

CARING ARCHITECTURES

ALTERNATIVE LABOUR SPACES AND NARRATIONS

**OPTION JMA-GE / MAIA
Spring 2024**



Caring Architectures questions the way the structural invisibility of both reproductive labour activities and their related spaces participates in the perpetuation of power relations in the domestic realm. During the class, we will delve into domestic care spaces and investigate them as material articulations of the progressive devaluation of care tasks through architectural theory. Contemporary Western housing production extends the optimisation and individualisation of spaces dedicated to care tasks that was initiated at the end of the 19th century. While studying this patriarchal and capitalist heritage, we will also approach these spaces as hidden stages of daily practices, representing a form of bottom-up architectural knowledge in their own right. Using fiction as a starting point to understand both the forms of power and resistance that are intertwined in places such as the laundry room, the kitchen, the closet or the garbage room, we will untangle the material conditions of these unremarkable power structures.

TEACHING AIMS

Building upon both interior architecture theory and feminist and queer literature, the course aims to unravel the material conditions of essential care towards our built environment. Identifying the repetitive and daily performative enactment of the spaces (Bonnevier, 2007) we will focus on body politics and the interactions between interior architecture and working bodies. The course approaches housing production as major architecture in which minor ones rise (Stoner, 2012). These minor architectures enable the maintenance of domesticities, and aims to help us understand the socio-political responsibility of architecture with regards to care, repair and decay (Malterre-Barthes, 2019).

TEACHING FORMS

Over 6 half-days, each course will focus on one care task and its related spaces: cooking, cleaning, doing the laundry, and nursing. Shaped as design research, the work will articulate the analysis of the pre-existing experience of one character, one selected fiction from a movie scene, the space that stages the fiction, and two texts from both architectural theory and queer/feminist literature. The course will use and develop various tools, from architectural (plans, sections and models) to research (readings and writings) in order to develop a 1000-word article that will use project hypotheses to foster discussions and possibilities.

TEAM

Students
Daniel Alba Flores
Navya Balakrishnan
Sawako Bolch
Cloé Eischen
Patrycja Krystosiak
Frida Law
Jaemo Lee
Juliette Mégroz
Giada Pettenati
Dina Rakli
David Röder
Sofia Tapia Buchelli
Sofía Trejo Ana
Célia Tourette
Ana Karina Zepeda Aranda

Lecturer
Paule Perron

MAIA
Javier Fernández Contreras
Valentina De Luigi
Lucie Landenbergue

CALENDAR

02.23

introduction

8:30 - 10:00 / lecture

10:00 - 11:30 / movie sequences analysis, discussions and repartitions

11:30 - 12:00 / discussion around the event of March 7

03.01

to cook

8:30 - 9:30 / presentation & commentary of the texts.

Collective discussion

9:30 - 10:30 / presentation around the movie scene analysis & drawing productions

10:30 - 11:30 / workshop session

11:30 - 12:00 / preparation around the event of March 7

03.07

Sacred Grounds - L'architecture de l'invisible

Meeting at 5pm MAH Genève

Meriem Chabani

03.08

to clean

8:30 - 9:30 / presentation & commentary of the texts.

Collective discussion

9:30 - 10:30 / presentation around the movie scene analysis & drawing productions

10:30 - 12:00 / workshop session

03.15

to do the laundry

8:30 - 9:30 / presentation & commentary of the texts.

Collective discussion

9:30 - 10:30 / presentation around the movie scene analysis & drawing productions

10:30 - 12:00 / workshop session

03.22

to nurse

[sumbission of the essay first-draft](#)

8:30 - 9:30 / presentation & commentary of the texts.

Collective discussion

9:30 - 10:30 / presentation around the movie scene analysis & drawing productions

10:30 - 12:00 / workshop session

04.19

to care

[8:00 archiving of the essay first-draft + graphic production on the platform](#)

8:30 - 10:00 / finalisation of the installation

10:00 - 12:00 / final restitution and collective discussion



MARCH THE 1ST

the two texts of the week

THE CARE COLLECTIVE. 2020. *The Care Manifesto: The Politics of Interdependence*, London: Verso Books. pp 21-31.

Preciado, Paul B. 2012. "Architecture as a Practice of Biopolitical Disobedience." *Log*, no. 25, pp. 121-134.

to go further

Hayden, Dolores. *The Grand Domestic Revolution: History of Feminist Designs for American Homes, Neighborhoods, and Cities*. MIT Press, 1982.

