Final Project:
Guidebook to Seattle Fluid Urbanism

L ARCH 362A/598B/ Urban Landscapes/ Winter 2011/ Hou/

For the final project, you are asked to produce a case study for the virtual “Guidebook to Seattle Fluid Urbanism.” Your case study can be of a site (or series of sites), a type of activity, a phenomenon, or an issue/theme in the urban landscape of Seattle. Continuing from the Urban Photo Diaries assignment, we will use the term “fluid urbanism” as a way to interpret and construct our understanding of the urban landscapes as defined by a complex web of flows, processes, movements, and activities. The purpose for creating the Guidebook is to bring attention to aspects of our everyday environment that are important parts of the urban experiences but are often neglected by mainstream design discourses. As a collective body of work, the Guidebook also represents what you have learned in this class in understanding and interpreting the urban landscapes.

Part I. Reading Summary/Literature Review: (20%) Due Feb. 8, 2011

Select 2 or 3 articles from the readings that are relevant to a more in-depth exploration and interpretation of your selected site, activity, or issues/theme. You are encouraged to use the site, activities, or issues from your Urban Photo Diaries assignment. You will use the readings to inform your selection, documentation, interpretation, and analysis for your final project. In a written essay (3-4 pages for 362A and 5-6 pages for 598B, double-space), summarize the concepts introduced in the articles and how they can inform your exploration of the complexity and nuances of your selected site(s) or activity(s). You may select any readings from the course reader (on E-Reserve) that are relevant to your project. You may also find other relevant readings to complement the ones in the reader.

Part II. Final Report (Guidebook to Seattle Fluid Urbanism): (40%) Due March 15, 2011

(1) Provide a photographic documentation of your site(s), activity(s), or issue using 4-10 images (Submit your work in JPEG--96 dpi, about 800x600 pixels in size).
(2) Write a 150-word summary describing the key characteristics and observations of your selected site, activity, or issue/theme; include an appropriate title.
(3) Identify the location(s) of your site or activity on Flickr (see additional instructions).
(4) In a written essay (approx. 1500 words for 362A and 2500 words for 598B, double-space), explore specific aspects of your observations as informed by the selected readings. Incorporate sections of your reading summary to develop your conceptual framework for the final essay.
(5) Post your summary and images to Flickr and link to the group site -- http://www.flickr.com/groups/fluidurbanism/, and submit everything including your essay via Collect-it.