

Blur Building and A Thousand Plateaus by Deleuze

Traditionally, architecture was used as a means of shelter, but nowadays the discipline has developed into various foundations. The Blur building for example is a pavilion designed for the public's enjoyment; it's a key to investigate architecture as a field of social relationships with the combined use of electronic media and natural elements. The concept of the building was to make you feel like you are standing on a cloud, mist is sprayed on the whole structure and you are given raincoats which vary in color depending on your attitude/sentiment which is calculated thru a survey you answer before entering the structure. As you walk thru the bridge, you are seen as an individual. But as you enter the structure you become part of a whole system, not being able to recognize anyone due to the fog thus alienating the idea of singularity. This can be linked to 'associativity between part to whole'. The structure's atmospheric environment is controlled thru the use of a smart weather system, it regulates the water pressure in relation to the climate and wind speed. Aside from the colored sensors in the raincoats there is also a location tag placed to track every person. These can be linked to 'data in data out' and 'algorithmic relations'. In the span of today's digital culture, such technological advancements are boldly mixed into architectural systems, which goes to show how important digital logics is.

In the text A Thousand Plateaus, a rhizome is expressed as a horizontal way of thinking, without a beginning and an end. It can be perceived as a transmission of knowledge through a network, where there is no systematic way of thinking. It can be related to the Blur building in a way that once you enter the building there is no direct path, you walk in randomness and without a direction in mind, you base your way on the people around you. A rhizome is depicted as a planar movement, having a nomadic sense of growth, it feeds upon the interconnections made along the way.

As a possible topic of research, I'm interested in using the principles/concepts of a rhizome. Principle of connection; wherein anything and anyone can be connected at any point one way or another, and principle of asignifying rupture; wherein even if there is a disruption anything can start again. As architects we are so used to creating things with boundaries and constraints, so having these ideologies and integrating them in how we create our cities may change the way we live.