identity
urbanism
future form
group presentation
urban design seminar
11.333

4 May 2005
newcomers to cities bring their myriad cultures/semiotics with them

absolute population in cities > 1,000,000:

12.8% 1975
17.7% 2000
21.7% 2015

500,000,000+ migrants over next decade

100,000,000+ migrants over next decade into megacities of > 10,000,000

source: national geographic
un habitat
framework: urban transforms

cities with acute ethnic/political divisions

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sites of continuing socio-demographic change

source: united nations, ccbres, government of singapore
global media and communications networks

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migrants engage in dialogues with ethnically/culturally/religiously like minded people globally

=

people are place-based programs are no longer new sources of identity?
successful production of hybridity by cultural groups

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wonderful urban places at the interstices of great civilizations

^ vancouver

^ sarajevo

^ cordoba
but success is an increasing challenge for newcomers/minorities:

resource-constrained cities +
linguistic/cultural differences +
political & financial constraints ->
poor conditions &
no control over the form & program of urban spaces
so space becomes contended
& unrequited grievance is often expressed through the use of space
driving an impetus for political change in other, non-place-based dimensions?
framework: contended space

or destructive revolt and/or repressive response?

are there better approaches to designing the ethnically/culturally/religiously hybrid city?

the city of tomorrow become nightmare

soweto protests

beirut unrest

balkan unrest

LA riots
given:
magnitude of changes
+
severity of consequences?
->
how will/should identity be expressed in the form of cities?
non-designed urbanism
non-designed urbanism

adaptive modification to cultural norms
work of marjetica potrc, artist in residence, MIT
non-designed urbanism

housing/retail space modified to suit cultural agendas

work of James Rojas

photo: James Rojas
use of signage to define identity-specified space
murals, when elevated to the level of design, can be used to reshape urban space
highly efficient organic slum forms

marijeti poirae, sao paulo

mumbai

tijuana

non-designed urbanism
programmed identities

event space

Lyon 8 December Festival of Light, Lyon France
event space

Siena, Italy

Pamplona, Spain
Event Space

- The Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Washington D.C.
- The National Folk Festival, Bangor, ME
- The Mummers Parade, Philadelphia, PA
programmed identities

alsop, bradford city centre, uk

new public spaces may be embedded into urban fabrics to create access to/linkages with
accentuate locations and landmarks of cultural merit
programmed identities

al azhar park, cairo
photos: archnet

honoring religious principles of design
programmed identities

new tijuana paseo

villa victoria, boston

otay ranch, san diego

construction of spaces programmed specifically for use by hispanic residents "latino new urbanism" etc.

martinez+cutri, teddy cruz, michael mendes, james rojas
public spaces designed for culture-specific programs:

italian-portuguese neighborhood in san diego
heavily mormon neighborhood near temple square in salt lake city
identity-based design

integration of senior housing & childcare in response to latino community needs:

san ysidro, san diego living rooms by the border/casa familiar estudio teddy cruz
reactive design

photos: upper left – south african builders association. lower left – pristina kosovo, marjetica potrc

reacting to fears of the other in the multi-ethnic city: walled housing
reacting to fears of the other in the multi-ethnic city:

walled housing, Netherlands

housing for white middle class Dutch, administered according to polder democracy principles, away from the “immigrant problem”
gated towns
conyers farm, greenwich CT
troia, portugal

environmental stewardship combined with class & ethnic isolation
walls – use of state power to exclude the other

san diego-tijuana

jerusalem  berlin
designing for hybridity

minor interventions can be used to bridge culturally-specific neighborhood spaces

common market space
queens, new york roosevelt avenue
designing for hybridity

wonne ickx

penetrating the international border

winning entries, international competition, el paso-juarez, arquitectura, concurso frontera
creating a cross cultural community

city heights, san diego

designing for hybridity

offbeat

irish

brazilian

guatemalan

italian

merican

ethiopian

chinese/mexican

chinese

iraqi

laoian

thai
integrating a divided community through provision of highly programmed common space
using open space to bridge cultural gaps
ibirapuera park, sao paulo
schematic of future responses to the diverse city