

# active construction #5

News from the Joint Master of Architecture, Autumn 2010

## jmag – NEW BOOK out!



Book cover of the new jmag

jmag, the Joint Master of Architecture's publication series, covers topics of teaching and research within all three partner institutions. This summer the first issue with a focus on the theme «identities» was published.

Architecture always seems to situate itself at the intersection of the specific with the general. Within society, individuals, businesses, political and religious movements, nations, and continents identify with their architecture. Architecture stands in a middle ground where identities forge and confront themselves continuously. Identity is a commonplace for architecture, but its dimension therein is inescapably problematic. Is architecture merely a framework for identity, or does it, on the contrary, play an active role in its construction? The present work questions notions of architectural identity, connecting them to different areas of expertise, disciplines, and practices. Its series of essays, their overlapping, the emergence of parallel projects, show that the meanings of architectural works, like those of words, are at once multiple and contiguous.

Info: [www.jointmaster.ch](http://www.jointmaster.ch) > publication > jmag

## Project studio «Urban Museum Lausanne»



MCBA – photomontage 2b architectes

The Studio Urban Museum will use the current competition «Nouveau Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts» as an inducement for coming up with alternative suggestions for the planned museum quarter in Lausanne. The railway brown-field site immediately adjacent to the main railway station of Lausanne allows for the investigation of urbanisation processes alongside traffic infrastructure and tackles the question of how new urbanity can be generated.

The aim is the development, in co-operation with museums specialists – both practitioners and theoreticians –, of architectural projects that are both innovative and realistic. Theme-specific workshops will provide the students with opportunities to elaborate on their projects from different angles. An interdisciplinary reading seminar will create the connection to theory.

The search for appropriate sustainability is central to every semester project.

Led and organised by: Stephanie Bender | Tim Kammasch | Annette Spindler

Lectures at 7 pm at the Kornhausforum in Bern:  
25.11.2010 Made In Architectes, Genf  
16.12.2010 Bachelard Wagner Architekten, Basel

## «In Response to the People – the Social Awareness and Responsibility of Architecture»



«Open up!» (R. Sennett) – Filmstill «Limits of Control» by Jim Jarmush (2009)

The theory seminar S4 in the 2010/11 autumn term will take place in Venice. We will be present (4–9 Oct. 2010) when the international architectural discourse is entered. The director, Kazuo Sejima of Sanaa (Rolex Learning Center, Lausanne 2010), presents the Biennale 2010 with the title «People meet in Architecture»: «The Biennale must be everything and anything, fundamentally inclusive, in dialogue with both contributors and visitors. Buildings, the atmosphere that they create and the way in which they are conceived, can be the central starting point of the coming Biennale.» (Kazuyo Sejima)

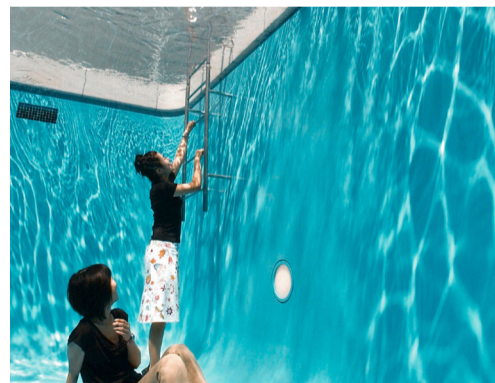
Working in groups, the students will analyse the Biennale based on this topic and look at how space becomes a medium, an open space for encounters and dialogues?

The students will also be supported by local speakers:

Dr. Florentine Sack AADipl  
Gastprofessorin Universität der Künste, Berlin  
Prof. Dr. Ludger Schwarte  
Prof. für Philosophie Kunstakademie Düsseldorf

Led and organised by: Stanislas Zimmermann | Tim Kammasch | Kathrin Merz

## The third edition of *elope* is getting wet! The project starts in September 2010



Leandro Erlich, Swimming Pool, 1999  
Installation 21st Century Museum, Kanazawa

The embedded learning-oriented project environment *elope* stands for multidisciplinary team work of students originating from an international network of partner universities. The greater area of Basel has been longing for a 50 m indoor swimming pool for quite some time. In order to bring this wish closer to realization, the *elope* project «50 m for Basel» will investigate indoor swimming facilities of the future and evaluate the local possibilities for such an infrastructure. A second focus of the project is the study of the suitability and the acceptance of concrete for urban infrastructures in transformation processes. The teams will

be addressing a broad spectrum of topics ranging from structural aspects, free-form surface designs, haptic qualities and comfort conditions, thermal and acoustic behavior, water-repellent and hygienic characteristics, including ecologic and economic considerations.

