

Architectural sound

På svenska: "Arkitektoniskt ljud"

What does sound mean to the architectural experience? When architectural consideration is applied to practical room acoustics, a teaching philosophy begins to emerge. Acoustics is usually considered a purely technical subject but, in reality, it's also an artistic one. Sound gives contours to space and makes us feel included and enveloped, as opposed to focused vision which turns us into solitary observers. By practicing listening, sounds can be imagined. Through the pens of authors, we can get some notion of what the world used to sound like in the past.

What we hear affects what we see and vice versa. The perceived atmosphere in a room is greatly dependent on the acoustic qualities and can therefore be manipulated through acoustic treatment. It's an artistic/architectural idea that needs a bit of acoustic engineering to be realized. Aside from function and comfort, acoustics are also important for branding purposes. If a foyer feels spacious or cosy will affect our impression of the activity takes place beyond it. People tend to lower their voices if they can hear themselves reverberating in a room. Nobody shouts in a cathedral unless they're supposed to.

This project begins to explore how sound can be used to colour the experience of everyday rooms. Knowledge is presented which will allow the reader to start seeing architectural sound as something that can be designed, rather than something to be lamented as aesthetically destructive.