



TEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE, MATERIAL POLITICS

During the last couple of years, people around the world have taken to the streets with banners and tents to protest injustice. Simultaneously, the news outlets bombard us with pictures from camps and cities where migrants use textile as protection and to construct private space. Textile plays a central role in the spatialization of politics today. The textile materiality of the tent was crucial in spatializing and sustaining the mass protests of the 'Arab Spring' or the 'Occupy movement', whereas in the precarious material reality of sites such as the 'Jungle' in Calais, the textile materiality has become a crude signifier of the international management of the undesirable refugee.

In the proposed workshop, we want to examine the spatiotemporal qualities of the textile. From the vantage point of Butler's (2011) embodied conception of politics and Weizman's (2007) definition of architecture as a political plastic, Anders Rubing, in a forthcoming book on protests camps, argues that the textile materiality of tents is instrumental in the way such camps create politics. Throughout this workshop, we endeavor to enter further into the political economy of textile architecture. How is the textile used politically, how might we conceive of its political potential, and how is this conditioned by its particular spatiotemporal qualities?

At the center of the investigation will be a serious engagement with time and the temporality of architecture. Does (the) textile architecture represent a condition of 'space over time' - an 'extended present' conditioned on the ephemerality of the textile material? How do bodies and the textile material interact to create this 'extended present'?

The aim of the workshop is threefold. Firstly, we wish to strengthen the understanding of the inherent qualities of different materials, in this instance a materiality rarely used in contemporary architectural production. Further, the workshop aims to engage the students in critical discussions about the temporalities of architecture and the relation between time, space, and bodies in the production of space. Lastly, our aim is to discuss how architecture and textile could be a tool for producing politics.

The workshop is ranging from theoretical discussions to textile construction, fixtures, and design. In the first part of the workshop, the students will discuss, read, research and draft designs. In the second part, we will try out those discussions as designs in 1:1 scale. The course starts with one day of seminars and discussions. The second day we develop designs and discuss the implications of these designs through a series of short tasks. The third and fourth day is divided between design development, production, and life-size tryouts and the last day is saved for crits.

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Anders Rubing is an Architect based in Bergen, Norway. Rubing is teaching at master level at BAS. Rubing's research is in the crossing point between Protest and Security Architecture; he is co-editing a forthcoming book 'The City Between Security and Freedom, Common and Conflicting Politics of Urban Public Space' (Birkhäuser, 2017) about the subject. Anders research about the relation between textile, bodies and creating politics will be published in the forthcoming book 'Protest camps in international context, Spaces, infrastructures, and media of resistance' (Policy Press, 2017). Rubing is also a frequent writer in architecture magazines in Norway. Anders is practicing architecture at the office Asplan Viak in Bergen.

Butler, J. (2011). *Bodies in alliance and the politics of the street* (Vol. 2013). European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies: European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies.

Weizman, E. (2007). *Hollow land: Israel's architecture of occupation* (pp. 318 p.). London: Verso.