LECTURE TWO: SEPT 21

Main Theme: Modernity

A. What makes modern modern? How do we identify our modernity? Does modernity have a history?

B. Subthemes: Alienation/utopia Retro/future Rupture. Is rupture real or ideological?

C. Modernity as Metaphysics Metaphysics – What is it that unifies society in a post-natural condition?

D. Plato’s cave – rupture and reconstitution The principle of – and justification for – violence The process from seeing “shadows” to seeing “good” Plato’s flute – the maker and the user; the idea of ‘Good’

The big picture: A socially complex, urban/village of makers and users governed by philosopher king A society that can only grow as a ‘balance’ between needs and consumption
4.607 Thinking About Architecture: In History and at Present
Fall 2009

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