



Kunstakademiets Arkitektskole, institute 3 'City, space and function'

New urban theory

- developed by 'non-architects'
- seen an architectural perspective

Course 3.308, fall 2004

by associate prof. Bo Grönlund

The purpose of the these lecture mornings is to introduce a cross disciplinary perspective towards the construction of a practical concept of urbanity for architects.



Tuesday, November 23 in auditorium 5, at 9.30-12.00:

The question of workable concepts of urbanity today:

- contemporary city issues confronting urban planners and architects,
- a historical perspective on urban theory,
- some basic questions on the character of urbanity in relation to architecture



Wednesday, November 24 in auditorium 5, at 9.30-12.00:

Human responsivity, the social life in public spaces and the importance of chance and the unexpected as aspects of urbanity

- on the research of the Swedish social psychologist Johan Asplund and the researcher of New York street life William H. Whyte.

Thursday, November 25 in auditorium 4, at 9.30-12.00:



Urban meeting, works, and rhythms: to live with and in difference

- on the research of the French philosopher Henri Lefebvre and the New York cultural sociologist Richard Sennett

Friday, November 26 in auditorium 5, at 9.30-12.00:6

Streets, the virtual community and the question of a workable architecture of urbanity

- on the spatial theories and urban implications of the British space syntax analyses pioneer Bill Hillier

-Summing up - new urban theory today



Enough students have signed up - anyone is free to take part. You can sign up when you arrive in the morning.

Bo Grönlund, 22.11.2004

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3.308 New urban theory (TE) - in English

Theories developed by 'non-architects' - seen in an architectural perspective

A deeper understanding of the phenomenon of urban architecture can take as its starting point either the city (the concept of urbanity) or architecture (the concept of architecture). This course starts the exploration of the phenomenon of urban architecture through a perspective of concepts of urbanity. The question of urban theory have in the last decades been developed in a creative way by e.g. the philosopher H. Lefébvre, the cultural sociologist R. Sennett, the space analyst B. Hillier, the social psychologist J. Asplund and the writer and moviemaker W. H. Whyte. The course will present their works on the city and also introduce to the last about 100 years of urban theory from F. Tönnies and G. Simmel through The Chicago School and M. Castells until today. Included in the course is also an overview of the 'urban' in planning- and architectural theories and a discussion of some of the current reasons for developing a better understanding of urbanity.



3.308 Some literature used for the lectures:



Ali Madanipour: Design of Urban Space - an inquiry into socio-spatial process, Chichester, 1996.

Johan Asplund: Essä om Gemeinschaft och Gesellschaft, 1991

Johan Asplund: Storstäderna och det forntida livet, 1992

Bill Hillier & Julienne Hanson: The Social Logic of Space, 1984

Bill Hillier: Space is the Machine, 1996

Henri Lefebvre: The Production of Space, Oxford 1991

Henri Lefebvre: Writings on Cities, Oxford 1996

Richard Sennett: Flesh and Stone - the body and the city in Western civilization, 1994

Richard Sennett: The Conscience of the Eye - the design and social life of cities, 1990 (på dansk: Øjets vidnesbyrd, Viborg 1996).

Richard Sennett: The Uses of Disorder - Personal Identity and City life, 1970

Richard T Le Gates and Frederic Stout (ed): The City Reader, 1996.

Rob Shields: Lefebvre - Love & Struggle - Spatial Dialectics, 1999

William Whyte: City - Rediscovering the centre, 1998

On the subject of new urban theory, also see Bo Grönlund's homepage
<http://bo.gronlund.homepage.dk>

Last years lecture notes and web links:

http://hjem.get2net.dk_314_Eng_v3_march2002.htm

