

Press Release

MAK NITE Lab 10/13
Program October 2013

Tuesday, 22 October 2013 **MAK NITE Lab**

7 p.m. **Ecological Ballet**
Architectural Performance

With *Ecological Ballet*, five student teams from the Energy Design Department of the Vienna University of Applied Arts' Institute of Architecture present their prototypical projects addressing the issue of sustainable construction. Since the beginning of 2013, the Energy Design Department has set its sights on developing interactive concepts for sustainable architecture under the title "Adaptive Strategies." The results of this new approach will now be introduced to the public for the first time in the scope of an architectural performance during the MAK NITE Lab.

The students have taken up the challenge to design the movement and behavior of buildings interactively and adaptively. They respond to dwindling resources, changing climate conditions, and social developments through the structure of the buildings and their surfaces. Buildings are, for instance, to feature an automatic summer and winter mode. A comfortable temperature within the edifice is to thus be ensured throughout the year. Allowing the architecture to "breathe" is another approach; the building structure will either expand or contract, depending on the amount of sunlight. Interactive models will provide visitors insight into the different ecological concepts of the students during the *Ecological Ballet* architectural performance.

The core theme of the Energy Design Department is to actively include the built and natural environments into the development of architecture. This not only concerns the design process, but the construction methods, building and fabrication principles as well. An important point thereby is the correlation between shape and energy efficiency. Innovative technologies such as computer simulations and parametric design technologies are to support design, planning, and construction as early and pervasively as possible in order to find new ways to advance sustainable construction methods. The Department's goal to make ecologically innovative projects in architecture as equally desirable as the most successful products of the automobile or computer industry.

Projects: Ceren Yönetim & Marie Lichtenwagner/*Floral Skin*, Bart Chomppf & Christoph Wunderlich/*Kaleidoskin*, Rhina Portillo & Matthias Urschler/*Breath*, Klemens Sitzmann & Daniel Prost/*Jelly*, Xinyu Wan & Philipp Reinsberg/*Dancing with the winds*

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