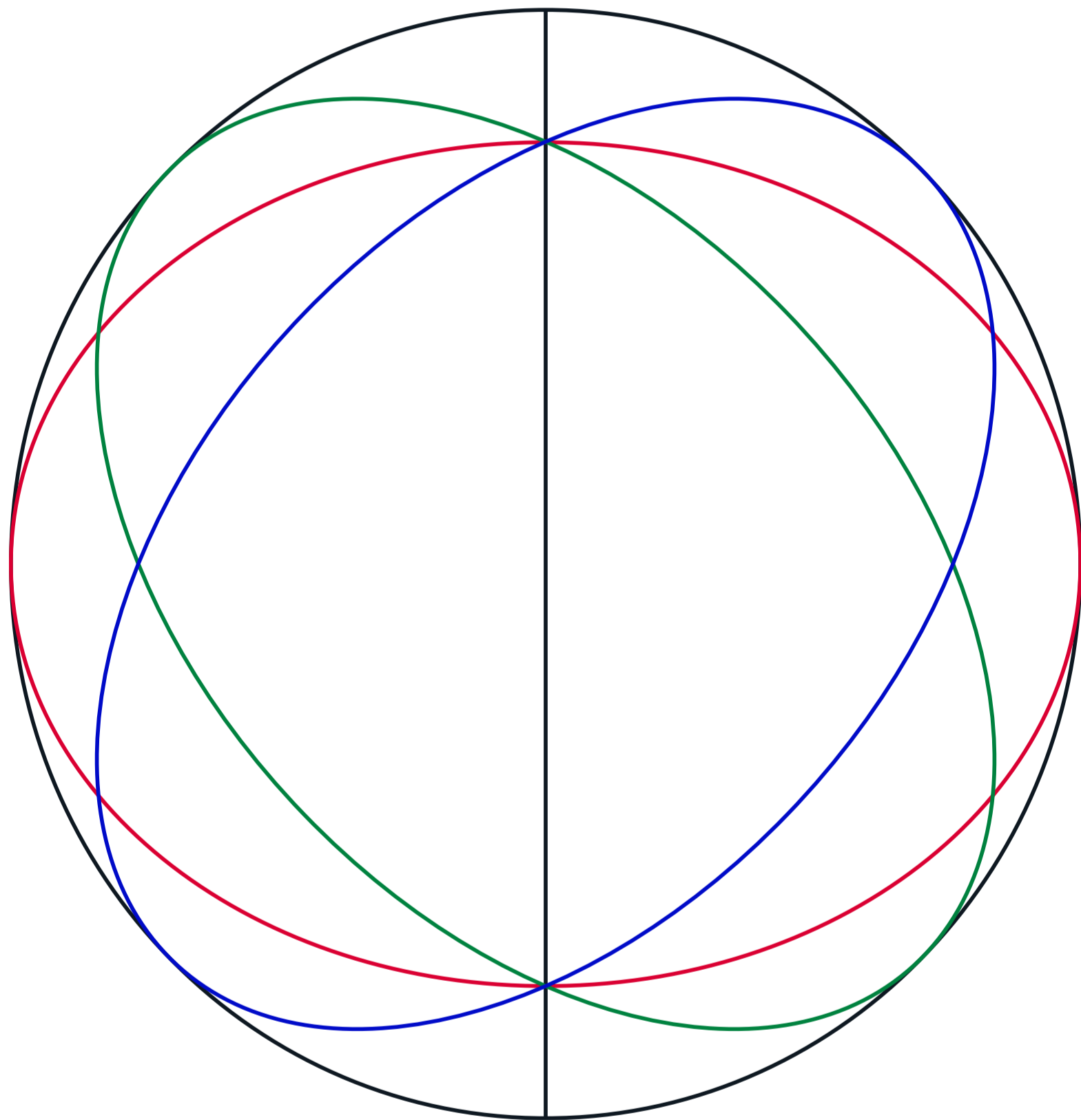


universum carrousel journey

re-practice prac-teach – a method

making meandering meaning – the studio

5x3, BE/CH/US



universum carrousel journey – a studio

carrousel journey universum – a practice

journey universum carrousel – whatever

ETH Zürich D-ARCH IEA – FS 2020

**prologue** A cool glass of white wine on a Sunday afternoon.  
 How you drink a glass of cool white wine with friends visiting on a Sunday morning, while you prepare lunch in the kitchen.  
 At first sight, this question has little to do with architecture. It is not really a question about a structural issue. Nor is it a question about a conceptual idea. It is not even really a question as such.  
 But it is perhaps the only real question architecture should pose itself. How architecture can contain life. Real life. The different moments of life. The scenography of life. Architecture as a setting for those moments of life. Or rather, to make a difference for those moments.  
 It is a question which can be a question about architecture. A question about architecture not only to be considered in the practice of architecture. But also a question to be considered by students of architecture.  
 To capture those moments of life with students. It is a start. A chance for architecture.

## re-practice prac-teach

Re-practice and prac-teach underlines the idea of 'teach-ing' and 're-search' from out of a practice based perspective. A perspective which is about making and meaning. About realising and reflecting. About meandering between the making and the meaning. But also between worlds—finding other universes—and ideas—ongoing and revolving—and cultures—the journey in between.

## universum carrousel journey

Some sets of words. Words of a studio. Words of this studio. Words of your studio. Words of a universum. Words in a carrousel. Words on a journey. The universum architecture can be. The carrousel architecture will be. The journey architecture need to undertake. Universum as a personal world. Carrousel as an ongoing world. Journey as a discovery of the world.

