also a lecture at **Symmetry: Natural and Artificial** Third Interdisciplinary Symmetry Congress and Exhibition of the International Society for the Interdisciplinary Study of Symmetry Washington DC, United States, 1995 The Machine of the Senses Emanuel Dimas de Melo Pimenta

title: THE MACHINE OF THE SENSES author: Emanuel Dimas de Melo Pimenta year: 1995

Architecture, aesthetics, cognition publisher: ASA Art and Technology UK Limited © Emanuel Dimas de Melo Pimenta © ASA Art and Technology

## www.asa-art.com www.emanuelpimenta.net

All Rights Reserved. No, text, picture, image or part of this publication may be used for commercial purposes or related to any commercial use, by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, any kind of print, recording or any other information storage and retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher. In case of permitted use, the name of the author and photographer must be always included.

The Machine of Senses is a planetary project. Non-institutional, without commercial purposes, without place and without direction.

A project dedicated to the redesign of our senses inside a *cyberspatial* planet.

A transdisciplinar and transcultural group of people oriented to discover sensorial implications in different languages and different cultures.

The first impact of the virtual culture and its consequent primitivization, produced not only the image of the *human zombie*, but also the mechanical illusion of an *exclusive* culture, apparently alienated of the human body metabolism.

The Machine of the Senses is not resumed to metaphor - machine of senses versus human body neither to a exclusive conceptual project.

Dance, music, politics, economy, massage, plastic arts, science, theatre, cookery, fashion, psychoanalysis, cybernetics, education, anthropology, workshops, mathematics, architecture, networks inside networks, books, texts, images, films, videos, lights, photography, lectures. A virtual meeting point - as communication in high intensity of thought and action, constantly producing new ideas and

new actions.

A project free of intentions about *how to improve the world*, but oriented to a planet in constant mutation.

While Bauhaus represented, in the first decades of the twenty century, a closed movement oriented to visual design, the Machine of Senses is totally open to all participation and dedicated to virtual design of humanity in the next millennium.

A possible physical support for a virtual project of a dimension like this could not be reduced to a building of closed and precise spaces, stable programs, or even to be restricted to the more or less arbitrary use of already built spaces.

> It was necessary to ellaborate a dynamic game-building, exploded around different places of the planet.

Parts of a space where *zombies* can give place to full sensorial experience.

Each building as fragment of a total building - fragments that, however, never will be assembled in a single place.

Mutable and deprogrammable spaces.

Elaborated like a huge tri-dimensional tangram, each building will be constantly created and recreated by the users themselves, in each part of the planet.

Each units will have in its metallic structures, cables, tubes, air compressed systems, water and every type of information fully distributed.

Each part of the building as a sensorial prothesis to be activated by the users.

> A kind of university without instruction, without direction, and without hierarchy.

Total contamination.

The architectural project has three levels of interaction. The use of the physical space. The links between buildings and houses through hypercommunciation nets. and the integration in other networks spread out by different cities and countries.

> Place for events and information, territory without precise limits or frontiers.

Almost *bricolage* of cultural references, the possible physical support for the Machine of Senses overtakes, in terms of architecture, questions of orders of value.

Each material refers to multiple trans-sensorial palettes.

Stone, metal, air, smell, wood, water, light.

Each virtual extension in the interaction of everything. Proportion, winds, sun, people and landscape. Hot & cold.

Also in Theatetus, Socrates said that the universe is change and there is nothing but change. There are two kinds of change, which may be distinguished not by their frequency of occurrence but by their powers: one is active, the other passive.

The intercourse and friction of these two with each other give rise to an infinite number of offspring, which are always born as twins: there is the perceived thing and there is the perception.

Natural & artificial.