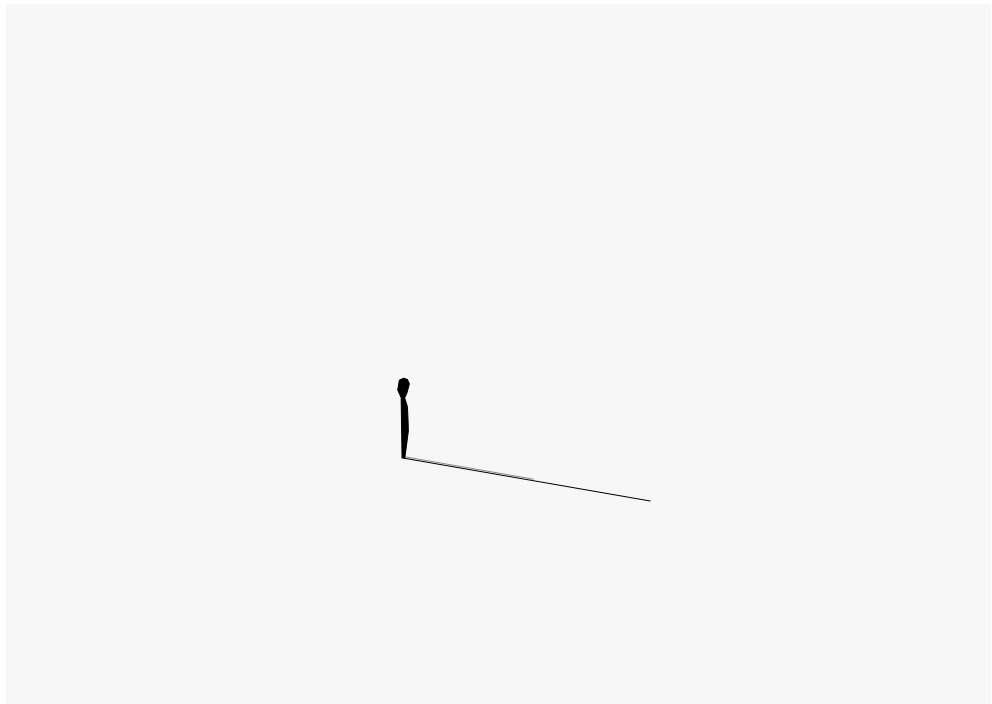


JINGYAO JI

SPIRITED BACK

- Exploring the notion of architecture as a place with perceptual experience



MATTER SPACE STRUCTURE

Supervisor: Emil Adiels
Examiner: Morten Lund

Life is a practice, and throughout this life, what we have been searching for is our naturally true identity. Identity is actually how we understand the world based on perception. But this search process might be hindered a lot. Some people are lost or institutionalized, and some people have always been using other people's definitions of the good life to set their own life. Maybe the reasons are that our natural perception is numb due to the working and living pressure, or the influence of other people's language overwhelms our perception. This thesis explores the way to strengthen natural perception in the architectural aspect. Therefore, phenomenal experience is considered as the starting point of architectural design in this thesis to situate people themselves in the world.

This thesis aims to explore how architecture can strengthen people's perception through spatial experience.

The research of this thesis contains exploring the theories of Steven Holl's phenomenological approach to architecture, the phenomenology of Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Heterotopia elaborated by Michel Foucault to find a solution and then put into

practice and test it in the design.

The thesis results in creating an introspective space for a certain group of people who work in Financial Street in Beijing. Through phenomenal experiences of the particular situation materialized by architectural means, people's perception is gradually amplified in the space where they can prepare themselves step by step to feel the infinity of time and space physically and psychologically. In this way, people perceive the world and themselves.

Keywords : identity, spatial experience, perception, psychological preparation, materialization