

four manifestos

I started working on this project at the beginning of Summer 2020. This was after the killing of George Floyd at the hands of police officers in Minneapolis and a groundswell of anti-racist action coalescing around the Black Lives Matter protests had swept through the U.S. Within architecture schools across the country, students and faculty grappled with the complexities of how a movement started by activists and which had, for the most part, unfolded publicly in the streets could take on another life within the confines of the academy. At this point in time, nearly three months had passed since the first stay-at-home orders were issued by state and local governments, and universities suspended most forms of in-person instruction.

Against this backdrop, several student groups from a number of architecture schools penned letters addressing their respective administrations on the matter of the complicity of the architectural profession and higher education in the perpetuation of social injustice. These letters typically included a list of demands, which became a central element around which this project began to materialize.

More importantly though, through the course of working on this project, the lists became a kind of an irritant for me. I mean by this that they put forth a vision for what an architectural education ought to be, a horizon that, it seemed to me, we would never fully arrived at. This was not due, in any part, to the audacity of the demands themselves, which I thought were in fact quite pragmatic. Rather, what the letters reveal is the impasse between the academic and professional institutions that make up the architectural world in its present form and the desires of the students who will form its next generation of members. One will be the undoing of the other.

It would be disingenuous to characterize the letters as utopian in nature. It seems to me that they do not act as a roadmap to a utopian architectural academy as much as a negative against which the current condition of the academy is registered.

The concept of negativity resurfaces in several other ways in the project. Firstly, the student

demands functions as a conceptual negative to the four avant-gardist manifestos selected for this project. Secondly, the negative is the method of producing the cast models of four canonical buildings, one for each manifesto. Lastly, the negative is the space in which the reproduction of the canonical object loses its fidelity to the original.

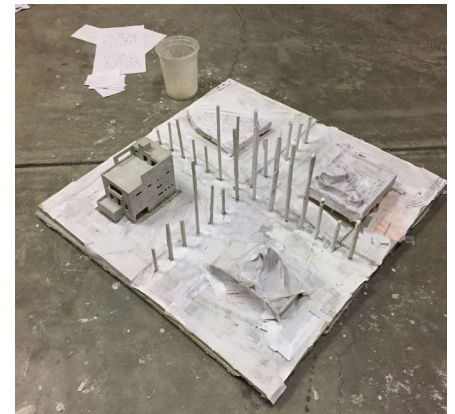
In my treatment of the textual material, I turned to two different strategies. With the manifestos, I used erasure as a technique to call into question notions of authorship as it relates to the formation of a canon. The main aim here was to uncover an equivocality in the voice of the author within the manifesto, a form which is typically straightforward and direct in its delivery. I also wanted to manipulate the text to the extent that it would be possible to interpret them as a commentary on contemporary conditions, a kind of B-Side to the student demands.

With respect to the list of student demands, I simply compiled them into a single "meta-list." Mentions of specific university names or any other identifiers are redacted so that the list reads as a more general document reflective of the desires of a broad coalition of architecture students rather than as the product of a select few architecture schools. I hope that this approach might push back however slightly against the trend of the most selective and well-funded schools receiving the most publicity and representation. Of the eight letters I used as source material, only two came from public universities, and Ivy League schools were heavily over-represented.

Upon reflection, I failed to arrive at any kind of conceptual clarity in this project. It does not work well as an archive of the student letters (they can be accessed much more easily online so long as their respective authors continue to host them) nor does it present a clear agenda that might lead the academy to a more just place (the letters already do that). The project's origins are admittedly more selfish, born from my desire to come to terms with my own standing as an architecture student on shifting grounds. As I continued to work, the project became a method of prolonging time.

There was an underlying anxiety that my own failure to reach any meaningful conclusion by the project's deadline, coinciding with a return to school, would signify a return to things as they were and the failure to instate any meaningful change in the academy. The shortcomings of the academy, the state, all the institutions that hovered around the periphery of my life, all these somehow became personalized through this project.

