

CITI OF JOY: Gated Community Case Study Studio - Mumbai, India

Fall 2008 Architecture A4524

Call Number: 92054 Points: 3

Section 001

Day/Time: T 11:00am-1:00pm Location: 115 Avery Hall

Notes: OPEN TO - GSAPP, MARCH 1 STUDENTS ONLY

Instructor: Adriana Valdez Young

Studio Description:

In cities of high density and intense poverty, how can architects undertake uncommissioned interventions in gated compounds in order to better serve the needs of adjacent workers' housing settlements? What role can NGOs and local community organizations play in upgrading, altering, or redirecting the infrastructure, amenities and spatial resources of luxury lifestyle compounds to generate benefits for neighboring labor communities? In other words, how can design schemes "un-gate" the spatial and social divides between the towers and the tents?

This studio proposes a different "slum" intervention methodology - that of Security Lifestyle Uncommissioned Makeovers (SLUMs). SLUMs focus on luxury residential communities and their relationship to adjacent self-organized, self-built enclaves - or what are traditionally considered "slums." Based at the Citi of Joy - a new residential lifestyle center in Mumbai - GSAPP students will generate Prototype Public Value interventions rooted in a series of real sites. Students will work in collaboration with local slum-rehabilitation and planning institutes to propose design interventions, development schemes, and community engagement programs that address conditions of low-density, securitized isolation, economic segregation, and oppressively festive nomenclature.

The studio will focus on four residential towers CHARM, THRILL, TRIUMPH and SPARKLE, and their adjoining labor communities. Scenarios will be driven by both the residents' desires for secluded safety and open green space, and laborers' needs to access shelter, water, healthcare and education. Currently, the labor force completing the Citi of Joy resides in ecologically sustainable tarp and recycled metal tented homes on the site of the future FESTIVA club house.

Student work will be published as part of a toolkit of participatory design strategies of Securitized Lifestyle Uncommissioned Makeovers (SLUMs), which citizens and organizations can then apply to undertake and implement upgrading projects globally. The studio will also explore the following economic facets of luxury community re-development and re-programming:

- New Concepts in Tower-Tent Partnerships
- Emerging Market Challenges
- Market-Mall Support Comparables
- Financial Feasibility

Future studios will address the design and programming of the remaining Citi of Joy residential and programming components FESTIVA, FUN, CHEER, RELISH, CHERISH, CELEBRATION, HURRAH, BLISS, DELIGHT, BRIGHT, DELIGHT, and HAPPINESS.

Citi Of Joy

Artists Impression Of The Site Layout



Figure 1: Site map of the future Cit of Joy, Mumbai.



Figure 2: Facade of the HURRAH residential tower currently and enthusiastically under construction.



Figure 4: Precariously pokey landscaping featured in the podium gardens of the HAPPINESS tower.



Figure 3: Pro-grin, pro-people poster displayed at the on-site sales office.



Figure 5: Construction site of CHEER tower, and behind it, the temporary labor camp built from of blue tarps and recycled sheet metal that houses workers and their families.