

VOLUPTAS

Voluptas is the euphoric daughter of its time – the intoxicating offspring of measure and spirit. Amending the millenary Vitruvian ordinances of firmitas, utilitas and venustas, Voluptas initiates a transversal investigation on contemporary issues and sets combinatory dynamics as the channel of proliferating singularities. Its looping trajectory toward a saturation of problem settings aims at the empirical emanation of an alternative view of the urban condition. Enforcing desire as its prevalent agent, Voluptas is the elegiac display of residual energy.

TEAM

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S1E4 VARIABLES

The semester VARIABLES attempts to identify, map and codify urban perimeters and to submit them to speculative regimes of constraints. Through the lens of a chosen agent, students build up a referential arsenal of manifold sources (plans, texts, iconographies, sequences, recordings) to survey existing situations and their historical backgrounds. Accordingly, each group designates a set of typical and exclusive metropolitan features and extracts them from their actual context: these features will be promoted as variables – which interfere with the primordial and domineering dynamics of a metropolitan configuration. VARIABLES aims at defining pristine hyper-contexts generated by hypothetical ruling incentives: as a marker of singularities, it is to become the varied catalogue of elemental urban idiosyncrasies.

ARSENAL

The Arsenal is an online collection of activated and instrumentalised media. In distinction to an archive, the Arsenal is used for – both – storage and production. Within the design studio of Voluptas and beyond it serves as a prosthetic tool for presenting the projects as cases. Alike its historical namesake in city defence, the main characteristic of the Arsenal is the availability of resources, serving a certain purpose.

VOYAGER

Voyager is a series of productive seminars launched by Voluptas, within the frame of the Seminarweek at ETHZ. The objective is to extend the Voluptas exploration of contemporary

life and desires beyond the geographical limits of the school. Over the coming years the mission of Voyager will be to conduct closeup studies of cities around the globe, each viewed through a specific filter. By superimposing a cultural work onto the architecture of a city we will try and produce a new portrait of the latter where history and contemporaneity are brought onto the same plain. Literally.

CREDITS HOMEPAGE ANIMATION

S1E1 CHAOS Michelangelo Antonioni, Zabriskie Point (1971) & Madonna, Frozen, \$hayne Edit, Swaggot Trilltape (2012) **S1E2 ORDER** Peter Mettler, Gambling, Gods and LSD (2002) & Peter Scion, Sounds Of The Space Age (2002) **S1E3 CONSTANTS** Steve Reich, Proverb (1995) & Adam Magyar, Stainless - Shinjuku (2013) **S1E4 VARIABLES** Cecil Taylor, Solo (1973) & Hito Steierl, Power Plants (2019)

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