

## Tim Simon-Meyer

### The Potential of a Haptic Approach for the Perceptible Quality of Architecture

This research by design results from my practical work as architect. Since 2012 I have developed several design.build projects that are defined by a creative process that is based on the characteristics of the used materials.

That process starts with the choice of the proper material that can function as constructive as well as spatial structure including the haptic aspects of the surface. Further decisions are made in relation to the physical and sensual characteristics of the material. In order that the way of working is always dealing with the constructive and creative limits of it – always under the requirement of the design.build project which involves that the project is built by the creator himself.

As architects (not engineers and not craftsmen) we have a limited knowledge of construction and handcraft which means that we also need to go back to an intuitional knowledge about materials and their handling. This intuitional knowledge and the importance of it for the designing process will be also followed in the research.

The considered projects are characterized by a reduced materiality, basic forms and constructive logic.

Nevertheless those „basic“ buildings are offering a strong atmospheric and physical experience.

One goal of the research will be the effort to find definitions and descriptions for those qualities that can be perceived.

How can we describe the architectural qualities and the related perception? It seems likely that the working method is leading to a specific atmospheric and architectural quality that can be observed in the considered projects.

What are the specific aspects of that “haptic approach”? The analysis and characterization of the working method will be another goal of the research.

The research started with a reflection of a selection of realized projects by my office. At the moment I'm working together with a group of students on a design.build project which is dealing with the creative potential of dry construction elements. That project will be part of the research. In further stages I will also develop and realize small scale projects within my practical activity. Each project will be comprehensively reflected and cognitions will be involved in new projects.

For the CA2RE conference I consider a small exhibition with prototypes and/or examples of the practical work.

