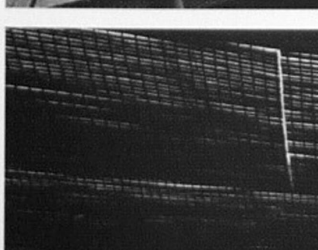


ZHENG GUOGU - apartment roof garden 2005-2006, Yangjiang, China



James Deutsher would like to sincerely thank collaborators, friends, family, Y3K, AConstructedWorld, UPLANDSGALLERY WorldFood, Jah Jah Sphinx, ffixXed, P.A.M., SiBLING, Gambia Cast;le, Sandwich Magazine, The Invisible Committee.

R&Sin(e) - Furtive, 1998, Paris, France



"I AM WHAT I AM." My body belongs to me. I am me, you are you, and something's wrong. Mass personalization. Individualization of all conditions – life, work and misery. Diffuse schizophrenia. Rampant depression. Atomization into fine paranoiac particles. Hysterization of contact. The more I want to be me, the more I feel an emptiness. The more I express myself, the more I am drained. The more I run after myself, the more tired I get. We cling to our self like a coveted job title. We've become our own representatives in a strange commerce, guarantors of a personalization that feels, in the end, a lot more like an amputation. We insure our selves to the point of bankruptcy, with a more or less disguised clumsiness.

JAMES DEUTSHER

Y3K

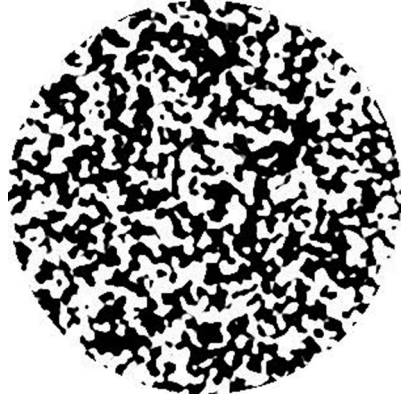
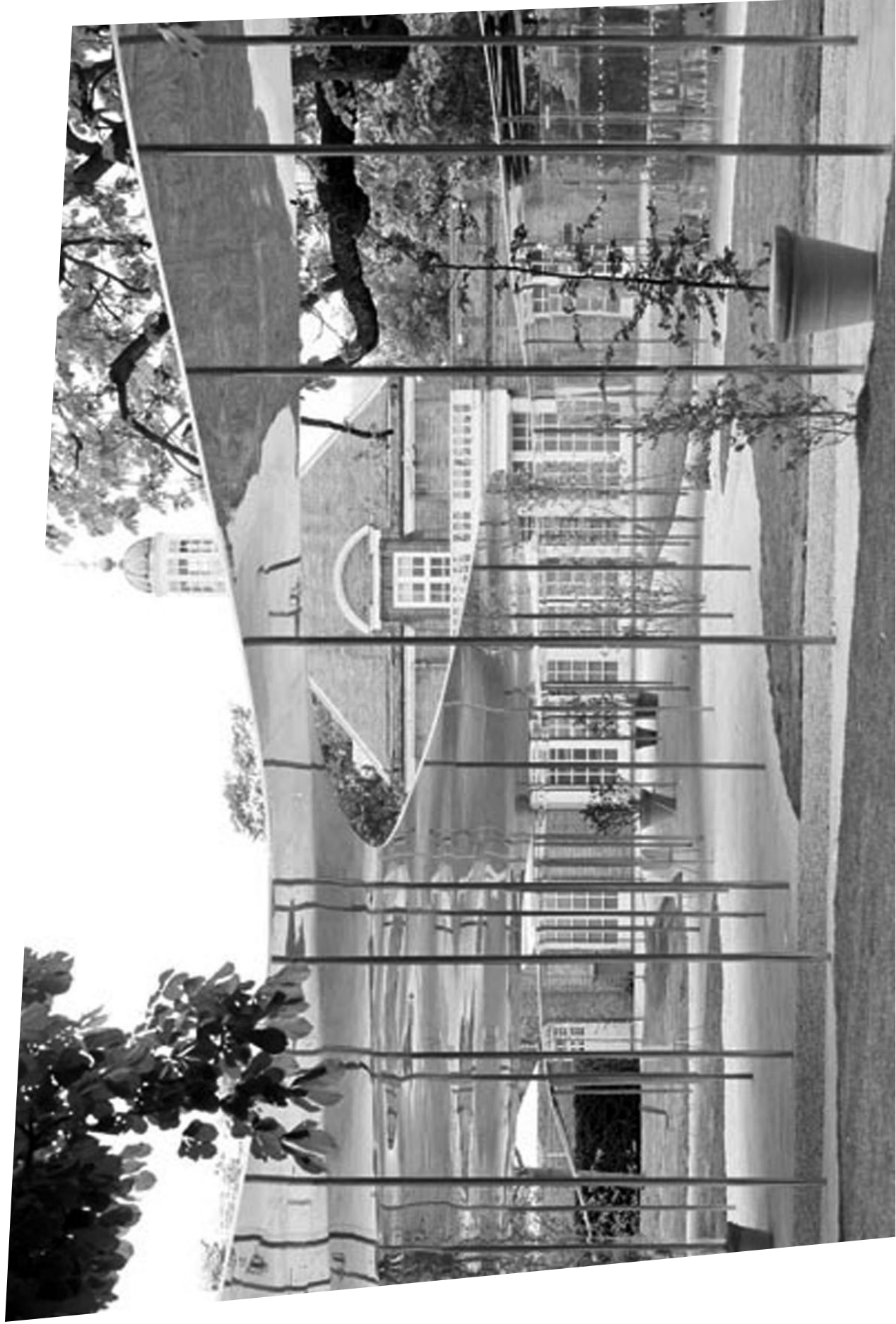
horoscope ecologies
(SPEECH and What Archive? project show)
+
We Are Building A Civilized Space Here

