

The defended neighborhood is characterized by a homogeneous social group exerting dominance within its boundaries in reaction to perceived threats of territorial violation by outsiders. Street gang use spray paint while homeowners associations use neighborhood watch signs; either way we are talking informal militias.

— Steven Flusty, "Building Paranoia" in *Architecture of Fear*, ed. Nan Ellin (New York, Princeton Architectural Press, 1997), 37

OBJECT ORANGE/
DETROIT, DEMOLITION,
DISNEYLAND: AN ANONY-
MOUS GROUP OF ARTISTS
IN DETROIT PAINT
DERELICT BUILDINGS
"TIGGERIFFIC ORANGE"

The architect cannot confine himself to drawing and cannot avoid oral consultation with other agents of the production space. Foremost the user, but also

**the bureaucrat
the politician,
the financier,**

and so on...

— Henri Lefebvre, *The Production of Space*

IMAGE © THE DETROIT FREE PRESS
PHOTO BY KYLE KEENER

STREET PARTY II

RECLAIM THE STREETS (RTS): A COLLECTIVE ORGANIZATION AIMS TO BRING AWARENESS OF THE COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC SPACES THROUGH STAGING NON-VIOLENT OCCUPATIONS OF ROADWAYS AS "STREET PARTIES."

THEY BELIEVE IT IS THE VEHICLE, NOT THE PEDESTRIAN WHO CREATES THE OBSTRUCTION IN WHAT IS A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE PUBLIC OF THE CITY

This alternative and intensely politicized way of looking at cityspace, combining both macro and micro perspectives without privileging one over the other, has been much less frequently explored in the literature on cities, for too often the views from above and below have been defined as separate and competitive empirical and interpretive domains rather than interactive and complementary moments in our understanding of urbanism and its spatial specificities.

— Edward Soja, *Post-Metropolis. Critical Studies of Cities and Regions*, 2000

SÃO PAULO NO LOGO:
IN JUNE 2007, MAYOR
GILBERTO KASSAB BANNED ALL
OUTDOOR ADVERTISING.
PHOTOS BY TONY DE MARCO

SUNDAY, JULY 23rd
Meet 1,000s, end of Bridge Road, behind Kings X
corner etc.
RECLAIM THE STREETS

IMAGE © RECLAIM THE STREETS

BILLBOARD LIBERATION FRONT:
A COVERT ORGANIZATION HEAD-
QUARTERED IN SAN FRANCISCO...

AT&T works in more places,
like NSA HEADQUARTERS

...WHOSE MISSION IS
"THE TIMELY IMPROVEMENT
OF OUTDOOR ADVERTISING"

No one wants to discuss the relationship between architecture and politics. It is an unsavory subject. Yet the resistance to enter this discussion is not noble at all. Most architects in this highly commercial era, who accept commissions and clients that affect public life, are in fact committed to supporting political systems. Who designs, who builds, who owns, who inhabits? The architect who designs building types is a pyramid builder, who follows the hidden forms already inscribed by those expressing and dominating others, and who benefit by conventions, conformity, and all adherence to the rules of the normative.

—Lebbeus Woods