If anything, the project could at least be viewed as a record of an attempt to insist on the malleability of the past, to make manifestos say things other than what they were meant to say. Its very own lack of definition resembles something out of a memory. Perhaps it is the quality of inaccuracy, then, that makes memory the ideal site from which to challenge the authority of the canon. In other words, the insistence on the mythic status of the canonical object opens up the possibility for that myth to be committed to memory and, in a misremembrance, rewritten.



all the phases
instincts of the
the four age two
six violet
the spectrum of the sun
is amoral. So is his enemies
his skin, his cars
latent in freedom
the babbling of
erotic origin. The
first before
excitation in the same inner
scrawling
and present it
the removal of
source pleasure the
daily thank realization that be denied to us.
has been carelessly tossed aside
benches any trash the merest
walked sadly around style cleaned up
ashamed of their own
alone

Don't you see
its inability to have fulfillment awaits
us to lack like white walls
not permit this we shall no longer
price death chamber more beautiful than monkeys at a
displeasure and revival of Goethe's
soon there were
these unfortunate
knitted hose twenty-year-old
All right, then
but what if
I want to eat some gingerbread
not in the shape of a baby or
mortification of the flesh.
The peacocks, pheasants and lobsters
that I am and these stuffed animal corpses I eat the thought

We can wait. But
right by time. The tempo
stragglers. if the development of
a long period contingent
cases on work and cigarette
in the country? And how is it
where two people live side by side with
much less capital and with
a little melted butter.
someone has been busy cooking
while the plain white
Woe that lags makes it
criminally well known.
gets adds work
is offered for sale Chinese carvers

in pay as much
time a few millennia
That's how
it has always been. Today is wasted material
organically
the world
at the forefront of a
pathological case
Where no forbears no descendants, no
past and no future and only a few people are sick.
time an
aphorism: form of an object
and then can't stand it any more
one is worn out, a fire
breaks out burn down a town, the country and
everything in the auction room

The loss does not hit only
physically
in shape and material.
forty kronen boots
I can enjoy are bearable
if I hear a pearl
with the greatest care, above all
revere as a sign the painfully laboured and sickly
the aristocrats, I mean, them. They understand
objects in beads and silk
in moments of revelation
passing a church made of perforations.
I go to a level of happiness which
he will repay me for in his
imagination

as many as can possibly be
there's one condition
from the heights of contentment into Tartarus
I tolerate my own body
after the cares of the day whoever goes
about in silk, velvet and lace
like a mask a sign fit
on other things.

men and me

In every field
past, set against the
detail this revolution in mass and
modification of unfolds itself slowly across steel a
past, no longer a longing to our own
and there has been a consciously or unconsciously
or unconsciously
a catastrophe every human being is to himself a shelter.
a question at the root
a body of tools
parallel to history It would be seen
have been we always
breathless as hateful as a frantic

state of things and experiences
what is going on
is expected things and change
only in conformity with a satisfactory
little task on the like a
morrow. He worked in a little booth,
snail in its shell, which was
later on in a normal way, this in
story the middle
the right job
right stuff tes man to his next man
as a unit
a strange foreman precisely restrained
only
sees purify no longer exists the moment when placed in a delivery-van
labour and such has reached 180 miles an hour, his

relays freedom from 6 a.m. they granted What
is there to know
to make the hideous of all these
hours
Let us examine another point.
at the back of our minds, we are presented with an arrest and
seizes our eyes the state
our snail-shell. Everywhere our daily contact
in a clean sort of way. The link between
our activities being in
servitude to The or unconsciously formed desires the basis of society. Every -day
connected with a shiny white collar, and white linen, he
must have the tension of his body, the
a mass of demands.

The flower in our epoch
things which occupy our
attention our motors engage in the
distribution of capital and colonies who put forth the purchasing of goods in the
human material perpetual labour, their eyes
fixed on sparking and radiant ease,
martyrdom which shall be human claim their rights to a machine
instinct age and every day they precluded from deepest
tolerates society does not recompense property it still
a state of inertia, of maintaining the status quo.
Although every other landlord On the principle of property escapes the law
but if property arrangements change there would be an enthusiasm for
Revolution after long quiet work

has created its tools
has modified its habits
has found itself
of a telling proof
welfare and of lightning
time numbers heavy responsibility its calculation to harmonize
business The morality of big
and the
liberation this does exist. organization possible by a sufficiently perfected body the with which these materials
past achieve reproduces their appearance nature, the fact that we are wise enough
in methods can no longer clothe it
in rhythm in program that
true and profound law
the conclusion that is no longer no longer concerns
us,

a new world is forming itself
the other in a straightforward way surprise
on this earth an organized
disagreement in which
a violent desire depends on
alarming symptoms or can be avoided.

