

7. Global, Regional, Archaic Rural. Structuralism, Accidentism

Global

globe means earth

from the space the earth is a tiny „place”

the notion is relativ, it depends on the point of the viewer

different cultures may claim being global

global versus fundamental

from 15. century on, meeting of different cultures and civilizations, start of the long process of globalization, the European interpretation started prevailing with the proliferation of western civilization, this led to uniformity

dynamic, confrontative, constructive, but may be arrogant, destructive

global means first of all, being able to cooperate with the other, with the different

Regional

cult, culture more spiritual

civilization more rational

need for coherent view of the world, in all cultures

modern science and technology motivated western man to explore different regions, cultures often to destroy them

colonial cultures in 19. and 20. century

by the end of the 20. century the term „regionalism” appears in the architectural discourse, as new alternative to global formalism and new regressive historicism

Kenneth Frampton: Towards a Critical Regionalism. Six Points for an Architecture of Resistance (The Anti-Aesthetic Essays on Post Modern Culture edited by Hal Foster 1983)

Archaic, Rural

exploring the final reason, the origin of the phenomenon, method of natural science

similarly in humanities, exploring the primitive cultures, ethnic groups, as the sources of civilization, relation to nature, to life, to the transcendent dimension of man,

interest in the archaic structures of life

at the same time the constant need of getting rid of traditional, already meaningless codes of representation in the western architecture

such tendencies, already present in 19. century architecture, but prevailed in early and high modernism

search for the exotic, modern folklorism, ruralism, romantic reaction to industrialization and mass society

relation of modern arts to non-western cultures

rural illusions, idylls, dangerous means of modern manipulation

Structuralism

structure: what the phenomenon consists of?

finding the final elements and their relations

again paradigm of natural sciences, especially nuclear physics and chemistry

in social sciences, humanities, this means finding the elements of society, works of arts, and their relations

describing psychology, social psychology, sociology, structural anthropology, ethnology

Claude Levi-Strauss and others

structuralism in architecture

Dutch structuralists, Hermann Herzberger, Aldo van Eyck, Piet Bloomn

Japanese metabolism

megastructures- the urban scale, Moshe Saphdie, Yona Friedman, Paolo Soleri

revival of the ancient principle: „pars pro toto” (the part for the whole)

Accidentism

Adolf Loos-journey to Greece, encounter with the vernacular architecture

discovers the coexistence of strongly defined traditional composition and the irregularity of the actual,

inclusive open to the wisdom of the past

Josef Frank-modern industrial design, not exclusively non-figurativ, open to vernacular decorative and spatial traditions

Josef Frank: Architektur als Symbol

Bernard Rudofsky: Architecture without Architects 1964

Hermann Czech- the accidental in history, the everyday wisdom of building, versus ideologies and empty formalism, the tradition of Loos

participative tendencies Lucien Kroll

Contemporary examples

-Alejandro Aravena participative housing in Latin America

-SANAA Essen Design Managment School interplay of the accidental and the closed composition