

Marc Leschelier

Born on the 29th of June 1984

in Cannes, France.

Architect. Degree at Paris-Malaquais School of Architecture.

Previously worked for SANAA, Philippe Rahm and Christian Kerez.

PRIZES AND FELLOWSHIPS

2019 Graham Foundation (Chicago)

2017-2018 Villa Médicis (Rome)

2015 Jorn Utzon Foundation (Majorca)

2011 Le Corbusier Foundation (Paris)

BIOGRAPHY

Marc Leschelier (1984) is an architect and professor. He lives and works in Paris. His work explores the possibility of a spontaneous formation of architecture through direct actions. Starting from a refutation of construction as a rational enterprise, the work reduces its domain to an elementary, instinctive and irrational constructive practice to transform the architectural project.

During the year 2017/2018, Marc was a fellow at the Villa Medici in Rome. He received in 2011 the research grant from the Le Corbusier Foundation. He currently works on a book about Raimund Abraham supported by the Graham Foundation to be published by NERO editions. Marc has also founded the Unbuilt Archive (www.unbuilt-archive.org), an open-source archive specialized in radical architecture's texts and manifestos.

PHILOSOPHY

The works refute construction as a rational enterprise, but instead imagine it as a process simply made up of accumulations of matter, shapeless and brutal. As the constructive process is before it becomes a finished object. The approach seeks to abandon architectural formalism and the desire for a more raw and intelligible reality of architecture. The aim is therefore to reduce architecture to a skeletal state in order to understand its components and make visible the forces passing through it. These buildings were built in an intermediate language, materially unfinished, which is why they are less like buildings than a form of «pre-architecture».

The work is built according to three different mediums - models (reduced model), performances (physical experience) and prototypes (scale 1 realizations). The link between these works and these different scales is the constructive gesture, each time direct and without modification.

A cycle of works entitled: Worksite I, II and III - began this research at the level of physical experience by conducting worksites as performances, without interruptions and without preliminary drawings. These performances have made it possible to produce chaotic and spontaneous fragments of architecture, with the aim of one day becoming the alphabet of a complete building. Other works such as Building/Prototype I and II are constructions that focus more on the articulations between the elements than on the elements themselves. The crudeness of language is intensified by the enhancement of articulations: chains, concrete reinforcing bars, superpositions and accumulations.

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