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Atmospheric architecture

The expanding horizon
of environmental design

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Theses

1. The meaninghorizon and scope of aesthetics have changed. The subject of aesthetics is no longer confined to art but encompasses human beings as subjects who perceive, experience, and evaluate the qualities of their experiences. Aesthetics, therefore, focuses on the everyday qualities and values that we encounter in the world.
2. The aesthetic dimension is key to experiencing architecture. It is of primary importance to the perceiver and thus warrants special attention from the creative side. Aesthetic theories open up new avenues for architecture by making the aesthetic dimension understandable and directly integrable into the creative process.
3. Atmosphere, as an aesthetic concept, provides a fruitful and inspiring backdrop for architecture. While atmosphere is a diffuse and elusive phenomenon, it allows for an approach to the world that is sensual, emotional, and intellectual. Affective engagement is an essential element of experiencing the environment.
4. Through their own felt-body [Leib], architects are positioned both as creators and perceivers. The role of the perceiver allows architects to develop their sensitivity to the world through their own experiences, thereby shaping their creative attitude.
5. When we transform buildings, we also transform atmospheres. The relationship between existing and new atmospheres should be the result of deliberate creative and design decisions.
6. The concept of atmosphere expands the horizons of architecture while also emphasizing the limitations faced by architects, who cannot control all aspects. The liberating and limiting aspects of atmospheres together redefine the architect's