Make Hit Phlegm

James Dankovich

Thesis submitted to the faculty of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Architecture

Susan C. Piedmont-Palladino (Chair)
Paul F. Emmons
Marcia Feuerstein

9/30/09
Alexandria, VA

Keywords: Architecture,
Surrealism, Chance

Copyright James Dankovich
Waking Life:

Just as a surrealist poet used paper, pen, and ink, the surreal architect would still find it necessary to use structure, tools, and materials. The surrealist poet may reject grammar but must still use language, otherwise he would no longer be making poetry. In this light, the same poet does not rearrange the letters of a word and the architect does not design steps that are impassible. Using this concept a surreal architect cannot question the need for a staircase or toilet. The elements that define the work as a building must be considered rationally. These elements are covered in this section, the Waking Life. The items included herein are representative of conscience acts of design, among them: research, analysis, site study, etc.
Art

Surrealism began as a literary movement and found its way into the fine arts. Salvador Dali was considered one of the foremost surrealist painters while Pollock, more closely associated with Abstract Expressionism, used what I consider a surrealist method for many of his works.

Architecture

Whether extremely deliberate or as a result of cultural differences, surreal imagery can be seen in architecture, whether the design is by someone from the surrealist school or not.
Falls Church City

The City of Falls Church is a village that has been swallowed up by the suburban sprawl around Washington, D.C. The city has been haphazardly urbanizing, constructing 4-8 story buildings along its main street, West Broad Street. This series of photos records the major buildings along the West Broad Corridor, which is the 'Downtown' of Falls Church.

Various Photographs by James Dankovich
Building Site

The project site is 430 West Broad Street in Falls Church Virginia.
Building Site from Front (Broad Street)

Between two newer buildings, the site currently has a two story home used as a leather working business.
Building Site from Rear

The site has 55’ of street frontage and is 200’ deep.
Site Model
Graphic Standards

Architectural Graphic Standards is a manual published for architects and others in the construction industry to refer to as a guide for common construction types, design, and drawing symbols. The manual covers a large range of building concerns including stairs, elevators, and waterclosets. Information is given as a broad overview sometimes with suggestions for further information. I chose to use this resource as a reference for the elements of architecture that I could not do without. The elements that were earlier described to define the work as a building.
Graphic Standards

This model is of the centralized core concept using the rational precedents from *Architectural Graphic Standards* to fulfill a rational need of the building, circulation and plumbing. This model also inspired the outograph treatment of the original house which is explained in Chapter 2.