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Title Architecture from the Perspective of an Ecological Aesthetics

Abstract

When talking about built environments, we usually apply an architectural perspective. However, what happens if we reverse the perspective and look at architecture from the standpoint of built environments? My talk will start with a basic terminological differentiation, only to then reveal implications on a more fundamental level. It will discuss what is being lost when we study built environments from a conventional architectural perspective and what could be gained by reconstructing our understanding of architecture from the standpoint of an everyday perception of built environments. Key references/background literature includes Gernot Böhme, Martin Heidegger, Edmund Husserl, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Arnold Berleant, and John Dewey among others. Involved fields include Aisthetics, Environmental & Everyday Aesthetics, Installation Art, Architecture (<-- Please note: Aisthetics is meant to be written with an "i", so not "Aesthetics", but "Aisthetics")

Bio

Benno Hinkes (Dr.phil.) is a Berlin-based installation artist and theorist. As a researcher Hinkes works at the intersection of art, philosophy, and urban theory. His approach combines artistic investigations with philosophical research, particularly focusing on the question of a physical, multi-sensory perception of built environments. Hinkes is the author of: *Aisthetics of (Built) Human Environments – foundations of a trans-disciplinary field of research*. He has worked and lectured at Columbia University (NY), Goldsmiths College (London), Bauhaus University (Weimar), and the Academy of Fine Arts (Hamburg), among others. Hinkes' artistic work received several awards and has so far been presented at some forty solo and group exhibition at galleries, cultural institutions, museums, and Biennials in Germany, as well as in the Czech Republic, Great Britain, the USA, and Benin/West-Africa.