DIRECTING MOVEMENT and the PERCEPTION of SPACE

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ABSTRACT

An investigation on how architectural elements can direct movement and affect the way we perceive space. The idea is implemented in the design of a playground and pavilion for Elkhorn Lake, located in Jenkins, Kentucky.

Wall, column, color, roof, and floor are explored to create a variety of spatial arrangements that affect ways of perceiving and moving through the pavilion and playground.
for mom and dad
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There have been two constants throughout this thesis: site and children. Before any architectural investigation began, it was determined that the project would be set on Elkhorn Lake in Jenkins, Kentucky, and that it would be a place for children.

A place for children does not isolate itself from a place for parents and adults. In actuality, a true place for children harbors the ability to both be a place for themselves in addition to adults, allowing for interaction and separation. How a person moves through this place is determined by the architectural elements used, creating a variety of spatial arrangements that change how the playground and pavilion are perceived and experienced.
Jenkins is a small town located in eastern Kentucky. The town's primary source for water is Elkhorn Lake, located near the center of Jenkins.
A playground should not be a place of confinement, but a place that is at play. The playground lends itself nicely to an investigation in the way people move through particular spaces, and how they experience them.

With play comes rest. The pavilion, which is mostly associated with pleasure and relaxation, is a good complement to the playground, and forms a dynamic relationship architecturally. In this study, the pavilion does not necessarily become the designated space for rest, but is a part to the overall whole of the playground itself.
1 Elkhorn Lake
2 Reflective Pool
3 Sand Pit
4 Sliding Pole
The architectural elements studied in this thesis are wall, column, color, roof, and floor. How these elements affect movement and perception are primarily studied through sketches of models, especially in the early stages of the investigation. As the sketches develop, the architectural elements begin to play off of each other, and no longer act as independent structures of the playground, but as elements joined in the overall composition of the place.
Reflection becomes a catalyst for much of the architecture. Color is reflected and washed onto a wall and the floor, columns and roofs are reflected from the pool and colored tiles.
Playground.Pavilion
Wall hugging the column
A place to sit, or hide
Underworld
Scene from Fellini's Satyricon. Sketches 1, 2, 3
Scene from Fellini's Satyricon: Sketches 4, 5, 6
Two-Point Perspective
Geometric Construction 2