

CALL FOR ARTICLES

ON DEMANDE DES ARTICLES

IMAGE REFLEX

With the re-vision of the Modern, architecture looks to understand its own history through the image of itself. This reflective image might be seen as instrumental in the attempt to recover displaced experience, the tradition of the local effaced by a dominant universal vision. In an architectural culture stretching from Vienna and Berlin in the east to Vancouver and L.A. in the West, there is a mythic 'West Coast' that defines a particular locus for the function of images in ordering and re-ordering the field of vision. This issue of FIFTH COLUMN queries (from the western periphery) the image in the mirror, at once inside and outside of the historical project of the modern, and asks: what alternatives present themselves to this search for alternative vision?

THE PLACE--THE FIFTH COLUMN: EAST-OF-MONTREAL ISSUE

An all-TUNS issue affords us the opportunity for a critique of the school and its predominant ideas. The book we will produce should be reflective of its place of production without being simply a prospectus of school projects -- a re-recording of projects presented at school.

While the curriculum is the more visceral component of a program of study, the issues we address throughout the four year cycle of work act in counterpoint to this structure and constitute the ground in which we work. The idea of the place is one that resonates through the curriculum of the School. It is this idea of The Place then that we suggest for theme of the EAST-OF-MONTREAL issue.

Strategies for place-making are to inform its content.

It is significant that the first project we do -- the "Hut" -- is a project without a site. The issue of place-making is made more conspicuous in that first project perhaps by its absence. The notion of a physical place is suspended while other criteria for places are considered. For some, this poses considerable problems; for others the freedom of expression without physical or imagined constraints is a liberating experience.

A place would be very little indeed without someone to experience it, or, someone to conceive it. Places exist within a culture; places are sought out and explored. A place may be a fragment of paper, an idea, a desk -- an object or a destination. A place exists in time, or has as yet to be discovered -- some would argue has as yet to be made.

Can anything be a place? What is a place and how does it influence your work? What is the place of the place. Do you make it, do you read it, do you need it?

Consider your work and consider the program. Where are your personal points of departure, your personal points of reference?

Consider the work of your colleagues -- what are the points of divergence, where do your ideas converge?

L'IMAGE: RÉFLEXE ET RÉFLEXION

Avec la re-vision du modernisme, l'architecture cherche à comprendre son histoire récente à travers son image propre. Ce reflet peut être considéré fondamental à la récupération de l'expérience déplacée d'une tradition locale, qui s'efface sous une vision dominante universelle. Notre culture architecturale s'étend de Vienne et Berlin à l'est, jusqu'à Vancouver et L.A. à l'ouest; mais au sein de cette culture, le 'West Coast' mythique subsiste encore. La côte ouest définit encore un locus imagé qui intervient dans l'ordonnance et dans la réordonnance de notre champ visuel. Ce numéro du FIFTH COLUMN questionne cette image dans le miroir. En marge du projet historique moderniste, l'ouest demande: quelle sont les alternatives à cette vision dite alternative?

LE LIEU -- FIFTH COLUMN: A L'EST DE MONTREAL

Un numéro consacre au Technical University of Nova Scotia et à sa critique. Un numéro spécial qui se doit de dépasser la simple publication de ses projets d'école.

Tandis que le programme scolaire est fondamental au champ d'étude, des points de concertation à travers nos quatre ans de formation étudiante agissent en contrepoint à cette structure et établissent le champ de notre travail. Dans ce vaste champ, l'idée du lieu résonne. Le lieu - ainsi donc notre thème pour ce numéro spécial, À L'EST DE MONTRÉAL.

Notre premier projet, la "hutte primitive", est un projet sans site, une réflexion sur le sentiment d'un lieu, ou un endroit pour refléter. Comment rendre une place dans l'absence physique du lieu? La question demeure suspendue alors que d'autres critères sont pesés. La liberté d'expression doit elle-même prendre racine en quelque terre éloignée.

Un lieu demande en effet son expérience et sa conception. Il existe, à priori, au sein de sa culture, pour être recherché et exploré. Un lieu peut être un morceau de papier, quelque idée, cette pierre; un objet ou une destination. Un lieu existe dans le temps, ou attend d'être découvert, ou d'être créé.

J'en fais une 'lecture' et je me demande quel est l'espace qu'occupe cette réflexion sur le lieu. Une réflexion bien personnelle, ou lieu de concertation?

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