

THE TRAFFIC OF CLOUDS

Design_Wilfried Hackenbroich, Rainer Muhr / Hackenbroich Architekten Artist_Jan
Christensen(wall painting) Location_Berlin, Germany Build area_160 n/ Completion_2007
Photos offer Hackenbroich Architekten (© Hans-Georg Gaul Editor , Kim Eun Hee

The Traffic of Clouds was a large scale site-specific installation in the PROGRAM Gallery Berlin. The large wooden construction was woven together and worked without any connection elements; the pure tension of the interlinked wood created a stable structural system, in which all individual members stabilised each other. This structural system was extended by a wall painting by Jan Christensen. Developed over the course of eight months between the artist and the architects, this project was ultimately an experiment in collaborative thinking across disciplinary and methodological boundaries. The logic of weaving and constant movement pervaded both the built form and the wall painting. The tension in the wood fibres of the interwoven boards formed sturdy walls of lace, which redefined both the visual effect and the intended use of the wood boards. As if casting the negative space between the elements onto the gallery wall, Jan Christensen's painting deepened the space of the room - blending colour into changing views afforded by the installation. The Traffic of Clouds aimed to question the standardized way we use our everyday space and to present an alternative where the function of a space is not prescribed by convention but determined by its users. Spreading between rooms and reaching towarding the ceiling, the new surfaces disrupted and reconfigured the planning of PROGRAM's functions: the installation dissolved the boundaries between exhibition space and office, hybridizing the formerly separated gallery and office functions.

Test by Harkenbroich Archibelden (III)

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