

ART 387: Impossible

Architecture Realized Structure 3

The “RAFT”

In your Remote Art Fabrication Tools (“RAFT”) kit, you will find the following supplies:

- 1 hot glue gun
- 30 additional hot glue sticks
- 1 artist’s knife set with cutting mat
- 2 glue sticks
- 35 sheets of ExactIndex ivory cardstock

Enclosing these materials, you will also find a cardboard box. This cardboard box must be used as the sole composition material for this (un)Realized Structure.

Helpful Readings

Readings which will be helpful to complete before attempting this assignment:

[Gertrude Stein, “Rooms,” from *Tender Buttons*](#)
[Arakawa + Gins, “Living Body Museum”](#)
[Mark Wigley, “Deconstructivist Architecture”](#)

With these readings, we are interested in thinking about the idea of “deconstruction,” which *is not* about taking something apart. As *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism* explains it:

language is...nothing but differences. That is, words have meaning only because of contrast-effects with other words. ‘Red’ means what it does only by contrast with ‘blue’, ‘green’, etc.

As we read, think about “deconstruction” (as Stein would have it) as a “system of pointing” to whatever the object up for discussion *is not*.

Ce n’est pas a box

What you have received is a box. But what you will make *is not a box* and *cannot be a box*. However, your structure should contemplate the idea of gesturing toward what a box is and, as one of us commented during our first critical session, what the “full potential” of a box might be.

Your object must be made out of the box (and *only the box*), but must gesture toward it once was. Other “textures” that one might layer into this assignment include shipment, isolation, (dis)connectedness, or the nature of the parcel post. Some of these we’ve seen in other students’ work already. Take the lessons we’ve learned so far and apply them.

Deliverables, Evaluation

Like some of our other work, this project is based on successful completion. The following accompanying materials are required (in your project’s GitHub assignment):

- A 150-250 word statement describing this project as a manifestation of *deconstruction* (use our readings!)
- At least three (3) photos of the work uploaded to the **studies** directory.

Due 8 April 2020 by 11:59 P.M.
Points 100

Crit for this project will take place remotely; an additional repository will be created with guidelines.