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Trans-Gravity: The Third Genre in Space Architecture 2004-01-2370

This paper presents and details the premise for a theoretical research project in space architecture funded by the Austrian Chancellery of Art titled: TRANSCRIPTS OF AN ARCHITECTURAL JOURNEY: MUSINGS TOWARDS A NEW GENRE IN SPACE ARCHITECTURE. The premise is that space architecture, like any other field of architecture, is evolving continuously and needs to be recognized as such. To better understand this evolution, the project classifies it in to three genres: the 1st genre [Voyage d'Esprit] comprises of concepts introduced through science fiction books and films, the 2nd genre [Man-in-a-Can] encompasses the spaceships designed and built by space agencies, and the 3rd genre [Trans-Gravity] is being shaped by professional architects and designers external to the traditional domain of space agencies.

The paper discusses the first two genres and then goes on to contemplate the 3rd genre through case studies. The overall objective of this paper is to: (1) recognize and discuss the characteristics and contributions of the three genres, (2) establish a metaphorical base camp for future space architects, and (3) create new paradigms for the design of future spaceships.

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This paper discusses the architectural design project "Transformation Structure Space", which was carried out at the Department of Building Construction HB2 in 2004. The goal of the study was to find innovative solutions for space system design through the application of bionic (biomimetic) approaches. Trans-Gravity: The Third Genre in Space Architecture. Conference Paper. Jul 2004. Space Future is for everyone who'd like to visit space. Features include the archive of space tourism work, information on vehicles, tourism and power plus mailing lists and the Space Future Journal. The grammar of architecture for artificial gravity should accommodate this fact. To be meaningful, architecture should have formal properties that are similar to other aspects of the environment. The goal is not to fool people into thinking they're still on Earth, but rather, to help them orient themselves to the realities of their rotating environment.