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Composition for Architects - Forms and Emotions

Dr Aleksander Asanowicz

Wydział Architektury Politechniki Białostockiej
ul. Krakowska 9
15-875 Białystok, Poland

„... In architecture we derive knowledge at the same time from our intellect (intuition and mind) and from our emotions (intuition and imagination) as well as from logic (mind and imagination)...”

Ignatio Araujo

In the architectural creation process there has always been an inclination to improve the methods of designing in the way of „objectivization” of designing process. Objectivization which would explain why we do design in this way and not the other. In spite of the trend to the total objectivization (Vitruvius, Alberti, Palladio), the results appeared to be still subjective, i.e. they included methods of designing typical of the one and only architect. This fact made them completely useless in the designing practice. On the other hand one cannot underestimate their meaning as to this very practice. Because it is just thanks to them that the development of designing studies has taken place. We do learn not only watching works of great architects, but also studying their opinions concerning problems of form, function and construction. That is why it seems to be useful to collect experiences concerning the classic theory of architectural composition, which have been gathered through centuries, as well as to try once again to objectivize the process. Composition information arranged in the form of data-base would create the ground for proper functioning of an expert system uniting diagnostic and planning functions. Study of that kind, not claiming design applications could be an excellent educational equipment in teaching architectural composition. In the proposed teaching system attempts have been made to look at the architectural composition theory in the light of the perception of the form, and - emerging in this process - emotional and aesthetic evaluations. In order to define which evaluations have been most often expressed during the perception process of architectural forms, the students of Architecture Faculty in Białystok Technical University have been polled on the subject: „Which words are most commonly used in the descriptions of architecture works?” The answers were as follows:

1. monumentality	70%
2. lightness-spatiality	68%
3. harmony	60%
4. cohesion	52%
5. dynamics	42%
6. solidity	38%
7. statics	36%
8. chaos	36%
9. closed circle atmosphere	32%

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