



take on two radical dimensions: the first is a phrenetic capacity to doubly and perhaps even triply program a single interior or exterior space; and second, this dynamic spatial program provides an ephemeral cue for modern architects to respond to by framing space in a way that amplifies this collection of events. Certain architectural theorists have attempted to redefine these spaces as either organically connected to mass culture, as Mumford and Bauer have done, or, as Detlef Mertins' analysis of Mies van der Rohe's architecture reveals, have relayed the ways that public commercial and civic spaces operate as event spaces within the city. Interestingly though, it is not always the writings of architects that provide us with the clearest explanation of how these spaces operate. We need look no farther than American literature to find the most powerful examples of interior placemaking.