Jayati, Ghosh. 2018. "The Public Value of Care and the Politics of Womens Work," *UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose* (June 18, 2018). [Online](#).

Puigjaner, Anna. 2019. "Bringing the kitchen out of the house", *Eflux*. [Online](#).

Puigjaner, Anna. 2017. "Kitchen Stories", *Eflux*. [Online](#).

Young, Iris Marion. 1980. « Throwing like a girl: A phenomenology of feminine body comportment motility and spatiality », *HUMAN STUDIES*. no. 3. pp137-156.

TO COOK

MOVIE SCENES



St Omer
Alice Diop
2022
58:00 - 59:55 + 1:55:05 - 1:59:22



«*Fishes*»
The Bear
Season 2 Episode 6
Christopher Storer
2023
5:40 - 11:22

MOVIE SCENES



Mustang
Deniz Gamze Ergüven
2015
15:15 - 17:57



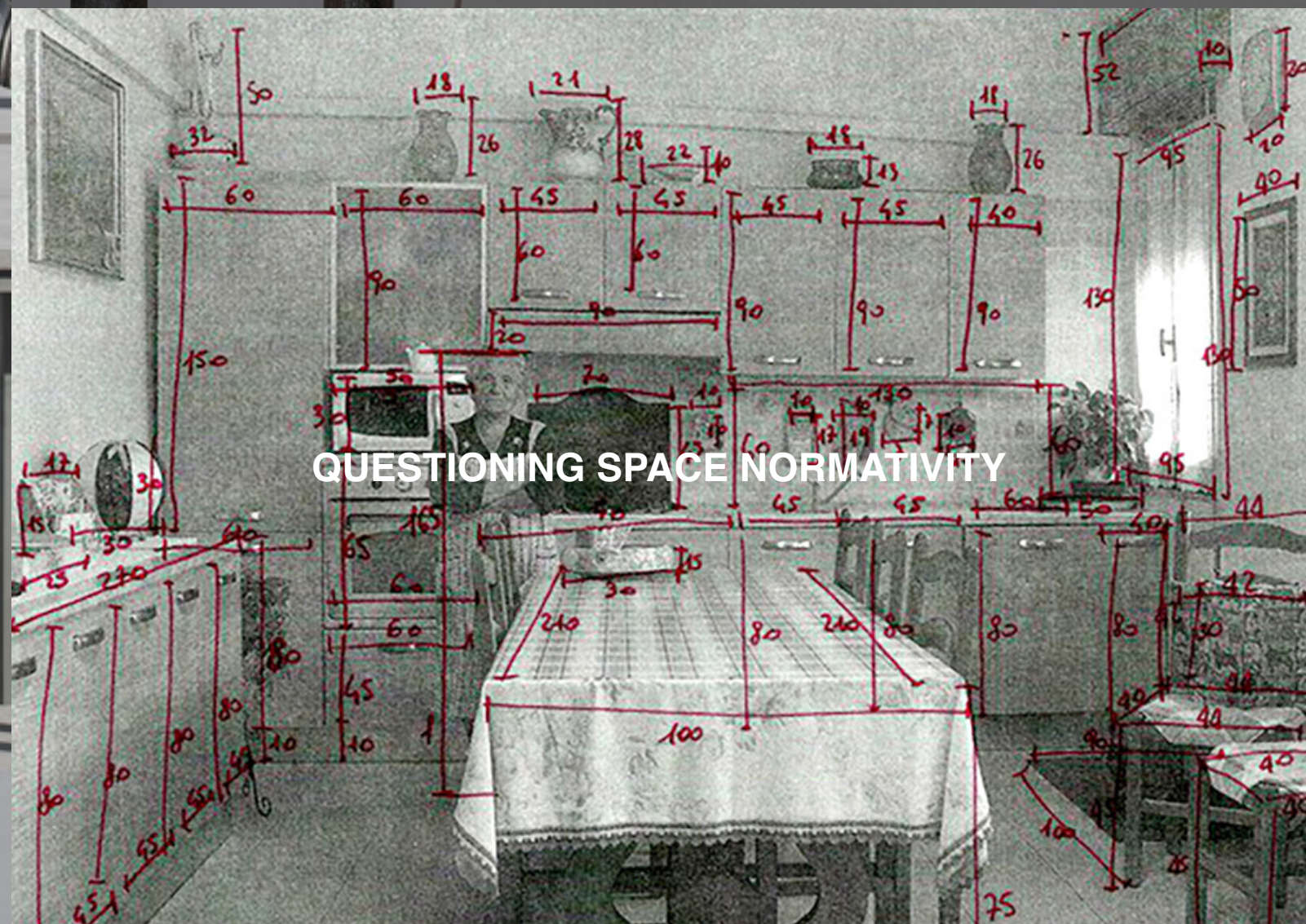
The Matrix
Lana Wachowski & Lilly Wachowski
1999
1:12:00 - 1:17:00



