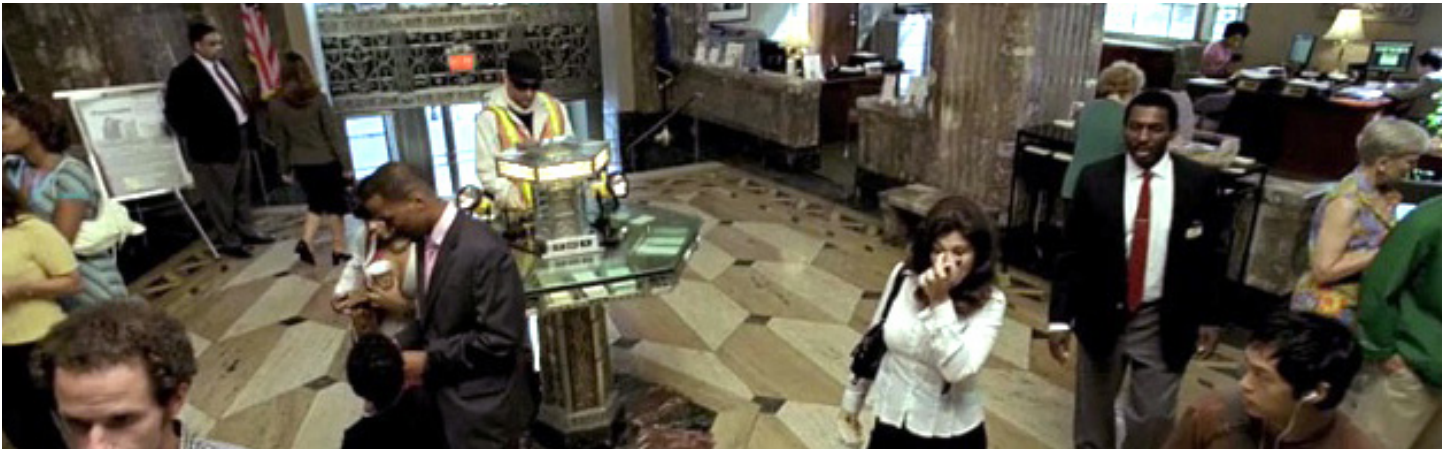


X-Change: Deposit or Withdrawal? (Outside-In or Inside-Out?)



The crisis of banks today circulates around problems of insiders and outsiders: do the community's collective deposits accumulate and accrue to greater access to the bank, or are we all still outsiders held back in the lobby? Is the lobby an envelope of a public exterior deposited into a private interior, or the public side of the bank interior withdrawn from the deeper workings of the bank and placed toward the exterior?

The question isn't really Deposit *or* Withdrawal, as both depositing and withdrawing are necessary for any engaging exchange. You could see this lobby exchange as an outside-in deposit, a void in the mass of the building, a withdrawal of mass. Or you could see the mass of the building as an accumulation of cultural, programmatic, tectonic, structural deposits. And withdrawals from that mass as an inside-out dispersal of those deposits, not so much something subtracted but exchanges carved and shaped, its own accumulation of public and private openings.

Which local or global identities, economies, and exchanges already at work or needing support in our site could you imagine depositing throughout your bank, sequenced as a collection of public working and gathering spaces? Blood Bank? Finance Education Center? Food Bank? Micro-loan Center? Co-Work Space? Local Production Market? Small Business Incubator Support? Auction Bank? Restaurant Pop-Up Test Space? Art Bank? How would that re-distribution of urban engagements re-distribute the working sequence of the bank, so that they mutually support and structure each other?



A4102.004: Core II Studio Spring 2015

Studio Critic: Mark Rakatansky

Studio Mentor: Amanda Orland



Part of the thrill or humor of bank-heist movies is how the bank's spatial sequence of masses and voids has been mapped in order to enact the break-in, breaking past the lobby into the deep inside of the institution. As in these films, can architecture find voids in the apparent mass as well as accumulations held in the voids, in order to develop techniques to work through and in-between these spatial and temporal sequences?

Architecture is the accumulated and dispersed spatialization of social exchanges, which are always engaged between insides and outsides across certain interfaces, from the scale of the body to the scale of the city. What new interfaces could be created between the outside-in and inside-out envelopes of the bank program and your x-change program—envelopes of tectonics, lighting, and social life that can laminate and delaminate as modes of accumulation and dispersal? What new architectural techniques can be developed to enact these exchanges, these deposits and withdrawals, so as to change the morphology, the very form and structure, of the bank and its architecture?



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