



HYBRID SPATIAL SYSTEMS

Human modes of organisation shape physical space. These increasingly predacious modes are powered by global demands oblivious to the unresolvable disturbances of biospheric cycles. This has created an omnipresent and pervasive type of urban space formed by the very mechanics of human subsistence in specific material-time-place formations. Such a context dissolves the modern urban/nature dialectic along with the assignment of urban designers as exclusively representing and facilitating experiential space and perpetuating destructive anthropocentric worldviews.

The task of urban hybridising is thus not simply to graft existing functions to create novel artefacts but to act within patches of territorial space by monitoring and facilitating the intertwined metabolic streams of human and natural systems (biosphere cycles, material flows, capital flows, social demand flows, cultural transmission,...) and thus strive to establish a vital and robust urban life-ground capable of change-ready disequilibrium.

The paper draws on research into urban and ecological constructs as formulated in the Project IP2100 for the 2010 Venice Biennale and the recently released compendium "Infrastructure as Architecture" (Stoll and Lloyd – Ed.).

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