A denaturing of the non-places. The redefinition of the urban voids of the escalator area in Hong Kong.

Anastasia Tsaparoglou
site plan of the area of the escalators
a mosaic of microworlds, experience of private-semi private, public, semi-public, different behaviour and perception per microworld - remnants of public space

urban voids without a specific function, boxes which are ready to receive - to contain, receivers of life.
non places


Metapolis after metropolis


escalators_
a linear urban condenser

2. Davis. M. 1985, Urban Renaissance and the Spirit of Postmodernism, New Left Review,
Metapolis after metropolis


A phase of the modern metropolis is the metapoli. The sociologist F. Ascher recognizes metapolis as constantly expanding, and discontinuous fragmented urban complexes.

5 elements:
1. The inadequacy of the organic
2. The perception of the speed as a deposition, interconnection and distribution of a plurality of flows
3. The presence of areas of experimentation and innovation with regard to the places of habitation (new or marginal social groups, privileged backgrounds, etc.)
4. The emergence of new enclosures - receptor exhausting division and the consumption of the public sphere (museums, stadiums, shopping malls, theme parks and tourist development)
5. The presence of voids, unproductive unspecified, without clear limits unfamiliar areas to cities.
The invasion of the world by what Marc Auge calls 'non space' results in a profound alteration of awareness: something we perceive, but only in a partial and incoherent manner.

Individuals are connected in a uniform manner and where no organic social life is possible.

Are presented two dimensionally as a sort of theme-park spectacle.

Auge does not suggest that supermodernity is all-encompassing: places still exist outside non-places and tend to reconstitute themselves inside it.
escalators_

a linear urban condenser

2. Davis. M. 1985, Urban Renaissance and the Spirit of Postmodernism, New Left Review,

da linear urban condenser that
penetrates the mosaic of the non-
places, places and public spaces, and
makes the traveller a viewer and vice
versa.
there are still some places that make
them part of the show, and some parts
that make them part of the real
experience
urban voids

As the city develops, within the limits of it appear as an integral part, spaces that lack of a clear role. Their meaning is continuously open to the formulation and often emerges "randomly" from the event of occasional events.

_renegotiation_ with the surroundings.

- the definition of the void is given through different approaches to the definition of the place. The concept of the void is located between the sense of place and non-place and is essentially tied, with each new reception of of the landscape.

_ The absence of a building in an area of the city is not enough for giving him the concept of 'urban void'. Spaces that can be characterized by a specific function or they serve an aesthetic point of view, and particularly in any case characterized by contents of the "filled" with interesting or indifferent actions of everyday life within cannot be defined as urban voids. Instead it could be seen to what extent, and even buildings are urban voids in conditions devoid of above characteristics.

map
the urban voids of the site
4. The emergence of new enclosures - receptor exhausting division and the consumption of the public sphere (museums, stadiums, shopping malls, theme parks and tourist development).

5. The presence of voids, unproductive unspecified, without clear limits unfamiliar areas to cities.

escalators_ a linear urban condenser

urban voids

approach
the sequence of non-places, places (urban voids), public spaces, street lines crossing and interrupting the site, makes the escalators a real place because creates a personal bond— an experience with the site.

this way we experience this sequence and the spatial memories that are created establish the escalators as an place.

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ approach
reform the public space of the escalators

work with the existed ingredients, non-places, remnants of public space, urban voids

denaturing of the urban voids
symbiotic parasitical (epiphyte) construction that will be contained in the urban voids and it is based on the existed public routes.

something that will create a spot of reference but in the same time to have as s starting point the existing atmosphere

something of public use
something that will create the participation and provoke people’s critic in order to make them part of the public space. art?

