

ANTWERP DESIGN SEMINARS & LECTURES

'The Antwerp Design Seminars & Lectures' are an international event which takes place each year at the College of Design Sciences. Its aim is to stimulate cross boundary thinking in design and to familiarize students with an interdisciplinary approach towards design problems.

The Antwerp Design Seminars and Lectures provide an international forum for faculty and student exchange. At the same time, it is an informal platform to discuss actual problems related to design education.

[HAPPINESS]

Events such as 'The International Style' (New York MoMa, 1933), 'The Presence of the Past' (Architecture Biennale Venice, 1980) and 'The Revision of the Modern' (DAM, Frankfurt am Main, 1984) always had a big response in the diffusion of architectonic languages and consciousness. Recently in the education of architects, this means the transmission of architectonic knowledge towards new models, other important statements arised.

On his sketch published on the cover of the exhibition catalogue *Looking for Luck*, Aldo Rossi wrote 'The Way to the School'. Since the second half of the 20th century there is an ongoing evolution in which architecture institutes intend to be a motive to the development of a 'school of/for/over architecture'. Sometimes it's about ideologies, intelligence, history, other times is it just centered around the ideas of one singular figure.

The concept of happiness in the sense of luck is derived from the mid-German word *Gelücke* that a.o. means 'the way something looks good'. The definition of being lucky depends also on the sense of outside circumstances, the individual attitude and the self-affirmation of the proper situation.

Happiness is an abstract concept, hard to describe scientifically. According to an old Chinese saying 'something to hope for' is one of the three things of which happiness consists.

In his book *The Architecture of Happiness* Alain de Botton describes that in multiform architectures the pursuit of happiness goes further. Because striving towards happiness demonstrates a constant in private and public life, a critical occupation in our discipline is indispensable.

With a large body of positive psychological research in mind, one can state that happiness is one of the main goals in both education and practice of architecture and that 'the practice of architecture' should be 'the practice of happiness'.

ADSL 2010 will explore the references on this theme and aims 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.