

# HOUSING RE-STRUCTURING

Zurich/Tokyo

The studio will focus on design of housing in Zurich. However, the requirement of this semester is not simply beautiful and comfortable housing. The focus through the design process of housing will be the development of new ideas for living. By means of "re-structuring" lifestyles, residential spaces, societies, communities and the environments, we aim to pursue what a new type of architecture leading the forthcoming generation should be.

The act of designing architecture for us is regarded not only as an acquisition of planning technique. We fundamentally think that training the "eye" to observe lifestyles, cities and environments critically is as important and creative an act as designing. This is practiced during the semester as a process of "re-structuring", which consists of observing and reconsidering surrounding circumstances, discovering doubts and potentials from existing conditions, decomposing their conventional frameworks, creating their new form following the future vision, and representing it as an architectural proposal.

Within our contemporary society of rapid urbanization and globalization, various aspects appear. What composes a city and urban lifestyles? What kind of spaces allows these lifestyles? Are conventional programmatic distinctions such as 'living room' or 'bedroom' appropriate for these lifestyles? What are communities within a city? What kind of spaces supports such communities? How can renewal, growth, history and memory coexist within a city? How can architecture adapt to the local and global environments?

In Tokyo, various architectural projects implying intentions of "re-structuring" have been practiced. Their developments are based on the specific urban context of Tokyo, such as high density and programmatic mixture. Nevertheless they contain adaptable generality to different conditions. With reference to those projects in Japan, how can we apply "re-structuring" to the city of Zurich? What kind of urban context can conduct specific architectural ideas?

By observing ones surroundings with a creative "eye", our goal will be to design innovative housing proposals which challenge conventional norms and propose future images for urban lifestyles and environments.

Accompanying the design studio, participation in the seminar trip to Tokyo is recommended to the studio participants.

Visiting Professor Manabu Chiba Studio HS09  
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Exercise Type: O  
Introduction: 15.09.2009, 10:00 HIQ C1

