Japanese Space in the Western Mind

Kevin Nute, Arch 407/507, Thursdays, 4-5:50, 2CR

Japan's geographical and cultural remoteness have often been used to test Western architectural principles. Overstatements of both essential differences and similarities with the West, however, have created what amounts to a mythical Japanese architecture in the Western mind—often far removed from reality—but which has nonetheless played an important role in the development of architecture globally. This course examines the sources, characteristics and effects of this phenomenon, and what they tell us about the nature of cross-cultural invention, identity and appropriation.

Western Responses to Japanese Otherness
The Organic Nature of the Japanese Built Environment
The Sukiyu Style as Modernist Archetype
Traditional Far Eastern Art as a Means to Modern American Architecture
Western Translations of Japanese Building Forms
Time as a Component of Architectural Space
Japanese Urbanism and the Post-Industrial City