“...one of the most significant principles is to omit the unimportant, in order to emphasize the important. One of the most important—for society, perhaps the most important—duties of designers today is to help clear up the chaos in which we live.” (John Pawson, 1998, p.12)

PART 03: SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DUE
First Review: Friday 13 March (external jury)
Second Review: Monday 30 March (internal jury)

INTRODUCTION
Good architecture demands a good parti. More importantly, it requires clarity of parti... VAS is no different. Actually, it demands even more clarity as simplicity is of outmost concern. But what is an architectural parti?

In the studio we’ll define it as the most basic organizational philosophy that guides and expresses architectural design. It is the scheme, main concept or idea that explains better than anything else the character and appearance of a building. It’s the position a designer takes in front of the world of infinite architectural possibilities. A parti not only responds to a challenge but proposes, adds value. The parti is the true nature of a particular design because it manifests and explains its very being. Indeed, it permeates every single aspect of the building: its formal manifestation, its tectonics and details, its engagement of the program and site, the experience of it, etc. Legorreta says:

“the most important matter in designing a building is to establish a design philosophy. Each building needs and should have its own appropriate principle that directs the design”
Although all of you are doing VAS, each of you are doing it differently. This is your way. It is your professional duty to take responsibility for it. There is no better way of doing so than clarifying your parti and being faithful and disciplined enough to make it communicate, to make it succeed.

**OBJECTIVE**

During the initial 3 parts of the semester, you have produced a manifesto (stating your VAS), scrutinized programmatic and site conditions (showing your grasp of architectural requirements), and developed an architectonic idea in the a-d workshop (demonstrating your intuitive understanding of VAS). These are the foundations from which you are to build an architectural solution to the problem at hand. Your proposal ought to combine all these insights into one consistent parti and embody them into a simple and clear VAS building for the Tao Metaversity.

Don’t forget that you are professing a manifesto. Keep your theoretical rigor but provide concrete solutions to ordinary building concerns such as horizontal and vertical circulations, programmatic needs, structural and mechanical systems, life safety, handicap access, etc. Compositional aspects of plan, section, elevations in relation to three-dimensionality, spatiality and tectonics are of utmost importance. The engagement of your building with the site must also be carefully scrutinized and responded to.

**REQUIREMENTS**

See attached sheets.

**EVALUATION**

We will evaluate your architectural work following these criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conceptual Clarity</th>
<th>Theoretical Consistency-Reference-Relevancy, Oral presentation, Written Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Formal Order</strong></td>
<td>Syntactic Organization, Experiential quality, Consistency with Parti, Level of Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Functional Response</strong></td>
<td>Programmatic Organization, Activity Flow, Consistency with Parti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tectonics</strong></td>
<td>Materiality &amp; Technology, Light / Structure, Consistency with Parti, Level of Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Context</strong></td>
<td>Site Planning, Architectural Dialogue, Consistency with Parti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communication</strong></td>
<td>Analog representations, Digital representations, Consistency with Parti, Level of Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The VAS Studio

first schematic design development review requirements

models:

- Analog model (physical) with context clearly shown: 1/32” scale; solid-void with sense of tectonics (materials representation supporting conceptual and programmatic development). It should fit the studio model.

- Digital model: can be CAD based or photo collage of drawing and model, etc.;

graphics: can be a combination or exclusively analog or digital (tiled 11” x 17” sheets or plotted, etc.)

- Architectural plans 1/16” scale; including context (use site plans); condition at ground level, etc. keyed to each level of your plans; your design should articulate structure, enclosure, interior elements, general program elements, circulation.

- Architectural transverse and longitudinal sections at 1/16” scale (include detailed context)

- 10 experiential views (exterior and interior) printed on minimum 8.5 x 11 sheets (color or grayscale).

Review Date & Considerations:

- Friday 13 March, 2:00-5:30 PM
- Each team will have approximately a 30 minute slot for the review.
- The schematic design phase (Part 03) counts for 35% of the semester studio grade. Work done for this review will count as a 25% portion with the other 10% due 2.5 weeks later (March 30)