TAYLOR'S UNIVERSITY Wisdom · Integrity · Excellence BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS) IN ARCHITECTURE THEORIES OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM (ARC61303 SYNOPSIS: REACTION PAPER (August 2017)

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Lecturer: Mr. Nicholas Ng Khoon Wu	Tutorial Time:	
Reader/Text Title: (A) Space, Place, Memory and	Synopsis No: 3	
Imagination: The Temporal Dimension of	Author: Juhani Pallasmaa	
Existential Space		

The text Space, Place, Memory and Imagination: The Temporal Dimension of Existential Space by Juhani Pallasmaa basically discussed about how human architecture serves to preserve the past and enable us to experience the continuum of culture and tradition.

According to the writer, the art form of architecture articulates the user experience of time between polarities of the past and future, they constitute the most important externalization of human memory. I agree that architecture images serves as a memory device to preserve the course of time, in which they concretize the remembrance of the place and events, therefore stimulates the memory and imagination of user. To me, architecture is more like a medium to preserve memories and existing fragments, in which they maintain the feelings and perception of temporal duration and depth of particular era. Take for example, I remember the time I paid visit to the Taj Mal in the city of Agra, the grandeur and beauty of the architecture forms and materiality evokes my emotions, the feeling of grief; enabling me to understand the love and sorrow of Emperor Shah Jehan towards her deceased wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

On the other hand, Juhani Pallasmaa also mentioned that modern architectural quality is directly associated with its degree of novelty and uniqueness, in which newness in architecture serves as a strategic necessity in this surreal materialist culture of modern time. To this extent it is hard for me to fully agree on the points made by the writer. I understand that modern buildings were designed based on the surreal materialistic culture and the aspects of aesthetic value. For example, the forms of Aldar headquarters located in Abu Dhabi has no significant regarding to the remembrance of place and events, but it actually marks the prosperous economic of the country.

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