

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM IN CHINA DISCOURSE AND PRACTICES

FALL 2023

Instructor: Xiangning LI, Wanli MO

Teaching Assistant:

Monday 15:30-17:05, D2 Lecture Hall, CAUP

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course tends to provide various visions for thinking and rethinking contemporary architecture and urbanism in China. Materials discussed in this course include not only architecture and urban case studies, but also cinema, art and literature work that provide wider social and cultural context for the issues of contemporary architecture and urbanism.

Perspectives from comparative literature studies, critical theory and cultural studies will provide us with deeper insights into the reality of contemporary society; therefore, help us to establish filters for thinking contemporary architecture and urbanism in China.

REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to attend lectures delivered by course instructor and invited speakers; readings, prepared discussions. Readings serve as backgrounds for the class lectures and should be completed before each class. Students are required to present keyword study in group in the final three classes. And each student is required to finish one case study project. The deadline of case study submission is Jan 8th, 2023.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND LECTURE TOPICS

Week 1 (Sep. 11th)

Course Introduction

Week 2 (Sep. 18th)

Movie Screening: Still Life, directed by JIA Zhangke

Week 3 (Sept. 25th)

24 Key Words: Mapping the Conditions, Discourses and Strategies of Contemporary Young Chinese Architects

[1] Xiangning L, Minqing N . 24 Keywords Mapping the Conditions,Discourses and Strategies of Contemporary Young Chinese Architects[J]. Time Architecture.

[2] Xiangning LI , Key Concepts of Contemporary Chinese Architecture[J]. ArquitecturaViva.Madrid.11(2011)

Week 5 (Oct. 9th)

Shanghai's Modern Architecture and Urban Culture (Guest Speaker: ZHANG Xiaochun)

[1] Alan Balfour, "Twin Cities", in Alan Balfour and ZHENG Shiling(eds.) SHANGHAI. New York: Wiley Academy, 2002.

[2] LI Xiangning and ZHANG Xiaochun, "Dreaming of Collective Dwelling in Shanghai: from Lilongto International Community", in Iker Gil (ed.) Transforming Shanghai. New York: PrincetonArchitectural Press, 2008

[3] LI Xiangning .Learning from Shanghai Tongji and a Research Paradigm of Architecture andUrbanism [J].Time Architecture,2022(03):32-39.

Week 6(Oct. 16th)

Building a New Tradition

Week 7 (Oct. 23th)

THE WILL TO RESIST: Contemporary Chinese Architecture and the Avant-Garde

[1]LI Xiangning, "Make-the-Most-of-It" Architecture: Young Architects and Chinese Tactics, in CITYJournal (July 2008), London

[2]LI Xiangning, "In Search of Quality." Volume (Issue No.2, 2006), Amsterdam.

[3]Michael Hays, "Critical Architecture: between Culture and Form." Perspecta (Vol.21, 1984), New Haven.

[4]*George Baird, "Criticality and its Discontents." Harvard Design Magazine (Vol. 21, 2004), Cambridge.

[5]*Robert Somol and Sarah Whiting, "Notes on the Doppler Effect and Other Modes of Modernism."Perspecta (Vol.33, 2001), New Haven.

[6]*Jianfei ZHU, "Criticality in between China and the West." Journal of Architecture (Volume10, No.5,2005), London.

[7]Yung Ho Chang, "Learning from Uncertainty." Area (Issue No.78, 2006), Milan.

[8]Ole Bouman, "Ubiquitous China." Volume (Issue No.2, 2006), Amsterdam.

[9]Yung Ho Chang, "The Necessity of Banality." Volume (Issue No.2, 2006), Amsterdam.

Week 8 (Nov. 30th)

Building a Future Countryside in China

[1] LI Xiangning, ZHANG Xiaochun. Rural Futures: Challenges and Opportunities in ContemporaryChina.

Week 9 (Nov. 6th)

One City Nine Towns / Shanghai and Los Angeles

[1]Li Xiangning, "Heterotopias: Themed Space in Shanghai and LA" and "Towards Chimerican
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Urbanism", in Peter Noever, Kimberly Mayer(eds.), Urban Manifestos, Hatje Cantz,2010

[2]Scott A. Lukas, "The Themed Space: Locating Culture, Nation and Self" (Chapter1), in Scott

[3]A. Lukas (ed.), The Themed Space: Locating Culture, Nation and Self. Lanham: Lexington Books,2007.

[4]Michael Sorkin, "Introduction: Variations on a Theme Park", in Michael Sorkin (ed.), Variations on aTheme Park: The New American City and the End of Public Space. New York: Hill and Wang, 1992.[5]Guy Debord, "The Commodity as Spectacle." (Chapter II), in Guy Debord, Translated by

Donald Nicholson-Smith, *The Society of the Spectacle*.

Week 10 (Nov. 13th)

Urban Design of One City Nine Towns (Guest Speaker: ZHOU Minghao)

- [1] Jean Baudrillard, "The Precession of Simulacra" in Jean Baudrillard, Translated by Sheila
- [2] Faria Glaser, *Simulacra and Simulation*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1994.
- [3] Jean Baudrillard, "America", in Neil Leach (ed.), *Rethinking Architecture: A Reader in Culture Theory*. London: Routledge, 1997.

Week 11 (Nov. 20th)

Shanghai Urban Regeneration (Guest Speaker: LIU Kan)

Week 12 (Nov. 27th)

Made in Shanghai (Guest Speaker: Jiang Jiawei)

Week 13 (Dec. 4th)

Architectural Exhibition and Urban Culture

- [1] Yve-Alain Bois, Denis Hollier, Rosalind Krauss and Jean-Louis Cohen, *A Conversation with Jean-Louis Cohen*[J], *October*, Vol. 89 (Summer, 1999), pp. 3-18.
- [2] Mirko Zardini, *Exhibiting and Collecting Ideas- A Montreal Perspective*[J], *Log*, No. 20, *Curating Architecture* (Fall 2010), pp. 77-84
- [3] Kurt W. Forster, *Show Me- Arguments For an Architecture Of Display*[J], *Log*, No. 20, *Curating Architecture* (Fall 2010), pp. 55-64
- [4] Barry Bergdoll, *In the Wake of Rising Currents- The Activist Exhibition*[J], *Log*, No. 20, *Curating Architecture* (Fall 2010), pp. 159-167

Week 14 (Dec. 11th)

Presentation and Discussion of Keyword Study: Group 1

Week 15 (Dec. 18th)

Presentation and Discussion of Keyword Study: Group 2

Week 16 (Dec. 25th)

Presentation and Discussion of Keyword Study: Group 3