

Aqueous Aggregations

Graduate Option Studio
Ply architecture
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The studio will explore the use of concrete as a robust building material capable of both revealing the traces of its own fabrication as well as its potential to suppress the tectonic expression of construction. The studio will explore both site cast and pre-cast building methods. Particular attention will be paid to understanding the potential of digital technologies to affect both the design of form and formwork. The studio will attempt to discover new spatial paradigms generated by perceived misregistration between form and the sensorial affects of surface.

Research will be driven by questions based on the direct physical and visceral impact of material studies rather than questions of meaning or representation. The research will be held responsible to the realities and economies of architectural assembly and construction. Students will be exposed to and explore both hard and soft production technologies as a proving ground for research into the creation of material surface affects that emerge from investigations into the predominant flatness of common building materials.

Specific studies will examine blurred boundaries, graded differences and inarticulate edges. Material and surface studies will be tested through contrary applications at various scales relative to a morphological investigation into larger formal configurations as proposals for an addition to Marcel Breuer's Gross Point Public Library outside of Detroit.

As part of the studio the students will visit the site, Ford's River Rouge Plant, and The Henry Ford Museum as well as a number of fabrication facilities in the Detroit Metro area.

top image: Bridgit Riley: Streak 2, 1979
bottom image: dazzle painted ship, 1910ca.

