

● topographies, operative

[MG]

We call 'operative topographies' those devices conceived of as and through strategic movements of folding in the territory. Such movements define *platforms* and (or) *enclaves* of a quasi geographical nature, developed as *programmatically refrences* (using the term in its double meaning, as "current or movement of ebb and flow derived from another main current," but also as "cleverness in action"): functional magmas or plateaus that enhance their condition as skin or elastic bark (membrane), either as slippery and extended surfaces (*dynamic lands or platforms*), or as extruded surfaces (*localised reliefs, or enclaves*). In all cases, they are manipulated virtual landscapes that relate to the vacant nature of free interstitial spaces and, ultimately, to the very definition of landscape as background, as scenario and as construction at the same time: landscapes, then, within other landscapes. Lands in lands.

Lands respond to a will to overlap; reliefs to will for embedding.

Whether as extruded plateaus – *reliefs or enclaves* – or as sheared trays – *lands or platforms* – such topographies constitute, in any case, new geographies on the terrain; mineral landscapes in which movements and flows end up being articulated under or aboveground on surfaces chiselled out of the land.

Constructed geographies, rather than architectures.

→ 'artificial',
'countermarks: craters
and basins', 'cuts',
'ecology, active',
'enclaves', 'geography',
'landscapes, operative',
'lands in lands',
'landstrategy',
'naturalartificial', 'places',
'reliefs', 'strategy',
'surface'



ACTAR ARQUITECTURA, *Project for a corporate nursery, Graz-Maribor, 2000* (collage based on a photograph by Jordi Bernadó).