This studio is called universum carrousel journey. This studio's atelier will be given the title universum. The lectures will be held under the title carrousel. And the travels will be named journey. But they will be interchanged at times. As the studio is named universum carrousel journey.

## making meandering meaning

### agenda

#### first movement

W1	18.02	INTRODUCTION STUDIO organizing studio space
	19.02	TABLE CRIT studio work- scenery
W2	25.02	PIN UP – scenery
	26.02	RECAP – studio work – corner
W3	05.03	TABLE CRIT – corner
	04.03	studio work– Corner
W4	10.03	10:00 PIN UP – corner
	11.03	RECAP – studio work- house
W5	SEMINAR WEEK All students attend to Cornell University, Ithaca NY (USA)	
W6	24.03	TABLE CRIT house
	25.03	studio work finalizing project
W7	31.03	MID TERM scenery corner house
	01.04	Cleaning Studio Introduction Movement 2

#### second movement

W8	07.04	PIN UP – first throw of the individual projects in their new context
	08.04	RECAP – studio work – projects
W9	EASTER HOLIDAY	
W10	21.04	TABLE CRIT studio work
	22.04	studio work
W11	28.04	PIN UP
	29.04	RECAP – studio work
W12	05.05	TABLE CRIT
	06.05	studio work
W13	12.05	PIN UP – ?
	13.05	RECAP – studio work-
W14	19.05	TABLE CRIT –?
	20.05	studio work–
W15	25.05	Hand In organizing exhibition space
	26.05	final crits
	27.05	final crits
	28.05	cleaning studio

### the studio

The studio is organised in two movements. In the first movement, the studio will study five different exemplary houses though three different cultures. Belgium, Switzerland and America. For each culture five houses. One will be about 'architecture history', one about 'typology and tradition', one situated in 'the 20th century history', one 'the 21st century history' and one of a 'non defined quality'. The study will happen by section drawings and detailed scale models. The aim is to understand the relation between the making— construction, material and detail—and the meaning— context, culture and tradition—.

In the second movement the studio will design for each house two neighbouring houses. Of course each time based on the ideas of the other cultures. Like for example next to the American exemplary house two new houses will arise but based on the Belgian and Swiss understandings built up in the first movement. Drawing and modelling are once again key.

