

Image Revealed, Extracted, Mounted, Expressed



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This graduation project aims at uncovering an approach for the authentic reinterpretation of our past through the expression of the architectonic object. Based upon the working methods of German artist, Gerhard Richter, the project tries to uncover methods of assembling the realities of the project site and its direct surroundings. This method is completely dependant upon the ambiguous but factual nature of photographic images of this surrounding, allowing the designer to be freed from abstractions, conventions and iconic meaning. Therefor the research has a continuing and very direct influence on the outcome of the final design project.

Although this method of artistic inquiry is not new, the project does however identify the method as a means for the creation of the architectonic object. Since there where no clear predecessors in the field of architecture the project was expected to be rather experimental in its nature. Explore lab proved to be the perfect pressure cooker for an experimental project like this. The fact that there are little to none conceptual or aesthetic constraints posed by the graduation lab, allowed the project to grow organically and at the same time allowed for a very reflective attitude towards the project. Furthermore, the design project was approached in a very rational way in which fire safety and building regulations played an important role, more so than the conceptual development of the project, uncommon for other graduation labs.

Because this project aims at making our collective or individual past resonate explicitly in the architectonic expression it is closely linked to the wider social context of the profession. The project explains the way in which the lay-person experiences architecture, which is through visual signs rather than the layout of the floorplans. At the same time the project blurs and veils the details of our past for a more personal experience of the architectonic object through these visual signs. It tries to focus on the sharpness our memory rather than the sharpness of reality.