Bustling Vacancy

ARCH 3609 Integrated Software in
the Architectural Office

Bustling Vacancy

Motus | Mapping | Building Elements Cartography | Behavioral Patterns |

Overview

The project brings together the Urban and the Architectural scales through a series of data abstractions and the establishment of rules that will define the proposals. The students are asked to come up with a design dictionary of 4 main architectural elements that serves as their "alphabet" for space creation. At the same time, the class focuses on developing a visual language to discuss, collect, measure and quantify city behaviors/patterns. The students will respond to the literal and symbolic notion of "Motus" in the city, and create mappings, diagrams and data visualizations. The projects will ultimately be based on the cartography of the architectural elements in such a way that they relate to the city mapping analysis.

The class we will not take data literally. It will rather depart from conventional definitions and ask what is the city, what is data, and how can they be re-applied in an architectural scale. The students are encouraged to think of new information types that present the idea of "Motus" in the city through the implementation of urban derived patterns thus producing a restless and poetic project.

Project Description

The assigned project involves four process stages, the "Alphabet" stage, the "Data" stage, the "Syntax" stage and the "Composition" stage. The "Alphabet" stage involves the creation of a design dictionary of four architectural elements: stair, corridor, wall and atrium. The "Data" stage involves the study of New York City using data analysis in order to identify and map "behavioral" city patterns. During the "Syntax" stage the students extract rules out of the city patterns that will define in a later stage their design. Last, in the "Composition" stage the students employ the generated rules in order to assemble their architectural elements studies. As a result, the students make use of their elements' cartography in such a way that relates to their city mapping analysis. The assembly of these elements will ultimately create a spatial 3d pattern. So, repetition of basic geometries evolves into behavioral patterns and ultimately experiential space creation.

Programmatically, the proposed space is an open air exhibition with theme the 'Pattern'. The exhibition subject is the proposed space itself.

Site

The only constrain in terms of location is that the proposals are in NYC. The project conceptually is site less. Nevertheless, the students will ultimately need to apply their design specifically. For that purpose, they can select any empty lot of their preference or the following one:

690 Broadway, between West 4th and Great Jones St, NY, New York, 10012.

They can also select multiple (more than one) sites and disperse their design concept throughout the city.

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