

Architecture as *Ensemble*: A matter of methodology

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It is increasingly frequent for studies to look at architecture from its substantive relationship with *construction*. When architecture is considered from the perspective of its manufacturing process it should be understood not only as an *intellectual product* but also as something involving work, material, social history, i.e. all aspects related to its *industry*. Although these are valid initiatives, they are confused with what appears to be a chronic problem. This approach reaffirms that construction would be nothing else but the 'representation' of architecture – echoing the thesis that the architectural project today has reached such a level of complexity that design's separation from construction is inevitable. This paper intends to rehearse some research strategies which – making use of Gilbert Simondon's concepts – suggest some alternatives to the reading of the work of architecture and its construction. It is argued that it is in the course of the *process of individuation* that a work of architecture leaves traces, which allow us to substantially reconstruct the modes of existence involved in its manufacturing.

Biography:

Graduated Architect and Urban Planner – Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo, in 1982; Master in Architecture in 1999 – School of Engineering of São Carlos – USP; Doctor of Philosophy and Methodology of Science in 2006 – Federal University of São Carlos – UFSCAR. Since 1999, professor at the Institute of Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo – USP, acting as Associate Professor since 2011.