

Getting to Know a Cube

“Architecture is essentially an extension of nature into the man-made realm, providing the ground for perception and the horizon of experiencing and understanding the world. It is not an isolated and self-sufficient artifact; it directs our attention and existential experience to wider horizons. Architecture also gives a conceptual and material structure to societal institutions, as well as to the conditions of daily life. It concretises the cycle of the year, the course of the sun and the passing of the hours of the day.”— Juhani Pallasmaa, *The Eyes of the Skin: Architecture and the Senses*

You will identify a specific cube.

Your Kinesphere is the starting point for defining the cube - that is the imaginary cube that you are always in.

This cube must be somewhere you have regular access to.

It's a somewhere you can physically be and return to on several occasions over the next week.

You choose the size/scale of your cube. - from identifying your Kinesphere you can expand or contract the dimensions to articulate the exact boundaries of the cube and thus all that it contains.

BE VERY PRECISE - know the exact boundaries and dimensions of your cube.

Your "getting to know" is a process that you engage in over the next week.

A process trying different methods – sometimes failing, sometimes succeeding – but always documenting the process in a variety of ways and reflecting.

You want to try to get to know EVERYTHING in that cube and the relationships between them.

When you think you know everything try again. In the dark in the sunlight, with a different method....

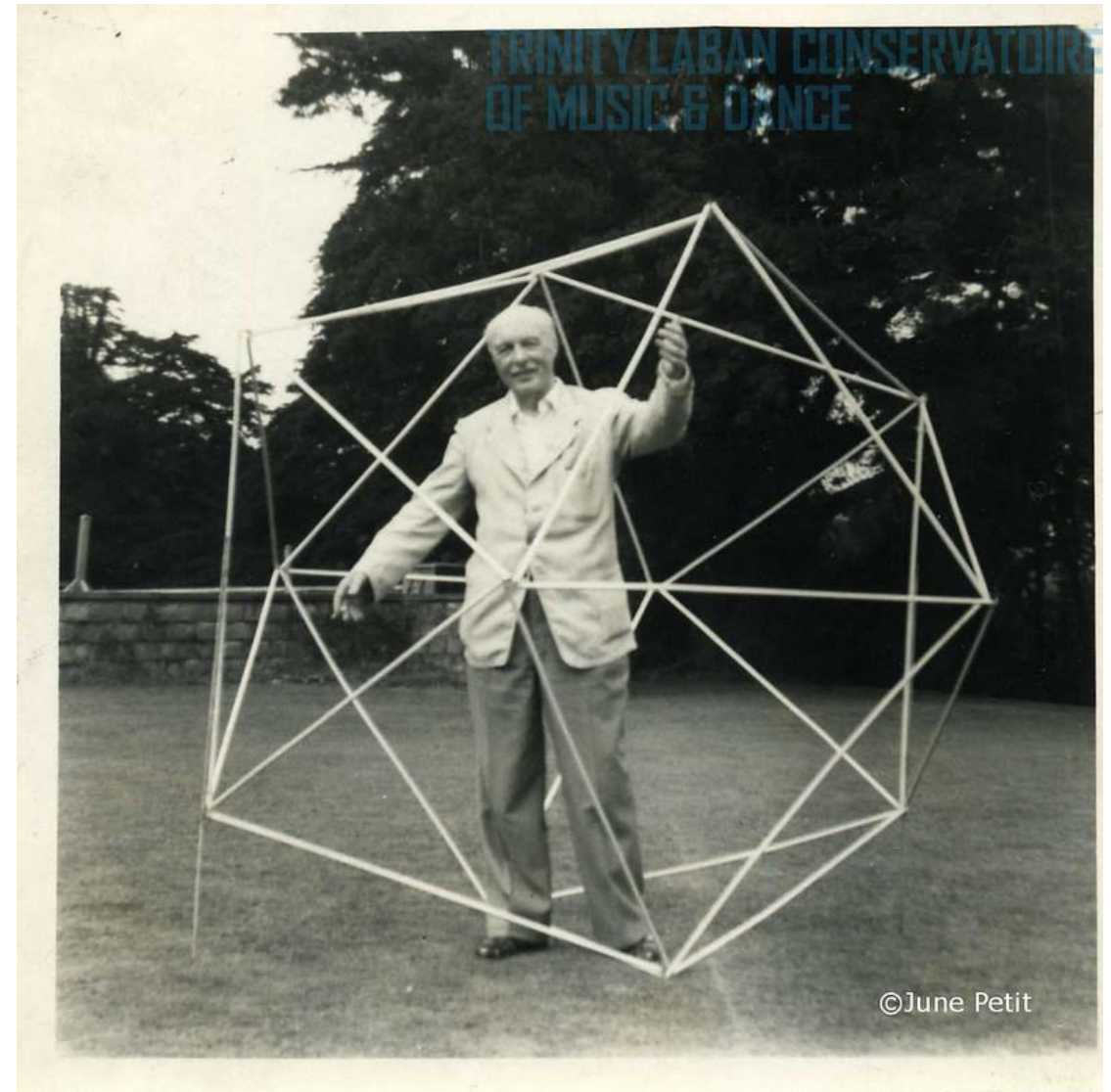
You are asked to document and make notations of everything you observe with your eyes and your body in that cube; Everything from the physical materials to the ephemeral elements.

