The Positionality and the Promise of Architecture(s)

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We are living in an age where the digital avant-garde has been blooming in the practice of architectural discipline. This is an age when the inevitable march of digital technologies, especially the mobilization of artificial intelligence, has increasingly gained momentum. For these reasons, it is even more challenging for architects and researchers to tackle their roles in this tendency. In this context, the paper aims to question the positionality of architecture which entangles multiple interactions in this age, both material and non-material, by asking "What is the state and impact of 'architecture' in our digital age?".

Nowadays the tasks in architecture are more demanding in dealing with its relationship with social diversity and even conflicts. The current work tends to revive the self-consciousness and self-reflection of architecture. Furthermore, when we discuss about architecture, it is always crucial to put it in a larger context, in the urban environment and its societal context. The morphological approach in design and research, in this sense, plays an essential role. Urban morphology studies would be beneficial for better understanding and mapping cities and contributing to architecture afterwards. Another purpose here is that, thinking through 'architecture', to go beyond digital avant-garde architecture to reflect the relationship between architecture and its context by turning back to some fundamental concepts from Taoism and Heidegger's philosophy.

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