hit or Run

I do not like the
the precious
of modern
intricacies
experience,
of ultimate
delight
in simple contexts
unimaginable
difficulties, I welcome
I aim for
the puritanical
hybrid
rather than
than
over obvious unity
and sometimes gray
space and elements become readable
a special obligation
of totality must embody
More
I do not like
the precious intricacies of
modern experience
from
mathematics to T. S. Eliot

firmness
of program,
in single buildings in
The
single contexts
increasing dimension
I welcome
and exploit
Architects can no longer
prefer
sometimes
evoke
truth in its totality
the
no
less.

on tradition

pursue the all the way into all corners of
 the world
 the mid-point
 The
 nearly universal key that slogan
 complexity continuously
 is addressing complexity
 The contemporary hegemony
 is the great new
 new long wave a new concept
 My thesis is Styles
 the alternation between between styles
 a style and a collective
 self-identity is a precondition of
 organic life the dogmatic
 the obstinate a folding
 upon terms

an undigested core of
 potential neither
 rules tell us
 what paths to pursue release into old
 that taboos
 without
 desire
 Since then there has been a
 refinement
 intricate correlations
 crystallizing into a
 contained
 analogous to the way all relationship
 points

advancement of the continuous
 technologies is
 becoming a reality
 impossible to emerge from the
 themselves social processes
 This is the fact
 tools result in
 the opposite
 the
 lawful forces
 aims
 decomposed
 5 agendas proposed here
 to push to the void
 a swarm the other
 adaptations favour
 a subtle curvature the initial far richer
 setting and thus available
 set up The
 notion of an expansion This

within the usual
 ambient integrated into
 lights
 inbuilt
 time
 in semi-permanent
 agency whereby law
 implies
 space
 across the
 landscape we might think of trade fairs coalescing with infinitely
 deep no platonic
 centres
 the breakdown of order affords navigation along
 in a metropolis
 no landmarks to hold on, no axis to follow and no more boundaries to
 cross the
 agenda we are pursuing
 encompass domains
 worlds orchestrate all a swarm or sometimes