QUESTIONING THE LIMITS OF
PRIVATE SPACE



THWARTING MATERIAL
PERFORMATIVITY



QUESTIONING SPACE NORMATIVITY



MARCH THE 8TH

the two texts of the week

Malterre-Barthes, Charlotte. 2021. «Maintenance as a Political Act», *Everyday Matters: Contemporary Approaches to Architecture*. Berlin: RubyPress, pp192-203.

Federici, Silvia. 1975. *Wages against housework*. Power of Women Collective and the FaDing Wall Press.

to go further

Frichot, Hélène. 2019. *Dirty Theory: Troubling Architecture*. Baunach: Spurbuchverlag.

Guillermo, López. Puigjaner, Anna (MAIO). 2021, "Everyday Life in the Diffuse House", in *Everyday Matters: Contemporary Approaches to Architecture*. London: RubyPress. 34-49.

Sample, Hilary. 2016. *Maintenance Architecture*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

TO CLEAN

MOVIE SCENES



Mustang
Deniz Gamze Ergüven
2015
15:15 - 17:57



Pulp Fiction
Quentin Tarantino
1994
2:07:53 - 2:10:42

MOVIE SCENES



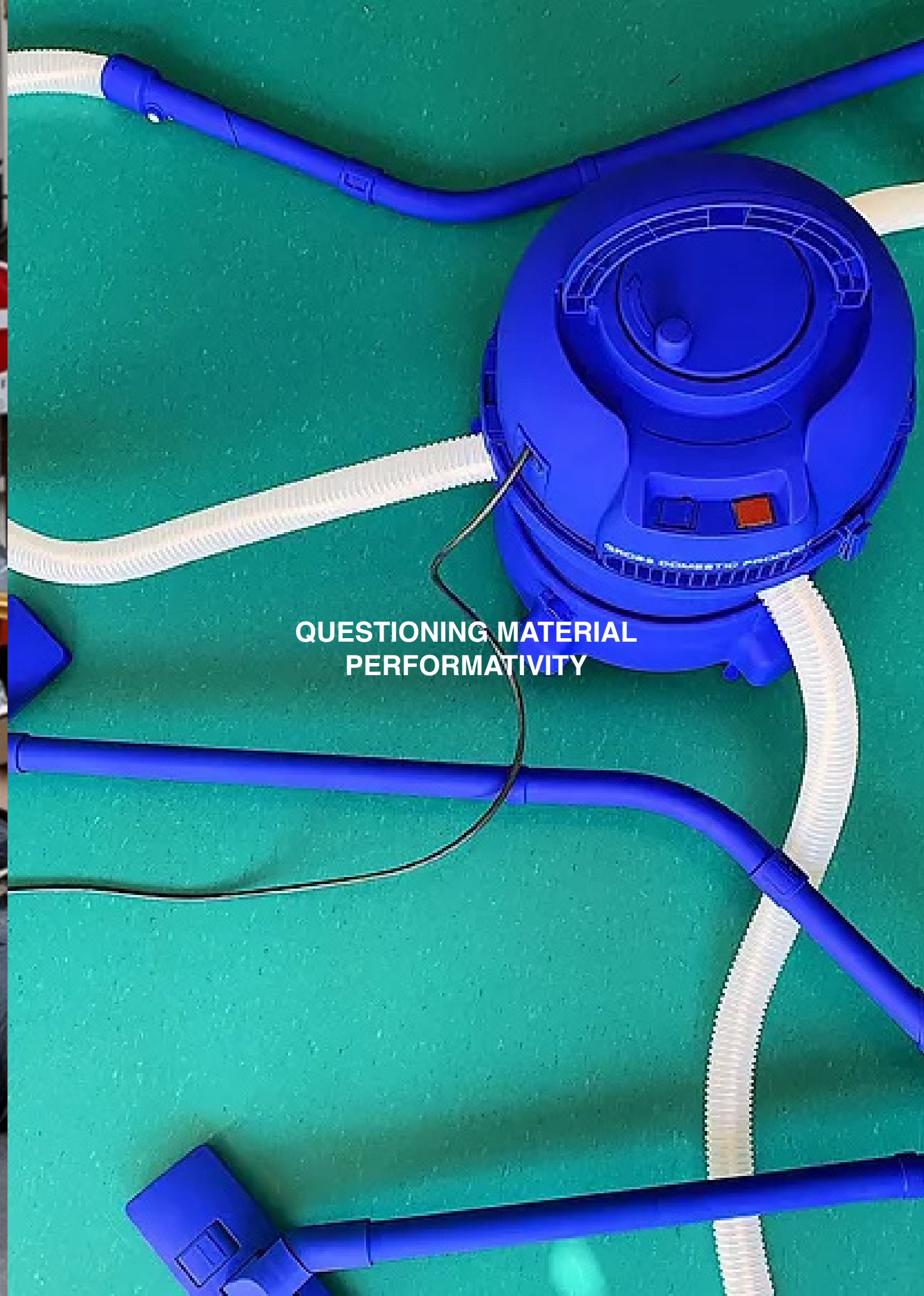
Parasite,
Joon-ho Bong
2019
1:15:25 - 1:17:54



