

What Images Do

WHAT IMAGES DO is an open, international research network dealing with what images do. The claim is that images make a difference. The challenge is to promote a scientific understanding of the fact that the identity of an image is different from what it may represent.

The network is not interested in illusions, but moreover in a dialogue between image and reality. Architecture is characterized by such as dialogue in which the image (representation) helps create a reality that was not a reality before the creation of the image.

When making architecture, the representation of a building or a city is prior to the realization of what is being represented. The image - the representation - is part of a work, supported by the intuitive recognition of the image as 'iconic difference' i.e. as making possible insight into and realization of often very complex structures.

To confirm and promote the specific potentials of the image, a verbal dialogue with the image is required, that is, a dialogue which does not maintain the identity of the image as an already established reality but rather articulates the particular being of the image.

Today, educational institutions within the fields of art, design and architecture - which used to be driven primarily by an intuitive dialogue with the production of images - are required to engage in a dialogue with the potentials of scientific research. The ambition of this international network, as constituted by participants from various institutions, is to unfold this dialogue by letting verbal language support rather than suppress insights into the unique potentials of the image. Forthcoming meetings and symposium:

eikones, Basel February 6 - 8, 2013

TU Delft May 29 - 31, 2013

Kunstakademie Düsseldorf November 13 - 15, 2013

Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen March 19 - 21, 2014

Registration for the Basel event by email to Martin Søberg, martin.soberg@kadk.dk before January 28, 2013.

Ill.: Cornelius Norbertus Gijsbrechts, Trompe l'oeil. 1670-1671. Statens Museum for Kunst, www.smk.dk