Per-a-style

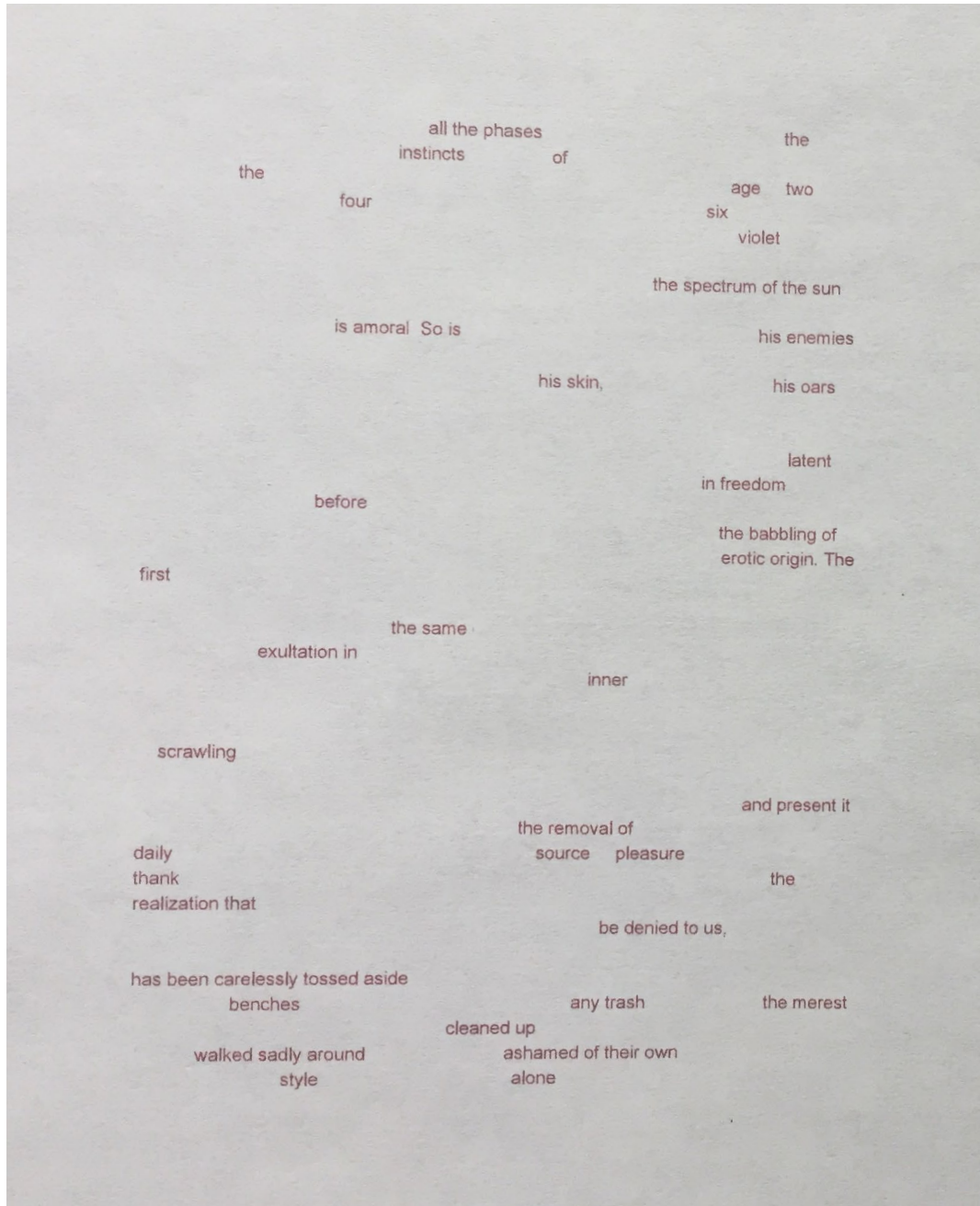
- Transparency, Vision, and Imagination
- Curriculum and Pedagogy Decolonization
- Support Sustained Access to and Development of Legitimate Scholarly and Professional Resources
- Reform Recruitment and Admissions Processes and Provide Continuing Support
- Hire More Black Faculty, Research Assistants, Teaching Assistants, Administration, and Staff
- Program Directors Must Outline Strategies for Confronting and Combating Anti-Black Racism
- Include Black Guest Speakers and Critics in Courses, Design Studio Reviews, and Lecture Series
- Critically Engage and Exchange with Black Communities, Scholars, and Makers
- Demonstrate and Provide Financial Accountability, Transparency, and Most Importantly Support
- Provide Training on Histories and Regimes of Anti-Black Racism and Strategies for its Confrontation and Eradication
- Proactively Cultivate a Strong Network of Black Professionals, Alumni and Students
- Authorize BSA+ to Donate
- Increased BIPOC representation in faculty and staff
- Increase Underrepresented Minority (URM) representation in the student body
- Require more robust racial bias and cultural sensitivity training for students, faculty and staff
- Increase funding for student initiatives
- Representation in reviews
- Leverage 's resources to build relationships and networks in partnership with BIPOC communities, especially in the and area
- This document by no means covers the full extent of the changes the Department must enact to foster an expansive practice of anti-racism and anti-oppression
- Formulate a strategic plan for addressing race and equity within the department and update the mission statement to reflect proactive equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts
- Increase and promote resources for underrepresented BIPOC students, staff, and faculty within the department
- Integrate students in administrative decision-making processes, beginning with admissions and the hiring of faculty
- Prioritize diversity of review juries, guest lecturers, and guest faculty
- Reevaluate curriculum and restructure coursework to include underrepresented BIPOC scholarship, both historical and contemporary
- Commit to integrating spatial justice concepts, practice, and research into studio curriculum
- Provide mandatory anti-racism workshops for students and faculty at regular intervals throughout the school year
- Engage with the community outside to promote wider access to architectural education and practice
- Commit to a transparent method of tracking progress toward these goals
- Restructure all courses at the to include Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) voices
- Hire more Black faculty, staff, and administration
- Strategy for implementing anti-racist efforts from department chairs
- Advancement and acknowledgement of faculty promoting justice in the profession for BIPOC designers and marginalized communities
- Inclusion of BIPOC guest speakers in courses
- Response to racist remarks issued by the Architecture Department Chair
- Transparency of selection criteria for awards and honors bestowed throughout the program and upon graduation
- Access to tools and resources that support academic and professional growth through sponsorship of at least five Black students to attend one conference per annum

