

The **F** Word

Fools, Fakes, Frauds, and *Formalists*
A Possible Future for **Formalism**

fabric fabricator facade face facet facetious facile fact faction factor faculty failure faint fairness fake false fallacy fame fantasy farce fashion fastidious fatal fatuous fauna fawning fazed fealty feasible feature feckless feel feign felicity female feminist fencing feral fervent fetish fiasco fiber fiction fidelity fidget field fierce figural filial filmmaker finality find finesse firebrand finite firm firmament fissure fixate fixture fizzle flagrant flake flame flash flatness flaunt flavor flaw flesh flexible flicker flight fling flip float flood flora flow flounder flourish fluctuate fluid fluke flurry fluster flux focus foible foil fold follow foment fondle fool foray foreboding forecast forensic foresee foreshadow forestall forever forfeit forge forlorn formal former formidable forsake forte forthcoming fortitude fortress fortuitous fortunate forward fossil foundation font four fortune forum foster foul founder foxy foyer fracas fractious fraction fractal fragile fragment frail fraud fraught freight frenetic frenzy frequency fresco friction frieze frizzy frolic frontal frontier fudge frugal fulminate full fulcrum fulsome fumble function furtive fusion futile future fuzzy **Formalism**

Syracuse University Florence
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE | FLORENCE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

Spring 2016

The **F** Word: **Formalism** THE **SCARLET** LETTER OF ARCHITECTURE

Abstract

The F Word symposium presents leading voices from design education, theory, and practice assembled in Florence to discuss the concept of *Formalism*, its definition, history, tactics, and application in architecture today. *The F Word* will explore the controversial air that continues to surround this highly debated term and try to reclaim the timeless virtues of operating within a *Formalist* ethos. *The F Word* will address our understanding of the relationship between *Form + Content* as it relates to both latent and manifest structural **resonances within a work**. *The F Word* will distinguish inherent elements of *Formalism* — including the linguistic-based collusion between *Syntax + Sign* — from common misconceptions and illicit misappropriations. The intention: to rediscover within a formally multivalent architecture the potential for an advanced notion of visual literacy and an authentic concept of *Formalism* for the *Future*.

Symposium organized by **Richard Rosa**
with assistance by Luca Ponsi

10:00 AM Friday | February 19, 2016

Teatro Tasso @ the Convent of the Daughters of Our Lady of *Mercy*
Via Villani 15
50124 Firenze, Italia

Admission and seating by reservation only

For reservation please contact: rrosa@svr.edu or lponsi@svr.edu

Morning Session: 10:00 AM

Welcome

Sasha Perugini

Director, Syracuse University Florence

Introduction + Framework

Richard Rosa

Spliced Scenes of Synthetic Acts of Formalism

Moderator, Syracuse University, Florence Architecture Program Director, Studio Infrared, Firenze

Espresso Shots

Four-minute rapid-fire 'Outline of Premise' presentations by each participant

Presentations

Luis Diaz

The Inevitability of [or to] Form

Senior Lecturer, BA [Hons] Architecture Program, University of Brighton, Brighton

Andrea Zanderigo

No Architecture Without Form

baukuh, San Rocco, EPFL, Milano

Judith Wolin

(A) Construction

Professor Emeritus, Rhode Island School of Design, New York

Afternoon Session: 2:30 PM

Presentations

Val Warke

The Physique of Unfinalizability

Cornell University, Simitch + Warke Architects, Ithaca

Luca Ponsi

Regarding the Basis for Formal Bias

Syracuse University, Studio Ponsi, Firenze

JEF7REY HILDNER

VISUAL EF9ECTS

Architect, The Architect Painter Press, Sacramento

Paul Lewis

Formalizing Section

Princeton University, LTL Architects, New York

Round Table Discussion

Symposium participants, audience, students

Reception to Follow

For symposium reservations or information please contact rrosa@syr.edu or lponsi@syr.edu

The **F** Word: **Deep Readings + Debriefings** An Exhibition of Student Analysis of Surface | Space | Structure | Symbol @ Le Corbusier's Esprit Nouveau Pavilion

5:00 PM Friday, April 8, 2016

Le Corbusier's Esprit Nouveau Pavilion
Piazza Costituzione 11
40100, Bologna, Italia

6:00 PM reception and gallery talk

supported by

