

Dear Reader,

Typically, the first thing anyone knows about you, or I, or any of us (besides the fact that *we exist*) is our sex. In contemporary society, it is this primary identity - sex, that our life is constructed around.

For such a fundamental property, architecture has only discussed its relationship with sex and sexuality superficially- as if it was a passing trend. Due to this, our understanding has been reduced to formal metaphors, seductive imagery, idealistic representations of body and space. We struggle separating SEX(Y) from appropriation by consumer and popular media, political outcomes, or our own biases.

We fear appearing vulgar or cliché by discussing sex/uality and therefore we forfeit the ability to understand and control our perceptions and theories about these concepts and how they relate to architecture.

Datum has been relentless in our attempts to reveal, dissent, and repeat. The work inside is unafraid to expose itself, and expose it's readers, to critique. The aim is not to be provocateurs. After all, SEX(Y) has implications beyond it's metallic cellophane, Barberella swimsuit, neon sign facade.

Liza Walling
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