

EPOCH VALUE

Summer 2013 AAD studio

#A4853 section 008

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Architecture that withstands the test of time by surviving the evolutions of society has a sense of value imbued in its core. Humans keep things of value and discard things that do not. They are highly creative beings with the ability to find new potential values even as the situations change. Buildings live or die under these conditions. This studio will explore the notion of epochal value and how it can be part of an architectural vocabulary that is relevant to our ever-changing society and humanity. This architectural relevance is a search for the defining characters that we humans need for our 'spaces', digging deep into the veiled realm of our intuition. It should go beyond an architecture of current trends, fashions or authorship and reach for a broader understanding of our epochal time period. The search for epochal value is the search to understand the core meaning of our time.

The first half of the studio will explore this notion through a series of existing case studies and design exercises. Many will be rooted in New York City as a way for students to dive into the inner workings that make this City. Based on this process, students will select the site and project type for the second half of the semester where all the previous experiences of the first half will be utilized. Consequently, students will be responsible for generating their own version of architecture of epochal value - and thus architecture of enduring use. It will require delving deep into the intuitive substance of one's own humanity.

