

three-dimensional design

vo 1h, ue 4h ws 2010-11 lva-nr.: 258.045, 258.046

Shape transition

Every designer and architect must be able to create shapely transitions. The way a column merges with the a roof construction or a table leg with the top is always a problem formal design where component parts relate to each other and structures need to be reconciled or harmonized. We will be devoting this year's applied study course to the topic of form transition in order to raise the awareness of this formal problem among prospective architects.

We understand form transition to be all types of plastic interposition and conjunction, every kind of 'mediating in-between' or 'plastic bridge'. This could be a connecting element which is inserted or integrated between already extant and clearly defined objects; a merging element where the form transition represents a smoothing of the intersection of two distinct elements or a connecting element spanning between the planes

and contours of clearly separate forms. The assumed initial situation in all instances will be a two or multiple part composite. In any event, the central issue will be whether and in what manner the structure of the formal elements being connected has been taken into consideration in the form transition.

The semester applied study is divided into four parts: first examples in our physical environment will be sought to make the manifest diversity of the phenomenon of form transition apparent. The structural-analytical examination of forms, already introduced in the first part, will be treated in more depth with a selected example in the second, and augmented with aspects of transformation and modulation. In the third part of the course a design for a three-dimensional formal study will be developed based on the formal analyses. The compositionally refined design will be translated into

an exactly precise final model in the last part of the course.

Background
Liquid Table, Ross Lovegrove, 2002



Pier Luigi Nervi: Palazzo del Lavoro, 1960



Student project Erich Frantl, 1995



Yamasaki arch.: Qatar nat. convention



Marc Newson, Orgon Chair 2002

The numerous problems and questions arising from the set topic will be discussed in tutorials with your tutor. Adequate preparation is a necessary prerequisite for the successful treatment of the individual tasks. Therefore, guidance can only be given on a matter during tutorials when drawings or models are submitted. There are submission deadlines for each part of the course and the results for each part will be individually graded. The overall grade at the end of the semester will be calculated from the grades achieved in each of the four parts. Please note that only works by in-

dividual authors will be accepted.

Tutorials take place at the Institute for Three-dimensional Design and Model Making e264/2 in the main building (first staircase, fourth floor). The names of tutors, tutorial times, the supplementary lectures and the lecture examinations can be found on our homepage under:
<http://www.dgd.tuwien.ac.at>

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