


Placemaking


exploration, research and reflection on cities , public space, urban design , urban planning and landscape design

Home About me

List

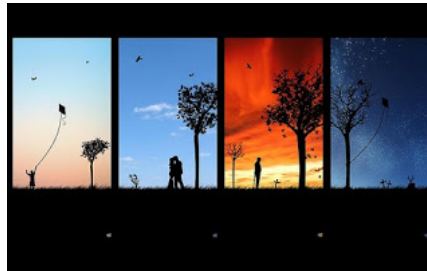
my linked in profile 
my twitter page

Placemakingme

Email add Submit 

Monday, January 31, 2011

reflections on ecological design



The human being is a living creature. He is a part of nature itself thus follows a **defined and known life cycle**; this lifecycle is the sequence of day, month, year through out the different seasons .

The cycles of a man's life consisting of birth, up-bringing, marriage, fatherhood, retirement, death is the complete path for one's life leaving away for his children and his grandchildren to continue this journey. This is the definition of sustainability on the individual level.

His successors will also draw other cycles for their life that connects with who they are and their personas but also connected to their fathers, family, tribe , communities, nation.

These multiple life cycles form society and through them and their lives that the continuity of the historical, cultural aspects of a society is preserved.

These social cycles have been the foundation of anthropology in understanding how communities and societies are formed.

These interrelationships unveil the invisible connections of the communities to the way it constructs meanings of the space with time through its activities



In designing our plans and thinking about our development frameworks of design schemes, wether we are practitioners, planners, policy makers, there needs to be more awarness to the mental plans of the city as a reflection of these cycles .

The city becomes an ecosystem that through observation will reveal to us the interaction of the different activities within it.

Sequence is in the ecological cycles of earth, flora and fauna as well as in the sequence of the day (dawn, noon, sunset, late night) and the seasons (winter , spring , summer, fall).

Blog Archive

- ▶ 2014 (4)
- ▶ 2013 (16)
- ▶ 2012 (2)
- ▼ 2011 (30)
 - ▶ November (1)
 - ▶ September (1)
 - ▶ August (2)
 - ▶ July (3)
 - ▶ May (2)
 - ▶ April (1)
 - ▶ March (2)
 - ▶ February (3)
 - ▼ January (15)

reflections on ecological de
landscape urbanism?new u
growth? no-l...
Urban Imaginaries in Buen
urban farming - new perspe
Permeability - shaping how
citi...
So What is Accessibility fo
regional boundaries drawn
Sustainability Wins Award
...
why research on public spa
important...
urban developments - urban
dev...
Roundtable -CEO for CITIES
Foundat...
Development Evolves to En
a holistic understanding of
...
Review of World Bank PRA
TITLING AND...
BEST PRACTISES_ LAND
REGISTRATION

▶ 2010 (3)

Labels

sustainability (12)
urban planning (10)
planning (7) public space (7)
best practises (4) urbanism (4)
globalisation (3) information te
Education (2) Social (2) cities (2) o
(2) land registration (2) philosophy
(1) Happy (1) Housing (1) awards (1) eco
gratitude (1) guidelines (1) internal (1) j
(1) patience (1) self esteem (1) spiritualit
(1) urban (1) urban agriculture (1)

LINKS

real estate and urban planning or
web magazine on urbanism
GREG CLARK-
masterplanning ,urban space and
ABC of urbanism
podcasts on urban design
new study on sense of place



Our urban ecosystem is connected to the wider ecosystem in nature and thus a bigger picture also needs to be considered when we talk about environmental consideration - it is not only how much we are impacting the environment around us.

it is about also how the cycles inside our masterplans link to the bigger cycles of the context we are living in and to think about how we will reflect these nodes of linkages without making the plan too rigid that it can not allow for the community to retrace meanings and embed it in the framework.



The human life cycle is centered on the individual by excellence. As a living creature, the human being moves, migrates, grows and changes and by consequence is not static.

So, the concept of human life is one that does not accept state in one location and one era. We need to understand this flexibility, resilience and adaptability as it becomes crucial to strive to it since it is at the core of sustainable development.



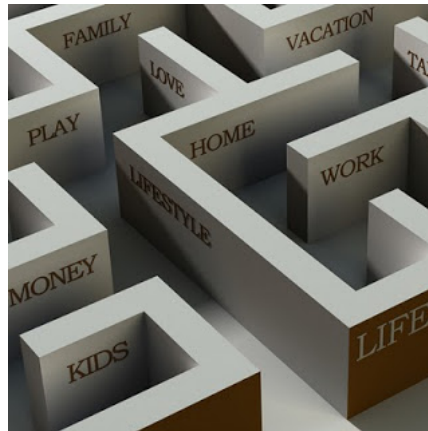
One must not confuse stillness and presence with stasis because it is in stillness that one observes his achievement and contemplates its proceedings. Therefore, he must be present to do so meaning being alert and conscious. Consciousness in this sense is a faculty that one uses to optimize his cycle. Our plans become more tolerant in providing the community places of stillness.

places of meaningful meditation as people strive not only to be engaged but also to disengage, not only to connect but also to disconnect.

The human life is a journey through out space and time- it the series of small choices we make, which route we take, which district we live in - most of our choices are affected indirectly with

the planning challenges and opportunities that our city provides. In this sense, the plan needs to be in line with the choices that the community is making on daily basis and call for also a reevaluation of these choices mitigating the one chosen by constraints and putting weight on opportunistic choices- ones that may enhance the experience of one's life inside the city.

This motion through out space and time begins from the moment the human being is reflected in his small travels such as his day going to work and leaving his home. Our plans need to account for the small journeys , how they will look like , what they will mean to the community.



So, Respecting cycles of activities, of flows, of seasons, of time and space would allow our plans might to last more than the next generation.

Posted by [nadine bitar chahine](#) at 1:28 PM

[feedback](#) [interesting \(0\)](#) [insightfull \(0\)](#) [more on this topic \(0\)](#)



Recommend this on Google

Labels: [consultant](#), [planning](#), [public policy](#), [sustainability](#), [urban design](#)

1 comment:



[jkaiserwortmann](#) February 12, 2011 at 1:34 PM

Simple and true - therefore it's helpful.

Thank you, nadine!

[Reply](#) [Delete](#)

Enter your comment...

Comment as: [nadine bitar ch](#) ▼

[Sign out](#)

[Publish](#)

[Preview](#)

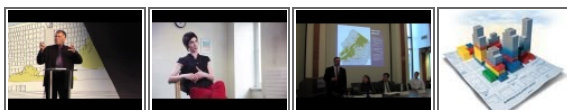
[Notify me](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)



powered by



popular posts

[Placemaking and social entrepreneurship in Dubai](#)

[Housing developments in the U.A.E ; a place maker perspective](#)