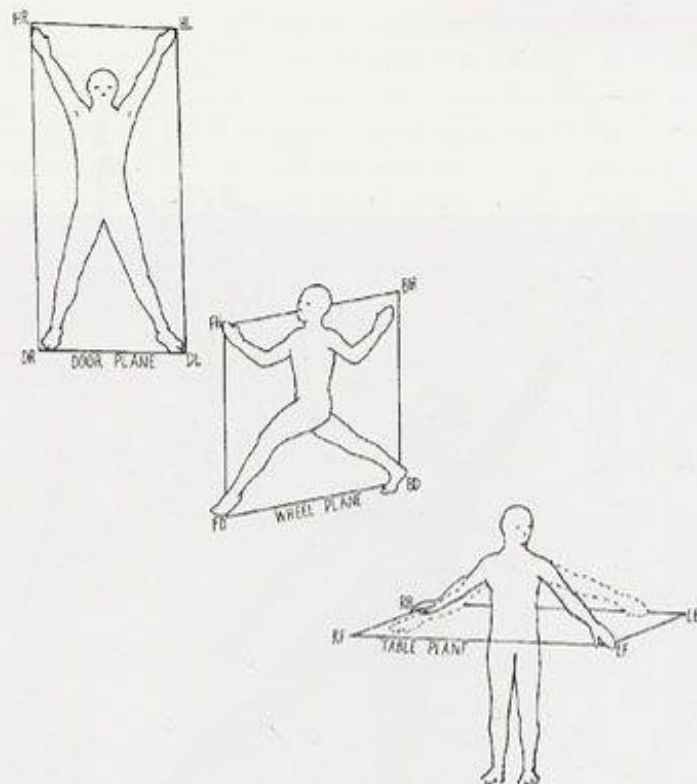
EVERYTHING from hyper specific to general interpretations should be observed documented and notations made.

Rudolf Laban

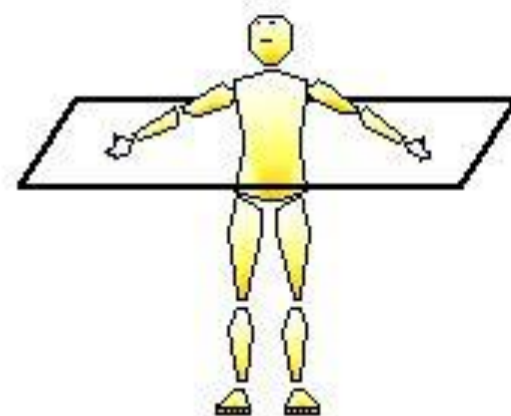
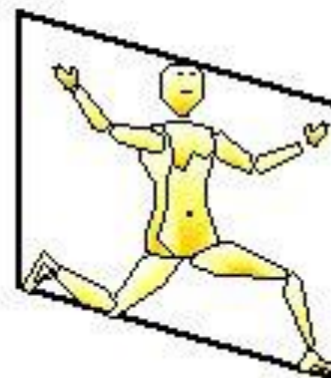
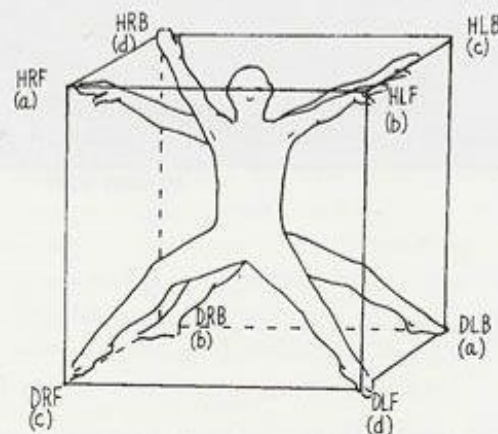
"Movement is, so to speak, living architecture – living in the sense of changing emplacements as well as changing cohesion. The architecture is created by human movements and is made up of pathways tracing shapes in space." (Rudolf Laban, *Choreutics*)

