

The mystery of life is not a problem to be solved but a reality to be experienced.
Aart Van Der Leeuw

As long as you seek for something, you will get the shadow of reality and not reality itself.
Shunryu Suzuki

Ex. 6 : *Media-assisted Contemplative Architectural Experience*

Handout: *Wed. 31 March*

Presentation: *Wed. 28 April (Group 2) / 5 May (Group 1) together with Ex.7
(total 15 minute per student).*

Both class periods will start at 9:30am and finish at 12:30noon

The intention of this assignment is to continue practicing *Contemplative Architectural Experiences* (CAE). This time you will use media assistance of to step up and develop your level of sensitivity and attention towards the ***experience*** of architecture.

You have been given *another* place or building where to practice CAE. As before, don't get into an argument regarding whether or not you like what I have assigned to you. Just do it!

Again, there are ***strict guidelines*** to follow. In this case you'll use the same first 7 steps as in assignment 5. The only difference this time is that you'll carry with you a sketchbook and a camera. Then,

8

So, ***just sit there, alone, still, relaxed, and in total silence***. For the next 2 hours, put your concentration in drawing 2 free-hand sketches (suggested size: 11"x 8.5".) Don't lose your attention. Observe deeply and represent with precision. These sketches are an experiential record aimed at capturing the essence of that place. They are not analytical, abstract, or anything. They should stand for that place as felt and seen by you. PLEASE: Don't judge and don't comment on what you are doing. Drawing is enough, however it turns out to be. Sketching is your tool to practice architectural contemplation, that's all. Spend ***at least*** 30 minutes per sketch (and ***I mean*** 30 minutes minimum).

As before, don't rush through this experience... take your time. There is nothing more important to do than being here now!

After you are done, follow steps 9-11 as previously described.

12

When you find time, please, return back to your assigned place. Try to have the same type of attitude. Although this encounter should be faster than the previous one, don't rush it, otherwise, you'll miss another opportunity for experiencing architecture as it is. You will need to bring a photographic (or video) camera.

Most likely, you will go to the place(s) you chose to sketch. However, if you find another situation that calls for your attention more, then stay there. Proceed to do a series of 12-18 photo-shots of that place (or a few minutes of video, not more than 4-5 minutes). Find the best way of capturing that existential condition through your camera. Don't let the instrument to be in the way. After you are done photographing-video taping, take some time walking or just staying there in peace for about 15 minutes. Then do another set of 12-18 photo-shots (or video). Once you are finished, you may leave.

13

Scan the two sketches in gray-scale (unless color was used) at 150 dpi. Select the best 6 photos (and/or 2 minute video), unless you have some good reason to do otherwise. If your photos need processing (i.e., some sort of collage), then work on them and submit your complete version.

Upload all this in a folder with your name (e.g., Bermudez) within the "Exercise 6" folder by *Tuesday 27 April (Group 2) /4 May (Group 1)*.

Grading

The weight of Assignment 6 is 13.33% of course grade.

ASSIGNMENT 6

Student	Building / Place
Dziczkowski,Michael J	The bridges of Rock Creek Park Taft, Mass. Ave., Q St., Calvert St.
Johnson,Clare E	Vietnam Memorial
Barkell,Keely E	DC Metro ... (specific station to be decided)
Farinholt,Liam F	The Supreme Court (exterior)
Dreitlein,Michael T	Khalil Gibran memorial garden (3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)
Kazanci,Melissa M	Washington Monument
McCarthy,Ian A	Dulles Aiport
Stack,Callaghan	Lincoln Memorial
Pioch,Mark A	The National Cathedral (exterior) (and don't miss the nearby garden)
Torres- Sejas,Adriana A E	Union Station
Beiner,Andrew N	Kennedy Center Rooftop Deck / Kennedy Center -- The Reach by Steven Holl
Corbera,Lisbeth S	Theodore Roosevelt Island
Dende,Nicholas	US Supreme Court (Exterior)
Chirinos,Cesar A	Chicago/Milwaukee building
Bruno,Jessica A	World War I Memorial (District of Columbia War Memorial)
Kane,Liam R	The George Washington Masonic National Memorial (Alexandria) outdoor
Kominiak,Tyler J	East Wing of the National Gallery of Art (exterior)
Laccetti,Isabella M	The National Arboretum (New York Avenue, DC)
Tsiamis,Yianni A	Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle
McCarthy,Elizabeth H	Monticello
Moore,Madison	9-11 Pentagon Memorial (Arlington, VA)