

Mitesh Dixit

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TITLE

Transgressive Geographies: The Architecture of Territory

ABSTRACT

Contextual positioning, whether situational or ideological, has always defined the relevance of architecture. Utilizing varying methods of critique, analysis derived from Hermeneutics, traditional architectural techniques, and, most critically, the collapsing of multiple disciplines into a unified architectural method, Dixit's lecture will attempt to develop a cohesive understanding of the built environment by broadening the concept of context. A series of projects that operate at multiple scales and mediums will illustrate how design, geography, geomatics, political science, and philosophy are integrated to identify and expose physical, economic, and sociopolitical situations. Dixit's lecture will expose this method of investigation as Architecture as Territory.

BIO

Mitesh Dixit is an architect, political geographer and the founder of DOMAIN Office, an architecture and urbanism studio based in Turin, Italy. Dixit is a Visiting Associate Professor at the Pratt School of Architecture and a PhD candidate in the Department of Architecture and Design (DAD) at the Politecnico di Torino. Dixit's current research investigates lithium as a critical component in the spatial transformation of a post-carbon environment and reconceptualizes the territories that enable the production and consumption of lithium-ion batteries. Previous research has explored the crafting of region and border conditions in the Balkans, The American Midwest, Vietnam, India, China, and along the US-Mexico border, tracing the effects of ideology in the transformations of the built environment. Dixit has taught at the TU Delft in the Netherlands, The Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs and the School of Architecture at Syracuse University, the Faculty of Architecture in Skopje, N. Macedonia, and Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. Dixit's work has been presented internationally, including at the Venice Architectural Biennale, Franc Centre Museum, The National University of Singapore, the Chicago Architectural Biennale, the Bioskop Balkan in Belgrade and published in numerous publications, including Domus, Metropolis, Prostor, Serbian Architectural Journal, TAD Journal, and Wallpaper.

After completing undergraduate and graduate work in politics and philosophy, Dixit completed the Master of Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis and began his career at the San Francisco office of Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill. Before DOMAIN, Dixit was a Senior project leader with Rem Koolhaas' Office for Metropolitan Architecture. While at OMA, Dixit led multiple international projects, such as the MahaNaKhon Tower in Bangkok, Holland Green in London, East Block 30 in Cairo, and the Kuala Lumpur Financial District in Malaysia