

22.09.22

During the pandemic we had to pair up with our machines and improvised workshops at home. When we came back it was not like we could turn on a switch and everything worked as before. We had to pair up with our tools and workshops anew. We had to re-pair. This is of course not a situation unique to art-school. We it is everywhere around us, and interesting for design.

How we presently repair is a matter of moving from our current situation to a preferred one. And, as we do so, to explore the process of finding out what that might be, which of our performances that communicate it, and how the production aspect is moving: as we move towards desired ends, how much of it is already achieved. What remains to be done, how and when?

When we realise that these are not only practical matters but parallels to our ideas, then we are in the space of theory development. Of developing our own theory. Of entering dialogue with others, with books and other media. Cultivating forms of conversation where critique comes out as something generous, rather than as a curse. You will be accompanied by me during 3 terms, with a balanced diet to help you grow.

This is the first term. Where we build up a foundation for the two next terms. This we will go through in class. We will use e-mail as little as possible. For now I would like to give you two pieces of advice: when you plan to do something, do it immediately. Don't wait. The other piece of advice: switch off your mobile while working—whenever you can—and use a notebook instead.

A final piece of advice: if you make sure to define a task that demands *accuracy*, in all that you do, it will be helpful in the discussions that we will have in class and at your desks. The point being that *accuracy* and *precision* frequently are not the same, and therefore bringing accuracy on board may be a way to sort out the more thorny and difficult issue of *where* you want to go.

Something that I plan to do this week: cut a 12mm thick mdf board to the size of this folder (A1). Paint one side with black-board paint, and the other side with white board paint. I need a big one because I teach. If you want to make something similar to yourselves, A2 may be enough. Then you have a board for group work, and a table to write on in many class situations.