### regarding the first movement

The studio is organised in two movements. The aim is to understand the relation between the making—construction, material and detail—and the meaning—context, culture and tradition—. At the start of Movement 1, the students are divided into groups of 3 persons. In Movement 2, the studio shifts towards individual work.

### regarding the second movement

Each group will study each time 3 reference houses. Each time another culture (a Belgian, a Swiss and an American). And each time of another time or quality frame. As pointed out under 'making meandering meaning—see above—.

Each student of each group will work on 2 houses and implement them as neighbours towards the 3rd house. Each neighbour house will be a transcription of the reference houses studied in the first movement.

- The Belgian reference will be flanked by a Swiss and an American transcription.
- The Swiss reference will be flanked by an American and a Belgian transcription.
- The American reference will be flanked by a Belgian and a Swiss transcription.

The choice of cultural transcription will be proposed by the students but each neighbouring situation should embrace all the different cultures.

**the atelier** The studio environment is a place to debate the production since the last studio moment. Presentation and reflection are the keywords of the studio meeting. All material since the last studio moment is available as also eventual specific presentation material illustrating that production. Students will attend each studio moment.

**you can draw you can make you can write** The studio embraces the drawing. Making handmade drawings is part of the ambition. Making large scale paper models is the other ambition of the studio. Debating by drawing and modeling. Modeling and drawing as a process. A Workshop/ Seminar at Cornell University, Ithaca NY (USA) is foreseen and will form an integral part of the studio.

**practising a practice** Things that seemingly have nothing to do with each other all of sudden have something to do with each other. A practice. This atelier. The Studio

**the atelier** Three students work together. Your team. No team without individuals. Without personalities. Movement I as shared work. Movement II as individual work.

**learning skills**

group / individual	five pin-ups
imagination / reality	two reviews
thinking / making	
focus / periphery	and so much in between
detail / horizon	
temporary / permanent	

Making is thinking and thinking is making

**travel** During the seminar week (15/03 - 21/03) we will travel to Cornell University, Ithaca NY (USA). Prof Jan De Vylder will also be teaching at Cornell this semester. Except from some minor differences the assignment will be the same.

This seems an exceptional chance to have a real and intense exchange between the students of the two institutes.

The seminar is an integral part of the studio with workshops with fellow students at AAP, Cornell university, NY (US) and visits to a selection of houses. All studio students are expected to participate in the seminar.

As it's an integrated seminar, the trip will have a max. cost of 750 CHF (price range C) Travel, stay, excursions and all necessary materials for the workshop are included.

More information will be shared during the introduction.

**epilogue** Architecture is not a matter of architecture.

in A+U 561 2017:6, architecten de vylder vinck taillieu, ja+u publishers, Tokyo

**autonomy** Perhaps it is a matter of autonomy. Autonomy of the architect. Yes, scale. Yes, context. Yes, references. Yes, materials. Yes, colours. Yes, as much as it is always the case. But to find a distance all of a sudden. And to celebrate the autonomy. Which makes a difference.

**universe** Perhaps it is a matter of the universe. The rearrangement of what can be rearranged as a new world. A different world. Or at least as a different perspective on that world. A world known by no one but desired by everyone.

**bravoure** Perhaps it is a matter of bravoure. A matter of always and everywhere making things possible again. As possibilities no one expected. As to make possible that which was not and could not be expected.

**life** Perhaps it is a matter of life. A matter of how life can be understood and how life can be imagined. How it can and should be differently imagined. But how it really makes life. How it is allowed to make life. As a part of making life. And doing so.

**wendung** Perhaps it is a matter of wendung. A matter of going somewhere and bringing things found along the way. The wendung as the direction where to go.

**pleasure** Perhaps it is a matter of pleasure. The pleasure of seriousness. The seriousness of pleasure. With pleasure things go better. And become better. Giving more pleasure afterwards.

**making** Perhaps it is a matter of making. The making of things. How to make them. How to make them just so differently. Differently, yes, but definitely as making.