Visions of Grandeur: A (disciplinary) reading of Stockholm’s architecture policy

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The work done by the urban planning discipline is both regulatory and gestational; it centres on a procedural space that is not so much neutral (and thus empty) as *heavily expectant*. In this space, architectural proposals for the future city are manipulated in anticipation of their (pending) materialisation. Taking feminist scholarship on and critique of *chora*, as well as the notion of ‘container technologies’ advanced by Zoe Sofia, as a point of departure, this paper examines *the work that is undertaken by planning, for and on architecture*.

In 2014, the City of Stockholm approved its architecture policy, *Arkitektur Stockholm*. Emerging at a time of intense public critique of Swedish architecture, *Arkitektur Stockholm* promises to ‘raise the bar’, thus effectively acknowledging the mounting sense of crisis in the ‘architecture industry’. Here, I trace the construction of the transformative procedural space produced by the policy, speculatively evaluating its possible disciplinary effects.

Biography:

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