Abstracts

Architecture and politics: Böhme and Sloterdijk on atmospheres

Lydia Jørgensen og Christian Borch

The notion of atmosphere occupies an increasingly central role in present-day discussions of design, affect, architecture and sensory environments. It is mobilized in particular to emphasize and shed light on a pre-subjective, embodied apprehension of spatially discharged moods. This article especially focuses on how the notion of atmosphere offers new ways of understanding the relations between architecture and politics. Specifically, we explore such relations via the philosophical reflections on atmosphere as found in Gernot Böhme's and Peter Sloterdijk's work. We suggest that, in spite of significant difference between Böhme and Sloterdijk, they each offers important insights into how architecture and politics are entangled. After a brief outline of each of their general atmospheric projects, we demonstrate the different critical potential their analyses of architecture and the politics of space entail.

Healing architecture in psychiatry: A spatial grammar of recovery

Thorben Simonsen og Holger Højlund

That spaces matter in psychiatric treatment is far from a novel insight in the field of psychiatry, but novelty can be found in the ways that space is directly related to a particular approach to treatment, as is the case with 'healing architecture'. Healing architecture is a key architectural principle in newer hospital facilities, where the notion of recovery has been written into these newer psychiatric facilities together with the architectural principle of healing architecture. This article examines the juxtaposition of recovery with healing architecture in a newly built psychiatric hospital in Slagelse, Denmark. Based on qualitative material consisting of observations, interviews and documents, the manner in which the hospital building itself is expected to be an important component in the provision of mental health is explored. Based on the work of German philosopher Peter

Sloterdijk the article shows how the notion of recovery is explicated through three design principles developed by the architects during the design of the psychiatric hospital in Slagelse. The principles are: healing architecture, hierarchy and transparency. It is argued that the three principles together constitute a spatial grammar, which expresses a particular atmospheric politics in the approach to the treatment of mental illness.

Making room for change: Spatial tactics and the micropolitics of inhabiting organisational space

Rune Thorbjørn Clausen og Kasper Trolle Elmholdt

Literature on organisational space has pointed at the political nature of space. In this article, we explore the relation between the physical space of organisations and change. Through a case study of a media company that successfully designed a new headquarters with the aspiration to become an open, coherent and transparent organisation, we describe and analyse the micropolitics of organisational space. Using the concept of 'spatial tactics', we explain how initial intentions with the building design were resisted and renegotiated at the micro level as employees began inhabiting organisational space, by which, we argue, room for change was made. The study contributes to the literature on space and organisational change by providing an empirical account of how spatial tactics matter for making buildings work in change initiatives.

Trampoline House: Cultural space as political counter strategy

Signe Brink Wehl

Trampoline House in Copenhagen North Western neighborhood is a social space for asylum seekers, activists and other interested. The space started as an art project. It was a critique of the conditions in the refugee camps, and the space aimed to be a free space and show an alternative solution to the immigration policy at the time. Trampoline House exists today, and the migration debate is still a present focal point in the political debate in Denmark.

With the concept Critical Spatial Practice architecture professor Jane Rendell (2006) argues, that architecture and spatial art has a potential in addressing critique, free space and potentially change. This paper discusses, with starting point in the Trampoline house and Rendell's theoretical concepts, how cultural space can be a political counter strategy, and how art can play a role within this concept. Specifically, the paper explores to which extend and how the Trampoline House as space and art project has been a political player and change agent.

Commitment to non-commitment: The role of a cross-sector collaborative space

Jonathan Schmidt

Cross-sector collaborative spaces have been suggested to provide a way of organising collaboration between the public, private, and third sector to address so-called grand challenges. However, due to the complexity and uncertainty of grand challenges, establishing collaborative spaces is associated with considerable risks. Innovation policy scholars disagree whether public or third sector organisations are better suited to take these risks. Based on the case of Copenhagen-based BLOXHUB, this paper investigates the role of a third sector organisation in interweaving actors across sectors to configure a collaborative space in the field of sustainable urban development.