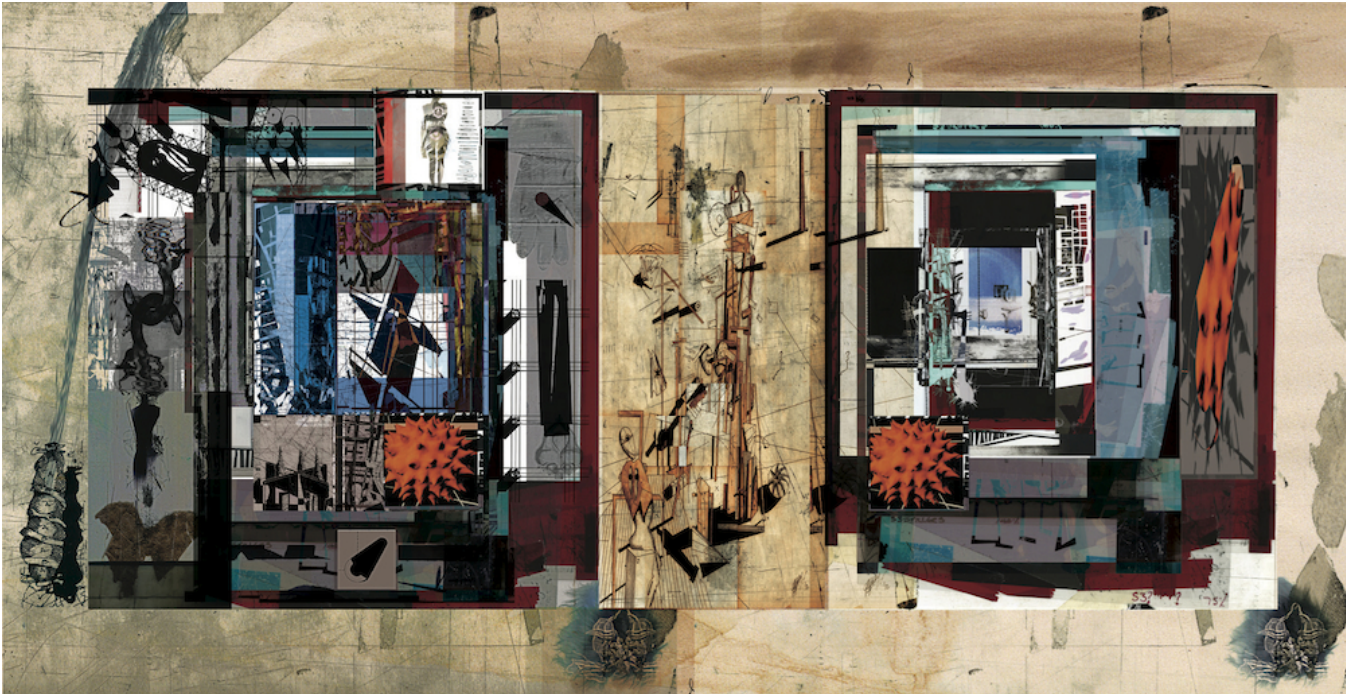


Project D

Contributing to Community Identity



Map of the Surrealist City, 2013, Neil Spiller

Final Review: Saturday 12/08 9:30-12:30

Abstract:

We have spent the semester studying communities. At first, we filled our “toolbox” with the kit of parts that make up our cities. We expanded our spatial understanding of the built environment we live, work and play in everyday - especially focusing on Washington, DC. After creating an active shared dialogue of our urban landscapes we transitioned into larger socio-cultural and contextual conversations about the complexity of what it means to belong or not belong to a community. We searched for physical “centers” of community, but also tried to link that center to an “identity” that defines the atmosphere of a place. We studied what it means to transition from neighborhood to neighborhood, parsing out the meaning of boundary, approach and even explored the five senses in our communities.

This final project is your opportunity to stitch these studies together, and investigate a site for future development through the lens of positive community contribution, based on in-depth site analysis of an area of your choosing in Washington DC. Paint the picture of the community, and prove that your architectural insertion will compliment an existing vernacular and also positively change the landscape you are studying.

ARCP 503-01 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Ken Filler, Adjunct Professor

Contact: kenneth.filler@udc.edu

Deliverables:

Drawings are to be on 11x17 - scaled appropriately. Hand drawn, digital or mixed media.

Print only (3) 11x17 final diagrams. Digital presentation should include layers and process drawings.

(20 points) City Scale Synthesis Diagram - 1-2 miles around the site

Similar to the deliverable for Project B, this diagram should holistically represent the communities surrounding your site. This should include major system flows, density and use patterns, cultural influences, demographics, historical data etc. As we have talked about in class, the identity of the area should be represented in this diagram. For the final presentation, you should spend roughly 5 minutes presenting this diagram and its layers, telling the story of "place" as you see it.

(30 points) Community Scale Synthesis Diagram - ¼-½ mile around the site

Conceptually this diagram is similar to the city-scale diagram but with the next level of refinement. It should be more focused on your specific localized area: how does one get to the site, what are the immediate cultural influences, are there more nuanced data points that you can uncover about the community at this scale? Microclimate conditions and experiential factors (five senses) should be included in this conversation. How does the community function, where are people going, who actually dwells in this community? This diagram, along with your process from Project C should be what you use to frame the argument for your design in the next diagram. Think: what does this community have and what it is missing?

(30 points) Street Scale Diagram w/ Design - the immediate context around the site (4-5 blocks)

Zooming in one last time, here is where you make the case for a community based architectural insertion that is a direct response to the question: what does this community need? Based on thoughtful and thorough research, you should at this point have a solid grasp on the place you are studying. Make the case for a design that will better the community - anything goes. It can be as small as a public art piece, or as large as a new community center. Regardless of size, you need to prove that it belongs in the community. This diagram should be in plan, diagrammatically showing your project. *Ideally, you can create a simple massing, section or other representation of the project, however this is not required. The project is graded on how you got to this design, not on the design itself.*

(10 points) Written Narrative - 500 words max

(10 points) Verbal Presentation - 15 minutes max

Primary Resources:

Consider our readings from the semester, using terminology and concepts from our discussions in your diagrams, narratives and presentations:

A Pattern Language, Christopher Alexander

The Image of the City, Kevin Lynch

Race, Class and Politics in the Cappuccino City, Derek S. Hyra

Inclusion and Democracy, Iris Marion Young

The Minority-Race Planner in the Quest for a Just City, June Manning Thomas

Thermal Delight, Lisa Heschong

The Eyes of the Skin, Architecture of the Senses, Juhani Pallasmaa

A Philosophy of Walking, Frederic Gros

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