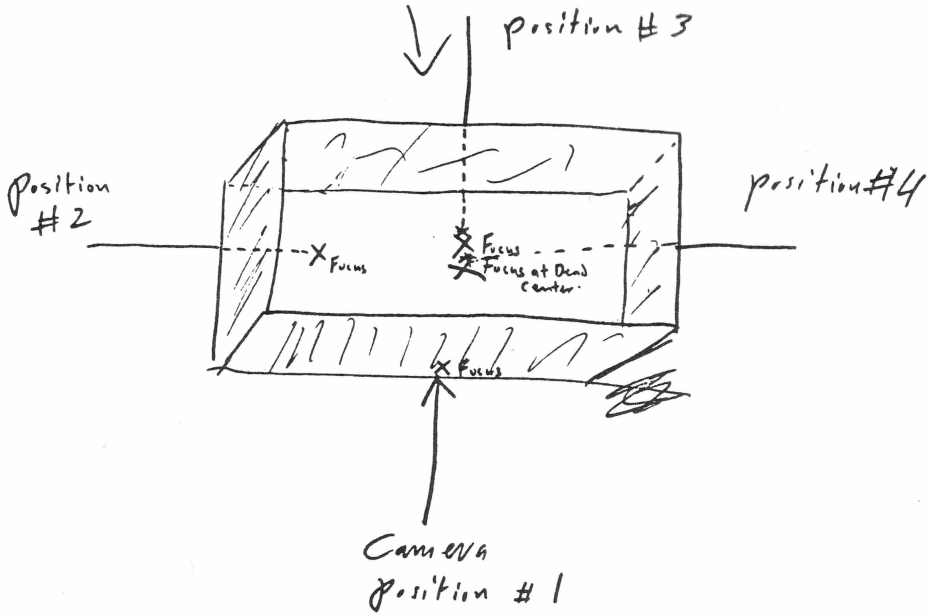
PROJECT FOR SLIDE PROJECTOR

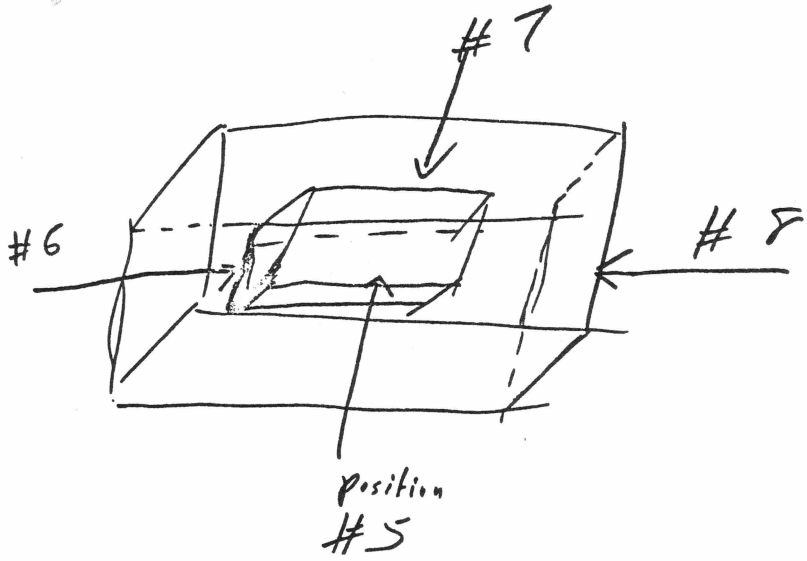
In December, 1966 I devised a project for 35 mm. transparencies and Carousel slide projector designed for exhibition space installation: the Carousel slide projector as object: the message to be the mechanism of the medium in itself an object.

A Carousel slide projector is loaded with 80 slides which are projected on a screen every 5 seconds. The device is in continuous operation. The slides are of transparencies and mirror-images of transparencies which have been obtained in the following manner:

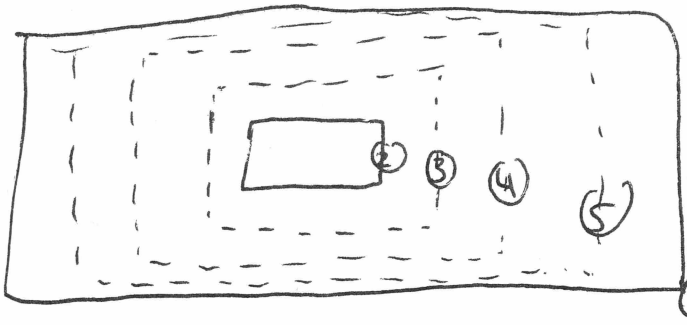
A structure is built utilizing 4 rectangular panes of glass joined to form a box with 4 sides. The top is open and the base is a mirror. A 35 mm. camera takes a shot on a parellel plane directed dead on focused on the pane of glass forming one of the side planes of the box including nothing more beyond its edges in the periphery. Shot #2 is made similarly but of the next side of the box as one rotates clockwise and the lens focused further back - on a point inside the box. Shot #3 is focused further still, nearer the center of the box and an equal distance back from the first to the second one as the camera is aimed at the third side. #4 follows the same scheme, the focused point now at dead center of the box's interior.



Next, 4 new panes are added to form a box, building up a mirroring perspective...



...and the rotation of shots proceeds around the box clockwise, the focus moving back in the same succession until in shot # 8 it has returned to its first position on the outer pane of the structure. This plan is followed as, from the inside, new boxes within boxes are added and photographed in sequence.



Boxes of panes are added until 5 boxes in all within boxes are placed and photographed in succession

...20 shots are taken in all.

These shots as transparencies are copied 4 times. They are inserted in the Carousel tray for projection in this fashion: the first 20 follow the order of the shooting outlined: the second 20 are flipped over (that is, placed in the tray flipped over in relation to the first series) in backwards sequence from the first 20; the next 20 are like the first 20 and the last 20 are like the second 20.

The image - the subject matter - is transparent, illusionistic (mirror) space, developed in cyclical 'movements'. The continuity of time present in the usual walk around the three dimensional object as well as that three dimensionality is presented 'in' (on) the screen - slide - sequence arbitrarily transposed to the order of the machine's movements; so the mechanics are the product or message....

Two types of movement, two types of space, two types of time relationship which come together in the movement of the structure or mechanism - in its 'workings'.