

ENGAGING THE CITY

Presents

Architecture's Body: from Prosthetics to Parasites

A lecture by

Georges Teyssot

Wednesday, May 17th

7:30 pm

Miguel Abreu Gallery

36 Orchard Street (between Canal
and Hester)

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Seating is limited.

Drawing from philosophical, literary, artistic and technological sources, this lecture focuses on the theoretical relations between body and environment. It illustrates the argument by probing into various topics such as: desiring machines, body without organs, organs without body, incorporation, disembodiment, androids, robots, cyborgs, electro-mechanical and electronic apparatuses, spacesuits, wearable computers and augmented reality, the eco-technical spheres and the matrix. In addition, it looks into theories of medical devices that help explain the notion of the prosthetic body within the context of theories of tools and cyber-organism. Finally, it attempts to rethink design through the terms of contemporary practices of daily life. It also addresses some theoretical issues related to the intrusion of the public sphere into the private space, and the blurring of the notions of interior, privacy, and intimacy in our societies.



Georges Teyssot is an architect and a scholar. He has taught history and theory at the Instituto Universitario di Architettura di Venice (I.U.A.V.) in Italy, and at Princeton University's School of Architecture (NJ, USA), where he was Director of the Ph.D. program in architecture (1994-2000). Presently, he is Professor at Laval University's School of Architecture in Quebec (QC, Canada). He has published a volume on *Interior Landscapes* (New York, Rizzoli, 1988). He has directed a collective volume, with Monique Mosser, entitled *The Architecture of Western Gardens* (Milan, Electa, 1991; now, Thames and Hudson, 2000, and Flammarion, 2002). More recently, he was the curator, with Diller + Scofidio, of an exhibition on *The American Lawn, Surface of Everyday Life*, at the Canadian Center for Architecture (Montréal, June-November 1998), and the editor of a volume on *The American Lawn* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999). Lately, his research and his teaching discuss the invention of spatial, architectural and technological devices that have allowed for the creation of habitations in Western industrial and post-industrial societies from 1830 to 2005, seeking to draw at a topo-analysis of micro-spaces.

Engaging the City is a monthly lecture series that serves as a venue for individuals in a variety of professions who engage the extraordinary and exciting complexity of contemporary cities in novel ways. Lecturers will be from the fields of architecture, urban planning, and urban design, but also public policy, public art, philosophy, film, and journalism. "Engaging the City" is organized by Daniela Fabricius, Interboro, and Jacqueline Miro-Abreu.