DS10   WeWantToLearn.net – The Architecture of Joy   2013-14

Shipwreck and Fractal Cult – Built by DS10 at Burning Man 2013

DS10 is obsessed with analogue experiments combined with digital tools, while daring to be naïve, curious and optimistic. The studio is passionate about natural structural systems and believe that sustainable design is a given, not an option. They believe architects should be entrepreneurs, and value combinations of architectural quality with social responsibility. Through the use of digital tools, for analysis, formal generation and fabrication, we seek an architecture of beauty which responds intelligently to its environment, and sits within a wider cultural context, and we believe that architecture should be fun!

BRIEF01: SYSTEM: (October) We will begin by analysis and comparison of three related systems:
1) Structural: A temporary man-made structure.
2) Natural: A naturally occuring form with similar properties.
3) Mathematical: Defining the rules which generate a similar geometry.
Through parametric, physical modelling and diagrams, we want you to make the three systems your own, extracting the rules behind them. This will be accompanied by parametric and BIM software training sessions (Rhino3D, Grasshopper and Revit), environmental analysis (Geco, Diva, Ecotect and Vasari), physics modelling (Karamba, Kangaroo, Millipede), recursion (C# and Hoopsnake) and rendering classes (Maxwell) with each student developing an arsenal of digital skills to incorporate in later work.

BRIEF2A: FESTIVAL: (November) Continuing our exploration of Burning Man Festival, and its ten guiding principles, and widening our arena of research to include other festivals worldwide, students will develop a narrative and propose beautiful, playful, buildable temporary structures with the aim of inspiring awe and joy, and will again be assisted in the process of seeking funding to realise their proposals as a group during the Summer. Students will be expected to deliver a large model of a portion of their proposals as well as a cost estimate for the build.

BRIEF2B: REALIZE: (December) Expanding on their Brief2A work, students will develop their designs by adding program and increasing scale and complexity as well as understanding in detail the buildability of their proposals. Projects will be designed for a specific cultural event which brings people together into a single space to share a common experience of joy and celebration, and the architecture should reflect upon and provide a commentary on the well researched specificicity of the chosen event.

Website: New students will join the WeWantToLearn.net community and become authors of our lively blog, posting progress, resources, links and pictures.

Trip: We will drink sangria in Seville under Jurgen Mayer's timber canopy and visit Granada's beautiful Alhambra.

Tutors: Toby Burgess and Arthur Mamou-Mani