



TREE MATTER REARRANGEMENT

Rearranging tree matter for the design of an „all-wood-only-wood“ meditation space.

IARC 484/584 Interior Architecture Design Studio

Spring/Summer 2019 - 6 credits

13:00 – 16:50 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Studio Space - TBD

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“If a tree falls in the woods and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?” This question is used as a thought experiment to raise doubt regarding one’s assumptions about observation and perception, leading to insight about the nature of existence. In this studio, we will not be asking such philosophical questions. However we will be exploring the industrial life cycle of a tree that fell in the woods, including the industrial and fabrication processes that follow, to inform the design of an “all-wood-only-wood” interior space to be used for meditation.

Of all the building materials, wood must be considered one of the most versatile and resourceful. It is used as foundation, structure, floor, wall, ceiling, roof, cladding, furniture, framing, insulation, and the list can go on almost ad infinitum. How is wood produced? From the moment a live tree is felled, an extremely sophisticated chain of industrial processes follows before it can be used for fabrication purposes in the built environment.

The direct experience and knowledge of the industrial and fabrication process of a material can inform how we develop and execute the design of an interior space. With this in mind, we will take a closer look into the lumber industries and fabrication processes associated with wood. Further, we will visit a meditation center and participate in meditation practice. Taken together, the design process can then be informed by simultaneously looking into the industrial and fabricated life cycle of the material wood in combination with experiencing actual meditation centers and meditating.

Students will be responsible for developing their own design process, which will be expressed through drawing and model making. The end goal for this studio will be for each student to present a clear concept for a meditation space. Drawings and models must express the student’s design and show that the space has met all the requirements necessary for a functioning “all-wood-only-wood” meditation space.