

Architecture, Design & Composition Studio

Fall 2006, CMU, Arch #48-200, M/W/F 1:30-4:20
Class Website: www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-200

Coordinator: Kai Gutschow

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Off. Hr: M/F 12:00-1:00pm & by appt. in MM202

(7/24/07)

PROJECT 3 – HOUSE PROJECT

Mindset:

This project continues the exploration of “Composition” as the main theme of the semester. The “Museum Annex” project stressed the development of “Concept,” (Idea) and attention to “Context” (Site), as well as “Content” (Program). Having begun to integrate these into your design process, this next project (as well as the Building Study) offers the chance to explore “Composition” on a more fundamental level, in relation to “Building Elements” and how they go together, as well as the development of spatial sequences on a more refined scale. By reducing the scale and complexity of the project, you have the opportunity to focus on each element more intensely, and through its relation to others, and to the whole, begin to create an architectural language that works from the smallest to the biggest scale. The challenge will be to create rich, intellectually challenging architecture that nonetheless is well developed.

Project:

Each studio will explore their own vision of a “house” program, with the common goal of creating a small space for a single person in a natural setting, as follows:

DAMIANI STUDIO - Towards a Design Process: Farnsworth House Visitor's Center

The project is to design a new visiting artist studio and visitor center for the Farnsworth House, which we visited earlier this semester on our Chicago fieldtrip. This project is to reconsider the role of the information center as a welcoming transition for tourists visiting the home. The programmatic elements are to be similar to that of the current information center with the addition of a modest live/ work studio for a visiting artist. This modest L/W space will also act as an occasional guest house.

CALISTI STUDIO - Visiting Archaeologist Live+Work Space

The University of Pittsburgh's internationally recognized Department of Anthropology and Department of History of Art and Architecture have commissioned you to design a SMALL living space to house an "archaeologist-in-residence" as well as a small work space studio.

LUBETZ STUDIO - Living Space/Studio for a Writer (Moya Studio)

Site: A tree covered site on Sampsonia Way, near the Mattress Factory. This writer is part of the City of Asylum/Pittsburgh Project. The City of Asylum was established by several Nobel Laureate writers to provide refuge and sustenance for writers who are being persecuted in their own countries. Requires spaces to write, sleep, eat/cook, bath, sit/relax.

MINNERLY STUDIO - “Director’s House: Homewood Cemetary

The Homewood Cemetery has recently hired a new highly regarded director. As part of the compensation package the cemetery has agreed to provide her a small personal space of her own located with a relationship to Frick Park. For the director, you should provide a space to sleep, to cook, to eat, to bathe, to study, for guests, to hang 2 Picasso prints, and assure access and view of the park .

WOLFF STUDIO - “The American House”

In this second project, students are asked to question the existing model of the American house. The studio should become a laboratory of investigation through which to analyze, challenge and critique this existing paradigm. The objective of the project is for students to personally redefine the meaning of house in their culture and to reinvent a new type for the American house. Inspired by the spirit of Art and Architecture magazine’s Case Study House program, the objective is to create a new vision of the American house, expressive of our current society and simultaneously theoretical, experimental and specific in nature.

