

Contact Details

Title: Ms

Surname: Monacella

Given Name: Rosalea

Mailing Address: School of Architecture and Design

RMIT University

P.O Box 2476V

Melbourne, Vic 3000

Australia

Telephone: (m) +61 (0) 418226210

Email: rosalea.monacella@rmit.edu.au

Biography

Name: Rosalea Monacella

Institutional Affiliation: Department of Landscape Architecture, RMIT University, Melbourne Australia.

Rosalea Monacella holds a Bachelor of Architecture (Hons) from RMIT, a Masters in Landscape Urbanism from AA and is currently a PhD candidate at the Architectural Association in London. Her research explores the emergence of new practices, which integrate and merges aspects of other disciplines. Her research focuses on the specialisation of emergent urban fields and the exploration of the diagram as a material operation, which considers the transformation of formal structures that adapt to the changing measures and orders of an urban landscape. Through her interests in the realm of design she continues to investigate the possibilities and definitions of emergent and material operations and how these explorations within design can suggest a mutually imbricated approach to design, technique and theory. Rosalea combines her academic pursuits with professional practice where she is a cofounder of the international incubator O24-7 who were recently given an honourable mention for their submission into the Thailand Memorial Competition, 2005. www.office-24-7.org, www.hivemind.com.au

Thickened Ground

What, in fact is sensation? It is the operation of contracting trillions of vibrations onto a receptive surface.¹

How can the understanding of sensation and resonance facilitate the emergence of time not purely as a 'contracted quantity: rather, it allowing us to perceive time beyond the singular or binary opposites, beyond the duality of the homogeneous quantity and heterogeneous quality and to pass from one to other in a continuous movement.'ⁱⁱ Can time be realised and articulated as complexities, making magnitude and operation inseparable.

"The waves of the sea. The little ripples on the shore, the sweeping curve of the sandy bay between headlands, the outline of the hills, the shape of the clouds, all these are so many riddles of form, so many problems of morphology."ⁱⁱⁱ

How can the affects² of change and its topology³ define an unclaimed space, shifting the categorical definitions of landscape to differentiated qualities of becoming: "...landscape is a system where a point of change is distributed smoothly across a surface so that its influence cannot be localized at any discrete point... The slow undulations that are built into any landscape surface as hills and valleys do not mobilize space through action but instead through implied virtual motion... The landscape can initiate movements across itself without literally moving. The inflections of a landscape present context of gradient slopes, which are enfolded."ⁱⁱⁱ

This paper will attempt to explore morphologies that are not generated by rigid Cartesian geometries of measure and order, but, generated by the continually differentiating site and the landscape itself. It will discuss form not as a pure form but as topological modulations where " a topological form (a singular point in a manifold) guides a process which results in many different physical forms, including spheres and cubes, each one with different geometric properties"⁴

Consequently, suggesting how we may shift our ideas about representing fragmentary systems of landscape, and the built environment, and rather, consider these organisations as dynamic set of inseparable singularities that influence each other and result in an urban landscape which is derived from both the virtual and real concepts of change and time. The paper will attempt to reinforce the investigation in problems of projection and notations of landscape and the

¹ Thompson, D'Arcy, "On Growth and form" pg 16

² **Affects:** An individual may be characterized by a fixed number of definite properties (extensive and qualitative) and yet possess an indefinite number of capacities to affect and be affected by other individuals. The degree of openness of this set of possible interactions will vary from individual to individual. In the realm of chemistry, for instance, different chemical elements, those capacities of carbon, for instance, vastly outperforming those of inert gases. (DeLanda, Manuel, Intensive science and virtual Pphilosophy, pg 62)

³ **Topological space:** It is quite natural to make P a topological space with the convention that if, the point representing a systems lies outside a certain closed set K of P, the qualitative nature of the state does not vary for a sufficiently small deformation of this state. Each type, each form of the process then corresponds to a connected component P-K. Rene Thom

⁴ Delanda, M " Intensive science & virtual philosophy" pg 15

problems of morphogenesis, as shifting planes that are differentiated by material difference and qualitative performance.

¹ Gilles Deleuze(1988) *Bergsonism*, New York: Zone Books. pg 74

ⁱⁱ *ibid.* pg 74

ⁱⁱⁱGreg Lynn (1999) *Animate Form*, New York: Princeton Architectural Press. pg 29