

# DIONYSOS

*“Time for it [Humanity] to question whether it solely wants to live, or to further make the effort required for the accomplishment, even on our refractory planet, of the essential function of the universe, which is a machine to produce gods.”*

Henri Bergson, *Les deux sources de la morale et de la religion* (1932)

*“An idea – the antagonism of the two concepts Dionysian and Apollonian – is translated into metaphysics; history itself is depicted as the development of this idea; in tragedy this antithesis has become unity.”*

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Ecce Homo* (1908)

**CONTENT** *DIONYSOS / APOLLO* is to become a rambling exploration on the lookout for an urban environment beyond reasonable or irrational, good and evil. Considering humankind as embedded in (and dependent on) its geological era, we look upon history’s intertwined layers as torpid raw potential to be fully deployed, appropriated and composed with – joyfully disrespecting historical authenticity. The visionary Hístor seeks, finds novelty in the old, rather than an unfounded assertion of the present with the past. Simultaneously, all his/her thoughts and actions are rooted in essence in the terrestrial now.

The semester *DIONYSOS* aims at designing erratic hyper-contexts generated by hypothetical ruling incentives: as a marker of singularities, it is to become the passionate catalogue raisonné of elemental urban idiosyncrasies.

**PROJECT** Students first construct an argumentative *ARSENAL*, based on an encyclopedic compilation of evocative historical sources. Specific techniques further extend the ordinary architectural tools to address and critically reconsider the contemporary urban environment. Google Earth serves both as a survey backdrop and as a performative tool of investigation and design. Singular metropolitan *ORTHOIMAGES* (2 m × 2 m) become the recording canvas of proliferating storylines. Overthrowing socio-economic status quo, a written *CONSTITUTION* postulates a groundbreaking social contract, thus crystallizing the fictional Metropolis’ shared desires and aspirations. Additionally, a telling but suggestive *MOVIE MONTAGE* portrays life as it unravels within it.

**TEAM** Dominik Arni, François Charbonnet, Marine de Dardel, Pedro Guedes, Steffen Hägele, Patrick Heiz, Marina Montresor, Francisco Moura Veiga

**DATES** Start: 15.SEP, 10h, Pavilion HIP  
Intermediates critiques: tbd  
Final critiques: 15./16.DEC

**INTEGRATED DISCIPLINE** Architecture and Art, CAAD, History of Urban Design, History of Art and Architecture, Theory of Architecture

**INFO** Group Work only English  
LV-No. 052-1145-20L Reader: CHF 30

**CREDIT POSTER** NASA, Zinnias grown in the Veggie plant growth system on ISS-46 (2019)