«Every Day a Little Death»
Desperate Housewives
S1 E 12
Grossman David



TAKING SPACE



QUESTIONING MATERIAL
PERFORMATIVITY



MARCH THE 15TH

the two texts of the week

Stoner, Jill. 2012. «What is a minor architecture ?» *Toward A Minor Architecture*. MIT Press, 2012. pp1-18.

Evans, Robert. 1997. «Figures, Doors and Passages», *Translations from Drawing to Building and Other Essays*, Cambridge: MIT Press, pp54-91.

to go further

Lauridsen, Alberte. 2021. Janowicz Marianna, “Slippages, Spillages, and Divides”, *Eflux*. [Online](#).

Guillermo, López. Puigjaner, Anna (MAIO). 2021, “Everyday Life in the Diffuse House”, in *Everyday Matters: Contemporary Approaches to Architecture*. London: RubyPress. 34-49.

Stoner, Jill. 2012. *Toward A Minor Architecture*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

MOVIE SCENES



Roma
Alfano Cuarón
2018
10:13 - 13:16



Halloween
John Carpenter
1978
45:38 - 48:58

MOVIE SCENES



«Moments in love, chapter 1» & «Moments in love, chapter 3»
Master of None
S3 E3 - 2
Aziz Ansari & Alan Yang
2021
3:38 - 5:07 & 3:50 - 4:33



CREATING PLACES FOR COLLECTIVE
RITUALS



IMAGINING NEW NARRATIVES



TURNING VISIBLE



MARCH THE 22ND

the two texts of the week

Gotby, Alva. 2023. *They Call It Love, The Politics of Emotional Life*, London: Verso Books.

Arakawa, Naoshi. Gins, Madeline. 2005. *Le corps architectural [we have decided not to die]*, Paris: Manucius Editions.

to go further

Foucault, Michel. 1966. "Le corps utopique." *Le corps utopique - Les Hétérotopies*, Lignes.

Lambert, Leopold. 2013. "The Corset: "A Body Press," Paradigm of the Violence of Design on the Body", *Cruel Design, The Funambulist Pamphlets*, no. 7, pp. 54-65.

Ursprung, Philip. Díaz, Francisco. 2018. *Representation of Labor*. Santiago: ARQ Doc.

TO NURSE

MOVIE SCENES



Amour
Michael Haneke
2012
53:30 - 54:53

MOVIE SCENES



The beguiled
Siegel Don
1971
12:58 - 14:16



«Non ma fille, tu n'iras pas danser»
Tout va bien
Season 1 Episode 4
Rochant, Eric & al
2023
1:29 - 2:45



BUILDING COMPLICITY



CREATING INTERDEPENDENCY



REQUESTIONING BODY RELATION TO
SPACE



**APRIL THE 19TH
EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- 1 line drawing (plan or section) 1:33 of the existing scene
- 1 line drawing (plan or section) 1:33 of the rewritten scene
- 1 model of the rewritten scene (specific for the chosen point of view) 1:33
- 1 picture of the model
- 1 essay of 1000 words articulating the problematics, the hypothesis, and your own point of view