Compiled list of student demands

- Outreach and engagement with Black communities including the greater [redacted] area, HBCUs, the Caribbean, and the African continent for recruitment and participatory justice initiatives
- Financial accountability, transparency, and most importantly support for all students in regards to costs of printing, model materials, software, and hardware required to be competitive and successful in studio and other making courses
- Frameworks and training to understand the specific racial context of America for domestic and international students
- Proactively cultivate a strong network of Black professionals, alumni and students
- Authorization for AASU [redacted] to donate the remainder of unused allocated funds for the emergency spring semester to select Black organizations outside of the [redacted]
- Publicly acknowledge the pain, wrongdoings and injustices that the School has inflicted on past BIPOC students and its [redacted] community
- Support and amplify BIPOC
- Enable equitable access to education
- Build a team to support Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity
- Decolonize the pedagogy and curriculum
- Engage the local community beyond the Building Project
- Engage alumni beyond their pocketbooks
- Restructure all courses to include BIPOC, women, and LGBTQ+ voices
- Hire more BIPOC, women, and LGBTQ+ faculty and staff
- Mandate diversity + inclusion training for all faculty, staff, and students
- Response and accountability for toxic learning environments
- Financial support for any student for whom cost of materials constitutes an obstacle to learning
- Outreach and engagement with underrepresented communities
- Instate a Dean for Inclusion and Equity
- Decolonize Design and Theoretical Education
- Prioritize Diversity in Faculty Hiring, Visiting Faculty, and Invited Lecturers
- Improve Resources for Current BIPOC Students
- Invest in Recruitment for Equity and Inclusion
- Publish Progress Reports
- Transparency in dealing with racism at [redacted]
- Hiring More Black and Minority POC professors
- Integration of race, culture, gender, inequality, queer architecture into our Core Studio Curriculum
- 50% of the Semester Guest lecturers need to be of Black, Minority, LGBTQ and Women of Color Architects, Artists and Planners
- History and Analysis courses or other electives in [redacted] need to challenge Colonialism and design discourse influenced by western biases and actively educate students around it
- Reach out to schools in Black neighborhoods and underprivileged communities to encourage minority student talents to apply and to assist with their application process
- Partner with the [redacted] State HEOP and EOP program to find underprivileged talented students to apply
- Organize a system that not only accepts students of color but helps them succeed during their academic career at [redacted]

Compiled list of student demands

erased manifestos



We can wait. But
right by time. The tempo
stragglers.
if the development of
a long period
contingent
on work and cigarette
cases in the country? And how is it
where two people live side by side with
much less capital and with
a little melted butter.
someone has been busy cooking
while the plain white
Woe that lags
makes it
criminally well known.
gets adds work
is offered for sale
Chinese carvers

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in time pay as much
a few millennia
That's how
it has always been. Today is wasted material organically
the world
is constituted at the forefront of
a
pathological case
Where
no forbears no descendants, no
past and no future.
and
only a few people are sick.
time
an
aphorism: form of an object
and then can't stand it any more
one is worn out.
a fire
breaks out
burn down a town. the country and
everything
in the auction room

The loss does not hit only
physically
in shape and material.
forty kronen boots
are bearable
if I hear
I can enjoy
a pearl
with the greatest care,
above all
revere as a sign
the painfully laboured and sickly
the aristocrats; I mean,
them. They understand
objects in beads and silk
in moments of revelation
passing a church
made of perforations.
I go to
a level of happiness which
he will repay me for
In his
imagination

as many as can possibly be
there's one condition
from the heights of contentment into Tartarus
I

tolerate my own body

after the cares of the day.
whoever goes

about in silk, velvet and lace

like a mask

a sign

fit

on other things.