JAMES DEUTSHER - chain mesh project, 2009



Meanwhile, I manage. The quest for a self, my blog, my apartment, the latest fashionable crap, relationship dramas, who's fucking who... whatever prosthesis it takes to hold onto an "I"! If "society" hadn't become such a definitive abstraction, then it would denote all the existential crutches that allow me to keep dragging on, the ensemble of dependencies I've contracted as the price of my identity.

THE INVISIBLE COMMITTEE - The Coming Insurrection, 2007, Paris, France



SANAA - Serpentine Pavilion 2009, London, UK

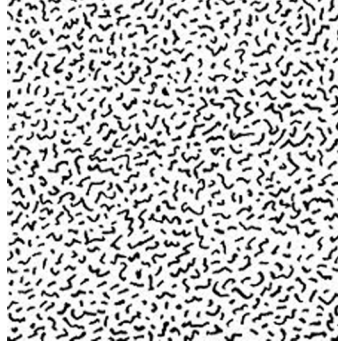
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Wellness Architecture

Wellness Architecture – despite being the name of a naturopathy clinic in Meleno Park California – is as ambiguous as any other attempt at labeling a style. Arguably the flagship examples of Wellness Architecture are Mario Botta's Tschuggen Bergoase Wellness Centre at Arosa and Matteo Thun's Vigilius Mountain Resort in Italy's Alto Adige region. Botta's – with its leaf-life skylights protruding from the mountainside under which the cool calm elemental grey surfaces of the bathing/healing pool sit – produces a complete space for the practice of wellness. The origin of the Wellness Centre is one of homemade architecture, horoscopes, ecology, bamboo screens, and chanting mantras. From the Maldives to Daylesford via Alto Adige, Wellness Architecture is a culture of homemade architecture, where seagrass matting, bamboo screening, polished river rocks and dribbling 12-volt fountains sit modestly, minimally and effortlessly within awkward and adoring architectural pastiches of Eurasian parentage, and sleek white-moulded plastic subterranean interiors of carefully lit pools and corridors are uncomfortably influenced by a combination of Japanese bathhouses and contemporary prisons. From a space where fisherman's pants and prAna shirts T'ai Chi the rising sun, to one where crisp white shirts and black aprons serve life changing Goji Matcha tea on mirror pools overlooking coral reefs. The plain and simple nature of recent Wellness Architecture has its obvious links to modernism but it is the homemadeness of these spaces that provides the healing aura. It is not a quaint folksy homemadeness, quite the opposite in fact. Even the most amateur and frugal wellness architect relies on a history and culture of meaning constructed by a sleight of hand use of materials to produce a sensory subterfuge. This is a culture of the self-made, the self-guided. It is about changing circumstances by subscribing possibilities that are conventionally awkward and culturally irresponsible.

January 2010

Jarrod Rawlins



R&Sin(e) - Shearing, 2001, Sommières, France

SANA - Serpentine Pavilion 2009, London, UK

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