

Landscape and Atmospheres – Ideas of the immaterial and natural rhythmus in design

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How does design integration of atmosphere and weather - its elements & rhythms - affect our perception of space and predetermines formal strategies? What is atmosphere? Is it the in-between—affect, matter, immaterial, space, ephemera? Within these questions lay implicit issues of time and immaterial presence, scientific inquiry and description, space, phenomena and the body. While the experience and exposure to the atmosphere impact our daily experience, the history of design attests to the performative and formal significance of light, wind, snow, rain and humidity, clouds, and skies. The presentation will be examining definitions and investigations of atmosphere in the context of landscape design, and the cultural imagination of weather. Atmospheres are because we perceive them. We are both part of the atmosphere and part of different atmospheres – climatic atmospheres, acoustic atmospheres, emotional atmospheres, kinetic atmospheres, material atmospheres, polluted, energetic, etc. Atmospheres are the bodily relationships that assert the presence of the world around us and are connected to us, while reminding us that atmosphere is also a lethal base for our existence and pleasure. Atmospheres are the immediate perception of the invisible (that get revealed) and the actual relation to our own *natureness*.

Our experiences are shaped in spaces that are not only of a visible and measurable reality, but also of the immaterial and ephemeral conditions that affect what we see, register, and experience. What is memorable that affects our imaginative experiences of the landscapes we visit and live? What are the immersive qualities we collect when moving through the in-between? Many travelers have registered their impressions of the built environment based on the rhythm of natural phenomena and spatial experiences induced by the atmospheric conditions such as of light and humidity, reflection and sound, wind or temperature. Through the analysis of different design projects that embrace weather dynamics as premises of design this presentation focuses on the ways that we read our atmospheres both within (as formal figures) and beyond the projects (as perceptual milieus). Also, through the investigation of meteorological definitions of weather's dynamism and evanescence, flows and metabolisms this presentation shows how the integration of the elements of the atmosphere can reveal a cultural zeitgeist towards weather, convey the experience of time, increment comfort, convey ecological dynamics, and inspire design innovation. The weather and its potentials and/or threats are a product of the time, so is design.