Porous Public Space: Urban Nature for Climate Adaptation

Scan I Design Master Studio, Autumn 2016 [Larch 501/Arch504]

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With Master Teacher Louise Grassov, Schulze + Grassov

Project 06: Schematic Design / Mid-term Guidance

And so Esmeralda's inhabitants are spared the boredom of following the same streets every day. And that is not all: the network of routes is not arranged on one level, but follows instead an up-and-down course of steps, landings, cambered bridges, hanging streets. Combining segments of the various routes, elevated or on ground level, each inhabitant can enjoy every day the pleasure of a new itinerary to reach the same places. – Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities, p. 88

Overview:

For our next phase of design you will work as a team to develop your preferred site concept(s) into a schematic design. You will present your analyses, concept(s), and initial schematic design to our Master Teacher Louise and your more developed designs at the mid-term review.

Consider the schematic design as the result of strategies at nested scales. Document the site forces that you feel are relevant in a series of site analysis diagrams at the site and district scale to form the basis for your design "argument". Test and develop your selected site concept into a spatial schematic in plan and section(s), considering both site and context. Think in terms of climate adaptation and strategies related to stormwater mitigation, urban greening and social amenity. Your spatial response might consider:

- Movement and stasis, Flow and eddy
- Public Life and Recreation, education, exchange
- Scale, human, site, district, region
- Time (past, present and future), night/day summer/winter,
- Equitable access
- Ecology (human and natural)
- Sun and shadow, wind, rain
- Water flow (capture, treatment, use, release)
- Metaphor, poetics, politics, narrative
- Public / Private
- Daily / Event
- Porosity / Transparency

Your schematic design presentation should tell a story with a clear and succinct narrative. How does the human scale register in your design? What other species are invited into your design? How do details help to develop the concept?

To convey a real sense of space, your schematic design should show the size, location, and general qualities of a space, in plan (1:200 scale) and section(s), at a scale that allows viewers to project themselves into the drawing, moving through the designed spaces -- e.g. accurate scale, line hierarchy, surfaces rendered, shadows to convey depth and light quality, color and inclusion of active figures bring it to life. Your drawings can be digital or hand-drawn but should be professionally presented. All drawings should be labeled and include people as well as topography, drainage, planting, structures, walls, edges, entrances, covered space, groundscape, lighting, furniture and amenities.

Due Dates:

Monday, Oct. 24 — **Initial presentation to Louise**
Site Analysis Diagrams
Initial Schematic Design
Supportive Design Diagrams

Monday, Oct. 31 — **Storyboard for Mid-term**
Refined iterations of Schematic Designs and support materials
Storyboard of drawings you will use for mid-term review
Continue to conduct site analyses as needed, and integrate to support your schematic design

Friday Nov. 4 — **Mid-Term Review**
Schematic Drawings and support. Drawings can be on trace.
Region/City/District Scale diagrams illustrating relationships to the surrounding district/city
Site and District scale analyses and visions + Program + Concept Diagrams
Site Scale Schematic Drawings of your Site Design in Plan and Section(s) at an appropriate scale.
(Plan to complete plotting and rehearse our presentation on or before Thursday)