



Drawing without Erasing

In the studio, our daily work is mainly based on drawing by hand and building models. We are particularly interested in continuing to work using our hands—even though we have begun to use computers—because of the direct contact between the hands and our mind. Buildings are still built by hand, and it seems as though hands are better at measuring and drawing than at building. While hands move we have time to think and observe our actions. The tools are connected to the hand's slowness, so this way of working is able to give us the experience of moving slowly.

We draw using pencil and ink, rulers and set squares, on tracing paper. This makes it possible to make changes without erasing, drawing over and over again with the tracing paper above the previous drawings, re-drawing the previous steps of an idea. Complete and incomplete drawings are mixed together and pile up on the tables, so that the entire project can be reviewed at any time. Its physical presence is evidence of work carried out, and also shows what remains to be done. The dirt that steadily accumulates on the drawing as a result of the work makes it possible to see how long the drawings have been worked on, and also to detect doubts, moments of indecision, the places of greatest tension in a project's development. Therefore the drawings start having areas in which you cannot make out a specific line, but instead a blot that contains thoughts.

This is something that never happens with the computer. Print outs are too clean and do not show the density and the areas with the most sediment of thinking that lies behind each drawing. There is no evidence to suggest the history of the development of an idea, the process of a drawing's evolution, which in our opinion is essential to understand the entire project.

Recognizing decisions with the pencil, with the hand, with the eye focused on the line, an intense hand-eye relationship... seeing in this working technique not so much the representation of a specific thought but the possibilities of its research and communication... is one of our studio's main activities.