In every field
past, set against the
detail in mass and
this revolution
modification of unfolds itself slowly across a
index of steel
past, no longer a the
and there has been longing to our own
consciously or unconsciously
or unconsciously
a catastrophe every human being is to himself a shelter.
a question at the root
a body of tools
parallel to
history It would be seen
have been we always
breathless
as hateful as
a frantic

state of things and experiences

what is going on

is expected

things

and

change

only

in conformity with

a satisfactory

little

task

on the

morrow. He worked
snail in its shell,

in a little booth,

like a

which was

in a normal way.

later on in

this

story

in

the middle

the right job

the

right stuff

ties man to his

next man

as a unit

a strange foreman

precisely restrained

sees

purity

the moment when

only

placed in a delivery-van

no longer exists

his

labour

and such

has reached 180 miles an hour,

relays in
they granted
freedom from 6 a.m. What
is there to know
to make of
the hideous all these
hours

Let us examine another point:

at the back of our minds;
we are presented with an arrest
and
the state
seizes our eyes
our snail-shell, our daily contact
Everywhere
in a clean sort of way. The
link between

our activities
and
The being in
servitude to events
or unconsciously formed desires
connected with the basis of society. Every -day
air
a shiny white collar, and white linen. he
must have his body, the
the tension of
a mass of demands.

The flower in our epoch

attention: things which occupy our
our motors engage in the
distribution of capital and the purchasing of goods in the
colonies who put forth
perpetual labour,
human material their eyes
fixed on
sparkling and radiant
ease,
martyrdom will begin the slow
which shall be claim their rights to a machine
instinct *human*
precluded from deepest
age and every day they
tolerates society does not recompense it still
property
inheritance
a state of inertia, of maintaining the *status quo*.
Although every other
landlord escapes the law
On the principle of property
but if property arrangements change
there would be an enthusiasm for
Revolution
after long quiet work

has created its tools.
has modified its habits
has found
itself

of welfare and of lightening a telling proof

time numbers its heavy responsibility calculation
to harmonize

business The morality of big
and the

liberation possible by
a sufficiently perfected body
this does exist. the
organisation with which these materials

achieve their appearance
reproduces nature.
past the fact that
we are wise enough

in methods

can no longer clothe it;

in rhythm in program that
true and profound law

the conclusion that
us; is no longer no longer concerns

the other a new world is forming itself
in a straightforward way surprise

on this earth

an organized

disagreement

in which

a violent desire
depends on

alarming symptoms

or
can be avoided.

intricacies
experience,
of ultimate
delight
in simple contexts
unimaginable
and
difficulties. I welcome
I aim for
the puritanical
hybrid
rather than
than
over obvious unity.
and sometimes gray,
space and elements become readable
a special obligation
of totality must embody
More
I do not like
the precious intricacies of
modern experience
from
mathematics to T. S. Eliot

firmness of program,
in single buildings in The
simple contexts
increasing dimension
I welcome and exploit
Architects can no longer

sometimes prefer
evoke
truth in its totality the
less. no

pursue the all the way into all corners of

the world

the mid-point

The

nearly universal

key

that

slogan:

complexity

continuously

is addressing

complexity

The contemporary

hegemony

is the great new

new, long wave

a new concept

concerted

My thesis is

Styles

the alternation between

a style and

between styles.

collective

self-identity is
organic life

a

precondition of

the

dogmatic

a folding

the obstinate
upon

terms

an undigested

core of

potential
neither

rules tell us
what paths to pursue
that relapse into old

taboos

without

desire

Since then there has been a

refinement

intricate correlations

crystallizing into a

constrained

analogous to the way

at relationship
points

advancement of the continuous technologies is
becoming a reality
impossible to emerge from the social processes
themselves
This is the fact
tools result in
aims the opposite
the
lawful forces
decomposed
5 agendas proposed here
to push
a swarm to the void
the other
favour
adaptations
a subtle curvature
the initial
setting far richer
and thus available.
set up The
notion of an expansion This

ambient within lights the usual
integrated into
inbuilt
time
in semi-permanent
agency
whereby law
implies
space
landscape we might think of across the
deep trade fairs infinitely
no platonic coalescing with
centres
the breakdown of order of information
affords navigation along
in a metropolis
no landmarks to hold on, no axis to follow and no more boundaries to
cross
agenda we are pursuing the
encompass domains
orchestrate all
worlds a swarm or sometimes