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ approach_ idea
general analysis

profiles atmospheres qualities of space

program problem methodology

what will change?

parameters of design

accessibility_ public participation_

qualities of space_

connectivity with the escalators_

influence to the existed area_

place_

non-place_

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ approach_parameters of design
workshops

studios of architecture, painting, sculpture, arts and crafts, photography

dorms

minimum need of dwelling, solo rooms, shared appartments

social services

community center, art studios for children

public spaces

design new in relation with the reformation of the existed public spaces and public routes

open air workshops

opportinity of public participation

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ approach_programme
accessibility_  
public participation_  
qualities of space_  
connectivity with the escalators_  
influence to the existed area_  
place_  
non-place_ 

PROFILES  tourists, local people, business man

ATMOSPHERES  western atmosphere in combination with local atmosphere

QUALITIES OF SPACE  high rise and low rise buildings, a border for the escalators, negative space of the existed buildings, perplexity of emptiness

PROGRAM  open air workshops, private workshops, community center, dorms, public spaces-

PROBLEM  perplexity or a void that is waited to be filled, not as a normal site but as the negative space of the existed buildings, visual contact but no access, runs at the same direction with the escalators

METHODOLOGY  symbiotic paracitical on the existed buildings, formation of public space-atrium system, based on the existed public space under the escalators and on the connection with the escalators. work with the plan, horizontal drawings- the dimension where the feet moves. Give the passengers the choise to enter the place and not to force them.

WHAT WILL CHANGE?  reformation of public spaces, filling of a void that is waited to be filled, make the passenger a participant of the public realm
DSD_architecture thinking_Hong Kong_design_background
diagram of the programme
the attached urban void _ prologue of the synthesis
facade α-α’  scale 1.200

diagram of the programme
accessibility
public participation
qualities of space
connectivity with the escalators
place
non-place

PROFILES
tourists, local people, business man

ATMOSPHERES
western atmosphere in combination with local atmosphere

QUALITIES OF SPACE
high rise and low rise buildings, accesses through the urban void, protected area, perplexity of emptiness

PROGRAM
open air workshops, model room, cantine, dorms, public spaces- aitrium, art ciosks and shops

PROBLEM
perplexity or a void that is waited to be filled, not as a normal site but as the negative space of the existed buildings, boring and strange access

METHODOLOGY
symbiotic paracitical on the existed buildings, formation of public space based on of the existed public routes, work with the plan, horizontal drawings- the dimension where the feet moves.

WHAT WILL CHANGE?
reformation of public routes, filling of a void that is waited to be filled, make the passenger a participant of the public realm
accesses
arts and crafts ciosks
model room
open air workshops, coffee place
public space, amphitheater
dorms

diagram of the programme

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
the vertical void

the route void

the attached void

the route urban void _ main body of the synthesis
facade α-α’ + 12.00m

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
part of the facade
accessibility_  •••
public participation_  ••
qualities of space_  •
connectivity with the  •
estacators_
influence to the existed area_  ••
place_  ••
non-place_  •

PROFILE local people
ATMOSPHERES middlelevel neihborhood
QUALITIES OF SPACE verticality, narrow access, site waited to be filled
PROGRAM private workshops, dorms, public spaces in relation with the escalators and the existed public spaces
PROBLEM perplexity or a site that is waited to be filled, lack of connectivity with the escalators, no public connection with the other public rputes
METHODOLOGY symbiotic paracitical on the existed high-rise buildings, extention of the existed public routes, work with the section, vertical drawings- the dimension where the eye moves
WHAT WILL CHANGE? reformation of public routes, filling of a site that is waited to be filled, an end to the renaturing of the urban voids of the escalators
diagram of the programme
the vertical urban void
epilogue of the synthesis

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
plan 36.00 m

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
Diagram of the programme
south facade 1.100

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
west facade

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ design
floorplan + 39.00 m scale 1.50

section α-α'
part of the facade
axonometric 3.00m
axonometric of the steel construction.

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ materialization
construction details

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ materialization
Metropolis after metropolis

non places

escalators_

a linear urban condenser

eroom the public space of the escalators

symbiotic parasitical (epifyto) construction that will be contained in the urban voids and it is based on the existed public routes.

general analysis

parameters of design

program
organazing of the existed routes in order to form a network of public spaces-atriums

functions related to art that will create the participation and provoke people’s critic in order to

but always give them the free choice not to...
have different gradations of qualities for studios and open air workshops public, private, semi-public, semi-private

overlapping of the work areas in order to communicate-exchange ideas

respect to the locals cover their needs give them a chance to participate
locals    tourists    architects

street performers    painters, sculptors etc.    arts and crafts

DSD_architecture thinking_ Hong Kong_ conclusions
create a synthesis that is inspired from the Hong Kong's atmosphere and have a direct reference to it.

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