

Building Kit

“Coral reefs are sometimes called “the cities of the sea”, and part of the argument is that we need to take the metaphor seriously: the reef ecosystem is so innovative because it shares some defining characteristics with actual cities. These patterns of innovation and creativity are fractal: they reappear in recognizable form as you zoom in and out, from molecule to neuron to pixel to sidewalk. Whether you’re looking at original innovations of carbon-based life, or the explosion of news tools on the web, the same shapes keep turning up. (...) When life get creative, it has a tendency to gravitate toward certain recurring patterns, whether those patterns are self-organizing, or whether they are deliberately crafted by human agents.” Steven Johnson, Where good ideas come from

A Building Kit [BK] is the basis for an investigation of a composition of function-oriented patterns and their application in the realization of a prototype in terms of mass production.

For example formal languages which were originally designed for the aeronautics, are taking into account many factors, such as wind, stiffness or radar radiation have to be analyzed graphically and be merged into one building kit. This requires an analysis of the prototype as it has been practiced in Exercise 0 on hand of utopic architecture. It is important that the elements can be produced by the industry. The design has visually convey that a realization might be possible, but the design can also be aligned as an utopic idea.

In the history of architecture are many examples which illustrate how architects have been inspired by the industry. Such as Buckminster Fuller and his "Dymaxion House", Ron Herron's "Walking City" or Eric Owen Moss's „stealth building,, , Constant and his „New Babylon“ or Archigram / Peter Cook's " Plug-In City " - to name a few.

The question, which arises here, is how a prototype is represented as BK and his evolution through the Urban Gallery?

Is it a building, a network or a growing structure, which determines the strategy of an Action Plan and thus the development of the classical master plan.

Thus, the modules and their behaviors are influenced in an overall composition by a variety of factors:

- production methods, parameters related to transportation and shipping, especially the intelligence of the individual parts and their ability to be connected in an arrangement.

Like the characteristics of a Fibonacci-based arrangement - the core in a sunflower – up to apparently indiscriminate form of coral reefs -based components, which are dominating our built reality.

Especially in times of digital mass production of the subject of „modules and their composition“ is not only interesting, but essential part of the basic understanding of an architect.

Tasks of the week: Design your own Building Kit

- (1) Research
- (2) Development
- (3) Design
- (4) Communications

Deliverables:

Add your Building Kit as a new Prototype into the Urban Gallery.