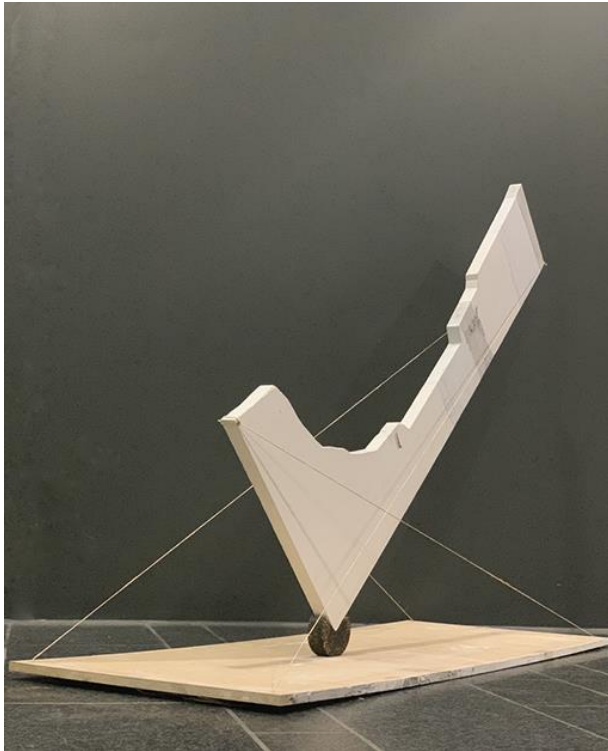


Model making with raw materials



Teaching period: November 9-16

Location: Trondheim, Norway

Teacher(s):

Architect and a Lecturer Mattia Pretolani (EPFL)

Artist and a Lecturer Mari Bastashevski (NTNU)

Mattia Pretolani graduated as an architect from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL, Msc Arch) and University of Architecture of Venice (IUAV). He has practiced in Lausanne, Berlin and Zurich, and is co-founder of the office Ellipse Architecture based in Lausanne. He teaches at EPFL Faculty of Architecture as studio director. Working with independent architectural workshops since 2015, he organized/curated the international workshops event EASA TOURIST 2019.

Mari Bastashevski is an artist, writer, and a doctoral candidate at Kunstakademie in Trondheim, Norway. Presently, she spends a lot of time thinking through the tripartite relationship between animals, humans, and technology, and working on research that explores how emerging technologies of seeing, such as VR, could become sites of field research into said relationships. She has exhibited with Mediamatic, Bonniers Konsthalle, Maison Populaire, Musée de l'Elysée, HKW Berlin, Art Souterrain, and has been published in Time Magazine, The New York Times, Courier International, Le Monde, e-flux, VICE, and other places. In 2021 she was a visiting

scholar at the ALICE laboratory at EPFL in Lausanne, a 2019 artist in residence at Chateau D'Oiron, a 2017-2018 technology fellow at the Data & Society Institute in New York, and Yale ISP Researcher in 2016.

ECTS: 3 ECTS

Number of available places for KUNO students: 6 - 12

Level: BA / MA

Requirements:

Please bring a set of work clothes and your own tools, if you have any. Please also do the reading prior to each session, and make sure you have all the tools necessary to follow the theoretical part of the course (e.g. your own computer/smartphone). Please read the introductory text before joining the seminar. The text will be sent to all participants once they've been accepted into the course.

Course description:

Artists, architects, philosophers, and scientists all rely on models as an interface between what is desired and what is actualized. Each discipline, and each project, has a different relationship to the model and its materiality. Models may be recruited to work as highly realistic replicas of reality, as virtual worlds for adjusting or comprehending material conditions, idiosyncratic, world making, and, occasionally, they set up using deliberately faulty parameters. In this short course we will be focusing on critical thinking with models, and examining models as fully concluded work - rather than as a model that is part of a process. We will focus on the critical, yet tacit, method of knowledge production from conception to construction. Crucially, we will be focused on models in architecture; models as objects that occupy three-dimensional space; models that will serve as vantage points onto different materials and the material conditions of our environment, as foundations for thinking and skills in relation to construction, and as direct influence on the development of a given project.

These models may allow the artists to observe a desired constructed scenario, or understand "real world" conditions, but, first and foremost, we hope they will allow participants to understand the efficacy of the model as medium, and as a concept, and learn to discern the implications of different model-making principles in our world.

This course consists of multiple lectures, which are immediately followed by group discussions, and model-making sessions during which the participants will be using plaster wood, cardboard, and earth. The following principles and practices will be given particular attention: molding, various construction and assembly techniques, understandings of scale, and transitions between scale and space.

Assignment: Participants will be making physical models in relation to a given or a chosen subject, paying close attention to the inherent nature and possibilities of the materials, in addition to composition and expression. There will not be a “wrong” or “failed” model, but we will pay special attention to the transition between theoretical ideas and the final physical object.

Envisaged results: Students will obtain entry-level knowledge about the design and construction of models by practicing volume explorations (positive and negative casting); constructing lines and layers within tectonic compositions; additionally, students will explore rammed earth as a construction material. The emerging works will be displayed at a pop-up exhibition immediately after the workshop at KIT - NTNU.

Application deadline: 1 October; results announced 4 October.

How to apply: Please send a PDF, including a short motivation letter (include your full name, home university, study level, and contact information) and 3-5 photos of previous works (e.g. as portfolio, electronic versions, or web links) to: maria.aamand@ntnu.no

Financial Support by KUNO: ^{SEF}Travel support between countries: 330 € (except 660 € to/from Iceland). ^{SEF}Subsistence per week: 100 €.

Additional information: venue of the course – Kunstakademiet I Trondheim (KiT); wood/metal/sculpture workshop.

Accommodation and catering are at students' own expense. Please book your stay in advance. Limited assistance in lodging booking available.

Course Schedule:

Wednesday 9th

Morning introduction: From Model to Construction

Afternoon: Measures of Nothingness/How to Measure the Negative

Thursday 10th

Morning lesson: Plaster Casting Tutorial

Afternoon: building work by groups

Friday 11th

Morning lesson: Wood Structures Tutorial

Afternoon: building work by groups

Saturday 12th

Autonomous project work

Sunday. 13th

Display and reflection day

Monday 14th

Morning introduction: Earth Construction Tutorial

Afternoon: work by groups

Tuesday 15th

Exposition/Presentation of results

Group reviews and critiques

For practical questions please contact Maria Aamand: Maria.aamand@ntnu.no

For questions pertaining to the course itself, contact: marianna.h.bastashevski@ntnu.no