Kinesphere is the personal space surrounding each one of us and extends as far as we can reach in any direction. Outside our kinesphere is general space; whenever we move, we take our kinesphere with us and displace the general space. If we turn round, our kinesphere turns with us while the general space remains the same. Sometimes, another person's kinesphere gets too close for comfort!

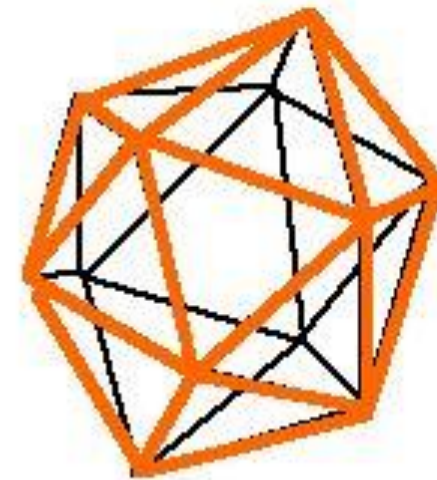
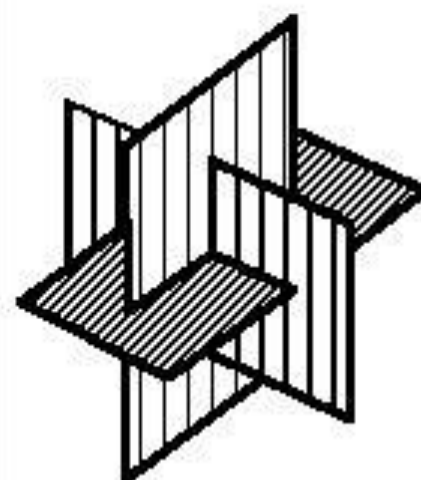




Rudolf von Laban, *Choreutics*, les trois plans



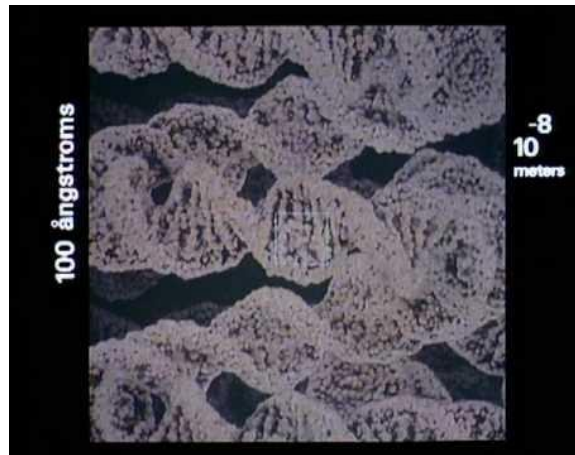
Rectangle-shaped cardinal body - planes



Linking the corners of rectangular planes builds an icosahedron

(2000) J.S.Longstaff

Powers of Ten and the Relative Size of Things in the Universe



[Link to Video "Powers of Ten" by Charles and Ray Eames 1977](#)

Consider the methods you can try out to get to know.

Be Rigorous
Be Curious
Be Exact
Be Whimsical
Be Critical
Be Experimental

These methods can be repetitions of those we explored in the classes together. Make your own versions and adaptations of those methods as you see fit. Use other methods that you already use in your practice. Use a variety of methods. Borrow the methods of other practitioners.

Consider the ways you can make Documentation and Notations

Be Rigorous
Be Curious
Be Exact
Be Whimsical
Be Critical
Be Experimental

On Tues 17th be prepared to introduce us to your Cube and all it encompasses.

Using your Documentation and Notations create an installation that gives us insights into your process and discoveries.

From your process of "Getting to know" be specific about discovery/findings you made that you would like to share and also the method you used to make that discovery. Use your documentation and Notations to show this.

Each student will have no more than 3 minutes to share.

Enjoy!