
Digital-Cultural Ecology and the Medium-Sized City

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Abstract Submission Form

- 1. Paper / Proposal Title:** RENDERING ARCHITECTURE THROUGH A CONSCIOUSNESS ACCOMMODATED BY A COLLAPSE OF TIME IN SPACE
- 2. Format:** verbal presentation of a written paper
- 3. Author(s) Name:** Ephraim Joris
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- 5. University or Company Affiliation:** KU Leuven
- 6. Abstract (300 words):**

This paper evaluates the idea of an architectural phenomenology recasting history as the experiential content of speculative architecture. Such work and research is structured by architectures unique mode of intellectuality where the intellectual act cannot be separated from aesthetic experience. To underpin this exploration, drawings have been developed in symmetry to this writing presenting a protocol for producing architecture through the recollection of history and explore the possibilities of the continuation of historical experiential spatial qualities in new architectonic constructions. Such drawing practice allows for various levels of perception (personal viewing), strategized to avoid post facto representations in favor of using drawing as a primary investigative resource. At the same time historical archetypical elements are used freed from historical classification and taxonomy. The resulting practice thus holds a paradoxical emphasis on the congruence between intuition and tradition. With this paper I aim to indicate this emphasis to be a potential driver for a critical contemporary architectural practice.

7. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Ephraim Joris is a Partner of the international architecture practice Architecture Project with which he produces work in renovation and restoration practice. Recent international awards and invitations to numerous exhibitions and publications allowed the practice to disseminate a critical stance with regards to contemporary renovating practice. Ephraim Joris is also co-Director of program at the faculty of Architecture at KU Leuven University. At this faculty and in collaboration with practice he started a research in merging the design of lightweight mobile tensile architecture with the phenomenology of at-homeness, providing for mechanical efficiency and material wellbeing for its occupants on the one hand and set up the internalized quality of domesticity on the other. When larger tensile settlements are created they become obvious manifestations of technical accomplishment and widespread material prosperity yet also reflect a sense of alienation, aesthetic confusion and very often socio-cultural poverty with less tangible human values often not taken into account.

In order to indeed combine mechanical efficiency with local identity, culture and history IDE research correlates the spatial measurements of tensile structures with past events specific to the context in which the IDE structure is placed, therefore developing notions of place attachment, sense of place and place identity.



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