity of which our products have on the everyday life of another being, either human or non-human.

Excerpt from thoughts on Elvia Wilk’s Lecture

The people can no longer be controlled, expected, or surveyed to do a specific task. McElheney uses his art to continue to create undefinable reactions from the users and viewers in contrast to a capitalist society where everything needs to be controlled. This creates new opportunities to respond to further unforeseen actions, new discussions through reactions, and new engagements between people.

Excerpt from thoughts on Josiah McElheney’s Lecture

The design is being “undone” each day through its use. I also venture to think of the natural life cycle as ecologies always find a way to integrate death and life with one another. Each living creature benefits from the death or life of another creature. How can architecture respond to such a life cycle where it benefits those around it beyond the human?

An ecology that continuously builds off of the life and death of one another to create something greater.

Excerpt from thoughts on Samita Sinha’s Lecture
Project: 1:1 Fabrication

Concept:
Ari and I wanted to create a playful structure that encouraged physical interaction through touch and visual kinetics. The project seeks to combine three very different materials of rockite, sapele wood, and aluminum. Each of these materials required different fabrication methods from casting to cutting and sanding.

Team:
Ari Nadrich

Year:
Spring 2023

Professor:
Zach Mulitauauaopele
Reflections & Refractions

Project: Ultrareal

Description:

Professor: Zach Mullauaupoule

Year: Spring 2023

Concept:
Footprint

Project:
Footprint Carbon and Design

Description:
A Carbon footprint and embodied energy analysis of the Jerome L. Greene Science center visualized through physical interactions with real objects.

An analysis of a typical oil refinery and the remediation cost by calculating the embodied energy and carbon output.

Year:
Spring 2023

Professor:
David Benjamin
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<th>Materials:</th>
<th>MJ/kg</th>
<th>ft ^3</th>
<th>weight/ft ^3</th>
<th>total weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Total Weight (kgs)</th>
<th>MJ</th>
<th>% of total</th>
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<td>325.48</td>
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<td>Basement: 20% of total building</td>
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**Total Weight (kgs):** 804,188,975.45

**Total Weight (MJ):** 160,837,795.09

**% of total:** 16.67%
Oil Refinery Remediation

14,000 Mt CO2/year

53,800,000,000 Trees/sm of grass necessary

-14,000 Mt CO2/year?

450 KG CO2 per barrel

34.25 KG CO2 per panel

396 KG CO2 per 6’

-1.0 KG CO2 per sm/year

-21 KG CO2 per year