

ANTWERP DESIGN SEMINARS & LECTURES 2013

'The Antwerp Design Seminars & Lectures' – ADSL - is an international event that takes place each year at the Department of Design Sciences at the Artesis University College Antwerp.

Its aim is to stimulate cross-boundary thinking in design and to familiarize students with an interdisciplinary approach towards design problems.

ADSL provides an international forum for faculty and student exchange.

Simultaneously, it's an informal platform to discuss current problems related to the education in design.



Olafur Eliasson, 'Take your time', The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 2009



Junya Ishigami, Kanagawa Institute of Technology Workshop, Kanagawa, 2007

[DISSOLUTION]

In the recent past some catastrophic moments leaving a post-apocalyptic atmosphere made the world realize that something regarding our attitude towards the built environment had to ameliorate. The tsunami in Fukushima came out to be a major concern in architecture, interior, urbanism and landscape. The Japanese pavilion on the 2012 Venice Biennale as proposed by Toyo Ito showed a positive response on how to deal and to go on refinding the territory and life.

In their art work called “News from Nowhere” (as the title gets its inspiration from William Morris’ book of 1890) and presented at the (d)ocumenta 13 in Kassel, the South-Korean artists Kyungwon Moon and Joonho Jeon asked themselves what the future holds for us today when everything – from climate, environment, societies, economies, countries, and religions to artistic practice – is rapidly changing. Their ‘retrospective from the future’, as they call it, is a reflection on the function of today’s society through in-depth conversations on current practices and thus suggesting future visions.

The Japanese architect Junya Ishigami projects new spaces with solutions for a future era where all materiality disappears and air, clouds, landscape and water are becoming the new architectonic structures. This way dissolution is appearing: a new product formed by dissolving a body, so to become a solution (it has to be said that in the Dutch language ‘dissolution’ and ‘solution’ are to be translated with the same word –*oplossing*–.)

ADSL 2013 is about the research of new possibilities and expressions to go beyond the known boundaries – *dissolution* –. It aims for a new future in architecture, interior, landscape and urbanism, where no longer the actual affairs occur, but through interpretations in art, photography, movies, drawings, diagrams and/or models, a new awareness of future spatiality will be set up –*the solution*– to become a new reality.

The ADSL workshops will explore the references on the theme of Dissolution and aim to investigate the ‘power’ of a variety of images and thoughts in landscape, architecture, engineering, interior design, monument care, through a poetic and personal intuition in order to reach beyond the specific discipline. A lecture series on ‘solutions’ accompanies the whole event’s reflection.

Christian Kieckens