

Moving Design for Lives Sans Terre

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NETWORK

snowray is a company offering a unique combination of networked services to fulfill the accommodation, digital/physical storage and transfer needs of contemporary lifestyles.

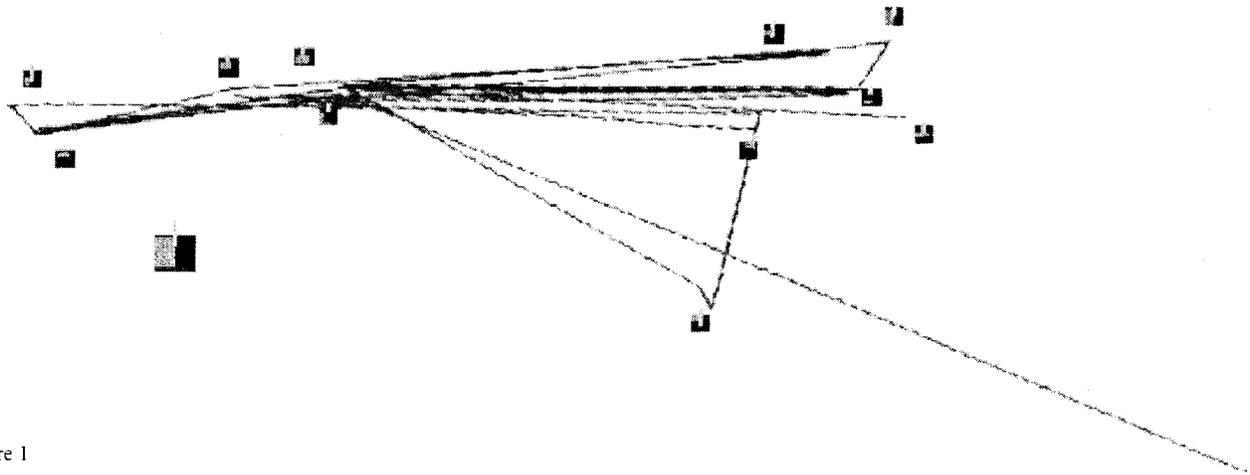
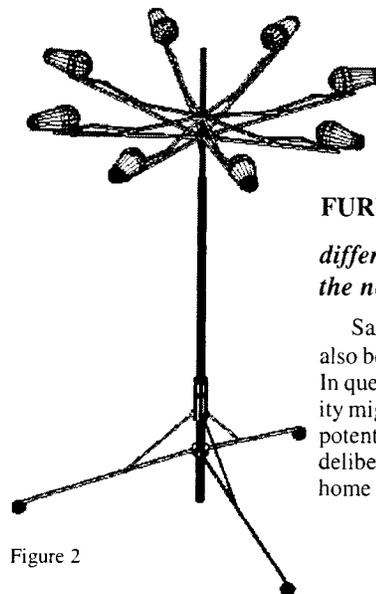


Figure 1

How may design address the contemporary conditions of movement, relocation, and change? Daniel Pink, in a recent article for the New Republic, wrote that there are now 25 million Americans who have declared “free agency.” One out of six Americans have abandoned traditional jobs and are moving from company to company, unattached to any particular employer or institution. This may partly account for the higher numbers of people who out of opportunity or necessity are relocating themselves geographically at such frequency and consistency that the traditional notion of home associated with stasis or the act of settling is challenged. Such mobile conditions raise complex questions of identity, continuity, and sense of property, and challenge the relationship to one’s environs.



FURNITURE

different classes of furniture provide windows to the network

Sans terre, which literally means “without ground,” can also be taken to mean the ability to be at home everywhere. In questioning what the position of dwelling within mobility might be, the thesis embraces life sans terre as a positive potential, as a creative generative force. The exploration deliberately challenges the physical limits of the idea of home and tests the portability of its perception.

Figure 2

UNIT

the living area requested comes with appliances of your selection

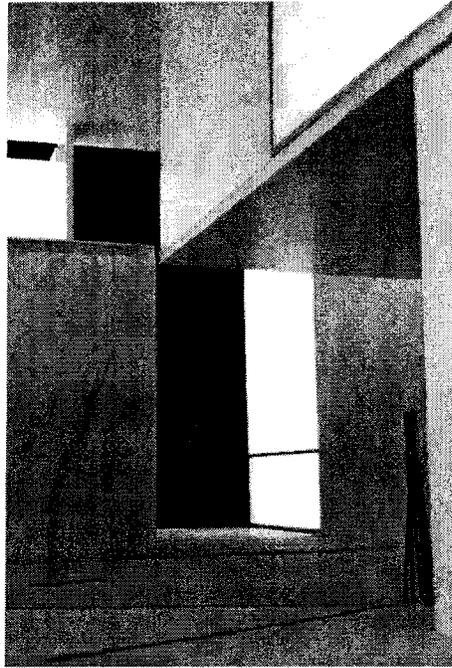


Figure 3

New relations to dwelling are now possible under conditions *sans terre*. This projects attempts to channel technology into uses through which new associations and relationships between users, machines, nature, virtual life, physical beings, place, time and space can be created. The thesis proposes that selecting the associations to form, positioning one thing relative to another may be considered equivalent to the act of dwelling, or the construction of one's home. The role of design is to find ways to allow these self-mandated connections to occur.

AGGREGATE

a porous structure allows for the contraction and expansion, and even non-contiguous distribution of living areas

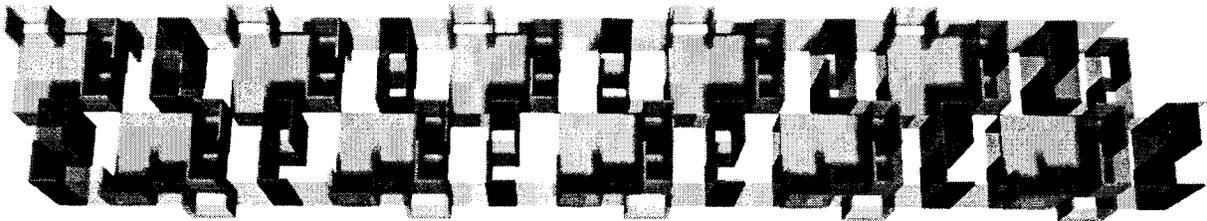


Figure 4

Once this goal is accepted, it becomes clear that in formulating a response, a solitary object acting alone can in no way provide an adequate solution. The single question of dwelling and mobility requires an entire bag of answers, a whole kit of tools for inhabitation. Architecture as building alone is not sufficient. A building in this scheme can only be understood within the context of an ensemble, a system of instruments of various scales working together. In concert, the proposed solutions strive to radiate different pulsations of time, perspective, and scale pertinent to the dweller.