The participants are architects from the Joint Master of Architecture, process and construction managers from the Bauhaus University Weimar, civil engineers and mechanical engineers from the Tecnológico de Monterrey, students from social sciences at the European Graduate School and sports experts from the Sports University in Magglingen.

As a pedagogic novelty, the semester project begins with a two week «virtual kick-off» focusing on collaboration and communication tools, research methodologies and data sharing strategies. An initial research exercise forms an important foundation for the following trans-disciplinary team work. As the core element of the project, all students and coaches will meet physically in Switzerland in mid-October, to visit the site in Reinach near Basel, come to a common understanding of the task in each group and gain first hand insight into the research topics and the strategy of the project's industry partner CEMEX. After the physical kick-off including team and trust building exercises, the students work from their home universities using modern information and communication technologies.

For more information contact [elope.ahb@bfh.ch](mailto:elope.ahb@bfh.ch)

## «Edge of the Center» – a student's resumé



Model «Edge of the Center» Marie Mc Guinness

«We started this project with a long tour of the site we would be focusing on at the edge of the city of Bern. As an exchange student, this was a great way for me to get a look at another side of the city of Bern; raw, industrial and with its own unique character. After a tour in the now grim incinerator building, we discovered another hidden gem, which even the locals didn't know about, the Lichtspiel cinema.

From the early stages of site analysis and master-planning, we dived into our own individual projects, to carry our ideas through in more detail. For me, it was interesting at this stage to see the different cultural influences coming through in the work. And although we would have liked more time to get the projects working together in the final masterplan, they did sit together in an intriguing juxtaposition at the final review.»  
Marie Mc Guinness, Master Student

A special word of thanks goes to the visiting lecturers Philipp Hirtler and Matthias Stocker of pool Architekten, Zurich, who led an interesting guest semester with us. We wish them all the best in their new challenge as visiting professors at the ETH Zurich.

## joint master of architecture

Bern University of Applied Sciences  
Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering



## Optional Module Wood Research: «A new bridge for Thun – Mobile Bridge»



Millennium Bridge in Gateshead, England

An articulated bridge is a bridge whose whole structure or parts of it can be moved. They are used for bridges crossing shipping lanes in order to leave the loading gauge required for passage temporarily free.

On the very prominent northern shore of Lake Thun a new crossing of the river Aare is required for pedestrians and cyclists. Today's privately run Aare ferry is to be replaced by a more efficient means of crossing. The city of Thun now wants to establish in a study where and how a pedestrian and cyclists' bridge for crossing the Aare in the Scherzigen-Bächimatt area on the northern shore of Lake Thun is best put in place. The bridge will cross the shipping lanes on Lake Thun and will considerably shorten the distance covered from the residential area on the right-hand lakeside to the occupational and recreational environment on the other side of the Aare.

Led and organised by: Uli Baierlipp | Stanislas Zimmermann

## International exchange

Students of the Joint Master have the possibility to study one or two semesters abroad at one of the following partner universities: in Aalborg, Ahmedabad, Amsterdam, Bordeaux, Brussels, Dresden, Lisbon, Monterrey, Paris, Seville, Shanghai, or Tokyo.

## Collaboration with Fribourg and Geneva

The Joint Master of Architecture is offered by the Bern University of Applied Sciences Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering (BFH- AHB) in collaboration with the College of Engineering and Architecture of Fribourg and the Haute école du paysage, d'ingénierie et d'architecture de Genève. One theory week per semester takes place in Fribourg and Geneva. Lessons are held in English. The Joint Master studies can be completed in 4 to 8 semesters on either a part-time or full-time basis. The start of the autumn semester is during calendar week 38; closing date for applications is July 31. The start of the spring semester is during calendar week 8; closing date for applications is December 31.

[www.ahb.bfh.ch](http://www.ahb.bfh.ch) | [www.jointmaster.ch](http://www.jointmaster.ch)  
[master.ahb@bfh.ch](mailto:master.ahb@bfh.ch) | Tel: +41 34 426 41 74

## Further events of the JMA

Time and place check [www.ahb.bfh.ch](http://www.ahb.bfh.ch)  
**21.9.2010** Joint Kick-off Fribourg  
**29.9.2010** Information event Burgdorf  
**25.11.2010** Open Day Burgdorf  
**25.11.2010** Lecture «Made In» Architectes  
**16.12.2010** Lecture Bachelard Wagner  
**21.01.2011** Final Review Burgdorf

The Joint Master team: Marco Bakker, Stephanie Bender, Tim Kammasch, Kathrin Merz, Vera Reid, Annette Spindler, Rahel Steffen und Stanislas Zimmermann.

Hes-so  
Haute Ecole Spécialisée  
de Suisse occidentale  
Fachhochschule Westschweiz

Bern University of Applied Sciences  
Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering