



# RE:INFRA-STRUCTURING

**INFRA-STRUCTURING** implies the introduction of alternative routes and channels, amending the circuitry of the public realm.

As an urbanistic ambition, to change localities and associations of places, we follow a practice usually provided by the authorities. This consists in provision of infrastructure: as triggering, enabling and choreographing movement and urban transactions. Just as subways, highways, taxes, queues in front of administrative locales, infrastructures are imbued with a particle.

In the first cycle of installation, emphasis is set on the devising of linear entities that amend the map of the city. Linearities trace and channel transaction, link locales, set destinations in relationship with each other. Lines as vectors also set a direction: imply progress and thus equip movement with a political agenda of meaningfulness.

The epitome of which is the utopia of the linear city: the urban form shaped in the face of the assembly line production. A big singularity: singular in purpose, singular in production. We trade the image of the singularity for stitching. Running with a sawing machine over the map of the city, creating critical lines and trajectories: Cutting routes of disenchantment and revelation, allowing for pilgrimages out of the nevertheless ineffable paradigm of the city.



**For this we mobilize all the tools and media available.**

# CALL AVENUE / intervention

re:infra-structuring 2009/a.



**Infrastructures are incomplete installations: hardware as innocent as technology in general, programmable, confronting and enabling. The following proposal describes the layout and agency of an infrastructure: Continuing to stress the role of digital media in the process of collective reflection in the urban realm. Wiring infrastructures into the city can not anymore be left to the monopoly of the governing institutions.**

**Infrastructures need to be inhabited, traveled on. Thus the project is an open call to imagine lines of thought: critique to emerge out of the combination of sitings and programmings of the proposed infra\*structure, inviting artists and thinkers to use and abuse the infra\*structure within the urban context.**

**There is a text, which is a message, a story, a promise. The text is comprised of a number of words. Each word is assigned individually to a speaker. There are as many speakers as words, each speaker speaks one word. The text unfolds as the speakers one after the other sound the word assigned. The speakers designate a route in the city that one has to follow in order to follow the story.**

**It is the extended acoustic version of the running led display, yet motions are reversed, the cursor is moving in space followed by the followers: the audience of the message led by curiosity and other motives. This is a medium, to be programmed. Yet its basic message is: get out. Go somewhere else. Just as the pipe of that medieval guy that seduced all the children out from the city after he has not been paid.**

Image credits:

- 1 Hans Hollein – Man Trans Forms
- 2 Reyner Banham – 4 Ecologies
- 3 Burda magazine – cut template for sewing machine
- 4 Unknown Photographer – Havana Housing Complex, Budapest - 1989

# MIGRATION

Traveling and tourism are obvious concepts at hand of motion, juxtaposed by other rather involuntary modes of progression such as emigration and flight. birds migrate to meet their bodily needs. Nomadic life has been a myth in western civilization, coming to fulfillment in cosmopolitan life. From a macroeconomic point of view, more than 50% of all human effort is invested in the improvement and maintenance of the possibility of movement. All lanes follow or are laid out to pursue the common goal. Either consciously as political instruments, or subconsciously accepting a prevalent paradigm in society, the planning and routing of infrastructures have a reverberation onto patterns of migration: defining hubs, accessibilities, designating places, at worse inhibiting interaction.



Understanding the concept of creative migration as a possibility to amend the social fabric with alternative routes of procession, the task arises in designating infrastructures, on which alternative patterns of migration can unfold/take place. The re:infra-structuring project by its nature is invested in the devising of critical lanes in the transmissionary system of the city and regions through digital media thus enabling a quasi-tourism serving purposes and social needs apart from the mainstream. Building roads, bridges, tunnels on which critical messages are transported, infra\*structuring takes on a pioneering of the immobilized potentials of the public (immigrant, tax payer, citizen, authority, ...) Its products intertwine with existing systems, creating junctions: points of departures, detournements in a matrix defined by detentions and denouncements.

The hypothesis that infrastructures as means of production are controlled (laid out) by immanent or explicit authority pursuing simplified goals, unfolding an obstructed, leads to the thesis that channeling society has to be undone partially to allow for alternative routes: the call for escape routes, emergency exits has to arrive on the macro level, just as migration is not pointed, the current networks are insufficient topologically or are overtly mono-cultural (mono-dimensional) to allow for mentally liberating voyages.

Rewiring cities and the senses, the infra\*restructuring project seeks to realize a set of interventions that induce movement, designate narratives in space acquiring the organizing perspective of the urban planner.

# The Open Space

an open project