

Open House: Telling stories of architectural room specifications

*Brady Burroughs*

Join a guided tour with Giuseppe, 40 year-old *mammoni* and nephew to Caprice, a local resident (and gossip) of Aldo Rossi's 1977 Bergamo row houses, where a PhD candidate in Critical Studies in architecture, at KTH in Stockholm, Sweden, has illegally occupied and renovated one of the units in the name of queer-feminist architectural design research.

A writing experiment, where critical fiction meets architectural room specifications, this paper is situated within what Jane Rendell describes as one of the five thematics of current feminist 'critical spatial practices' - *Performativity*. It is a joining of feminist, literary and architectural disciplines within a theatrical guise, using words to propose material changes that pose questions of ethics, of privilege, of power. Using fiction to question the assumptions already built-in to the architect's practices and methods, I explore how the words architects use possess a real possibility for instigating political change, through the specification and materialization of built works.

Biography:

Brady Burroughs, (1970) is an educator and researcher within Critical Studies at the School of Architecture and the Built Environment, KTH, Stockholm, currently working on her dissertation "I hate architecture <3: Architectural Flirtations, formerly known as critique", exploring 'hereness' and 'whoness' in the architecture of desire and pedagogy, through critical fictions.