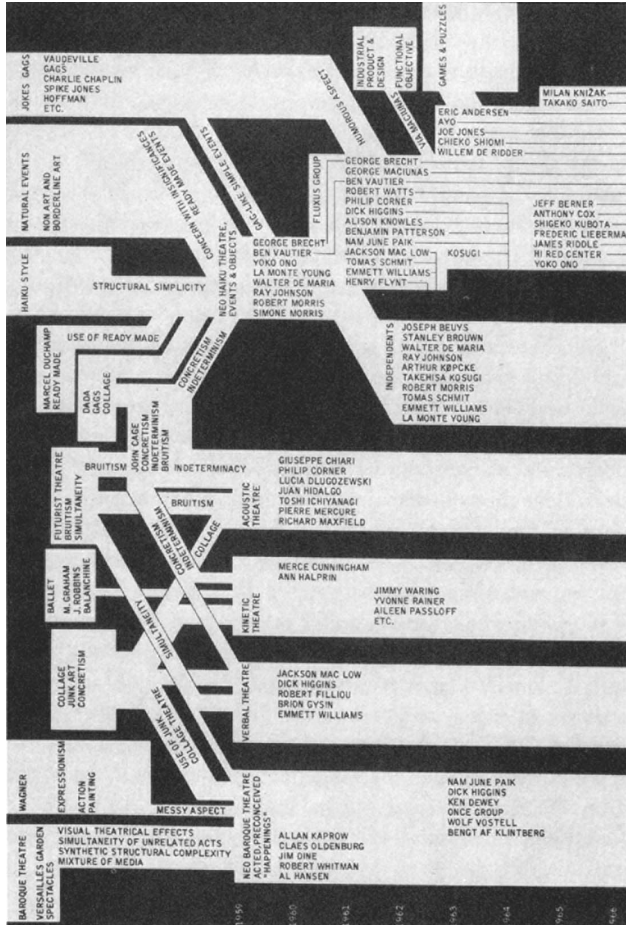


New York Institute of Technology,
 School of Architecture and Design
 AAID 160 – Section 05
 Alan Smart



George Maciunas, *Fluxus (Its historical Development and Relationship to Avant-Garde Movements)*, 1967

Project 2: Conditions and Relations

Constant revolutionising of production, uninterrupted disturbance of all social conditions, everlasting uncertainty and agitation distinguish the bourgeois epoch from all earlier ones. All fixed, fast-frozen relations, with their train of ancient and venerable prejudices and opinions, are swept away, all new-formed ones become antiquated before they can ossify. All that is solid melts into air, all that is holy is profaned, and man is at last compelled to face with sober senses, his real conditions of life, and his relations with his kind.

— Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels,
The Manifesto of the Communist Party, 1888

02.01.01

Beginning with the list provided, research the cultural infrastructure that supports discourses on architecture, design, urbanism and related art practice. Look for spaces that stage exhibitions and venues for talks, conferences, film screenings and other events. Determine what kinds of material and conversations each space supports and what the motivations for doing so are. Think about how these organizations and institutions relate to one another and exist in the larger cultural context. In other words, what are the conditions by which discourse is produced and how does it structure relations?

Please add to the list any information you find that is not already there.

02.01.02 (in section report 03/05)

Once you have sketched this map of the cultural landscape identify the parts of it that interest you and that seem to be addressing the issues that relate to your architectural practice. Attend as many events and visit as many spaces as you are able. Be sure to ask questions when you are able to and make every effort to meet and have conversations with both the people producing and presenting work and members of the “publics” created by these events who share your interests.

Take detailed notes and be ready to report back to the section on what is going on in the discourse.

02.02.01 (due 03/12)

Choose either one exhibition, event, or lecture or two related exhibitions, events or lectures (or some combination) that you would like to review. Submit a short, one-paragraph, project statement explaining what you will write on and how you will contextualize it relative to the texts we have read and the issues we have discussed in class.

Name these files as follows:

Arch150_Sec05_Project02_Lastname_Fristname_01proposal

02.02.02 (due 03/26)

Write a 1200 to 1600 review of your exhibition or event discussed in relation to a specific set of issues addressed in this course. Cite material carefully and reference at least three texts from the course readings in ways that allow you to rigorously define the terms of your critical analyses. Make an effort to identify -

how the issues you discuss appear in current discourses and what their stakes are in the contemporary context. Specifically consider how the exhibition or event you review works to frame these issues and develop a position in relation to other positions. Also, attempt to identify the ways that the object of your review constructs a conception of architecture and the work of architects in the present moment. Consider the way that a history of architecture is narrated, how contemporary architecture is defined and what, if any, future is posited for Architecture and the things it relates to. What issues are presented as being important and why? What people and objects are discussed? What is the current state of architecture and how is it said to be changing? What calls for action are made? What changes are claimed to be taking place and what is driving them? Is architecture presented as “going” somewhere? Is there an identifiable “*avant garde*” leading this advance?

Submit your work by uploading to DropBox an editable .doc file of only the text and a multi-page .pdf of the text and any images used in your review.

Name these files as follows:

Arch150_Sec05_Project02_Lastname_Fristname_01