

MSA Events Week 2015

Architecture as Act of Intervention

We will discuss architecture in film as an expression of immaterial social constructs. This will be accompanied by analysis of real-world examples of these phenomena and the creation of interventions around Manchester to bring these issues to attention. Architecture is often viewed as an aspirational force for good, we want to challenge this convention, examining the point at which architecture becomes the embodiment of oppression, control and covenants. This workshop will provide students with skills in film-making, small scale construction and communication through intervention.

Collaborator: Vikram Kaushal

Discussing Film List

Students will be asked to watch 2 of the films listed below, plus one of their own choosing: Metropolis, Howl's Moving Castle, Playtime, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, La Haine, Dark City, L'Eclisse, Eraserhead, Chungking Express and Wings of Desire.

Discussing Societal Paradigms

Students will then be organised into small groups to discuss the immaterial social constructs that these films are manufacturing into concrete tangible structures.

Finding Localised Examples

These groups will then be sent out into Manchester to observe localised examples of these constructs in their current form. For example: In Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind, a machine is invented to help people forget others, what spaces in Manchester could be said to help in the process of forgetting?

Small Scale Interventions

Students will be asked to create small-scale interventions to create, at a local level, these social constructs around Manchester and produce videos of these interventions in action.