

Logistics Takes Command: Land, sea and the architecture of fulfilment

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In his short essay titled '*Land und Meer*' Carl Schmitt traces an unusual genealogy of globalisation upon the perennial conflict between land and sea forces. While the first reflected the natural dependence of human life on earth, the latter corresponded to its innate industriousness: the ability of confronting danger and embracing risk.

Moving from the safe boundaries of walls and cities towards the abstract routes of sea-trade, Schmitt argues that civilisation began with the art of occupying, dividing and inhabiting territories, yet it advanced through the technical domination of the unknown, the surveying and projection of the oceans' extension. Today land and sea conflated within logistics, an apparatus that seems to have finally dismissed architecture, neutralised places and homogenised goods, people, desires via barcodes and fulfilment-centres. Therefore, the architecture of logistics offers a precious cross-section of neoliberal production, revealing its inner processes of exploitation while opening new paths for labour-struggle and organisation.

Biography:

Francesco Marullo obtained a Master of Science in Architecture and Urbanism from the Technische Universiteit Delft, where he recently concluded his Ph.D. dissertation 'Typical Plan. The Architecture of Labour and the Spaces of Production' within *The City as a Project* doctoral program. Francesco is a founding member of BehemothPress in Rotterdam.