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TEACHING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS: LAWRENCE KANSAS

[FALL 2000]



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Poetry does not grow from rules, except by chance, but rules on the other hand, are derived from poetry and therefore there are as many kinds of rules as there are poets.

Giardano Bruno Nolano

Reflective Agenda

In terms of a reflective agenda, this studio is concerned with the existential aspects of place making, particularly from a phenomenological perspective. Such themes as reality and representation, sensory perception, and hegemony of vision through modernity will recur through out. The aim is to become comfortable with the subjective/objective, science/art axis that architecture traverses, but without rest. Formulating this in a personal and articulate way is itself a long process. This studio will utilize the projects as vehicles to begin this process. An open forum for discussion aided by periodic readings will accompany the design process.

The pedagogical goal of this studio is to illuminate the need (and identify certain means) for a personal interpretive process in the process of learning to apply the principles and conventions of making buildings. The intent is to bring to surface the interaction between the learned, conditioned aspects of design process and the spirit that wills to transgress these limits.

STUDIO METHOD/PROCESS:

It is the intent of this studio to engage in conceptual discussions that, by necessity, involve some novel phrases and terminologies that originate from other disciplines such as Art, literature, philosophy etc. When used properly and with sincerity these become meaningful, and open our minds to make creative leaps.

Like most studios a polemic stance will underlie this studio. I aim to communicate this as well as it can be done, both through dialogues and periodic written statements. I aim to make this accessible and de-mystified but without risking oversimplification. As in a game of chess focused mental effort is expected toward this process.

