

WITH LOVE PLACE BEGINS

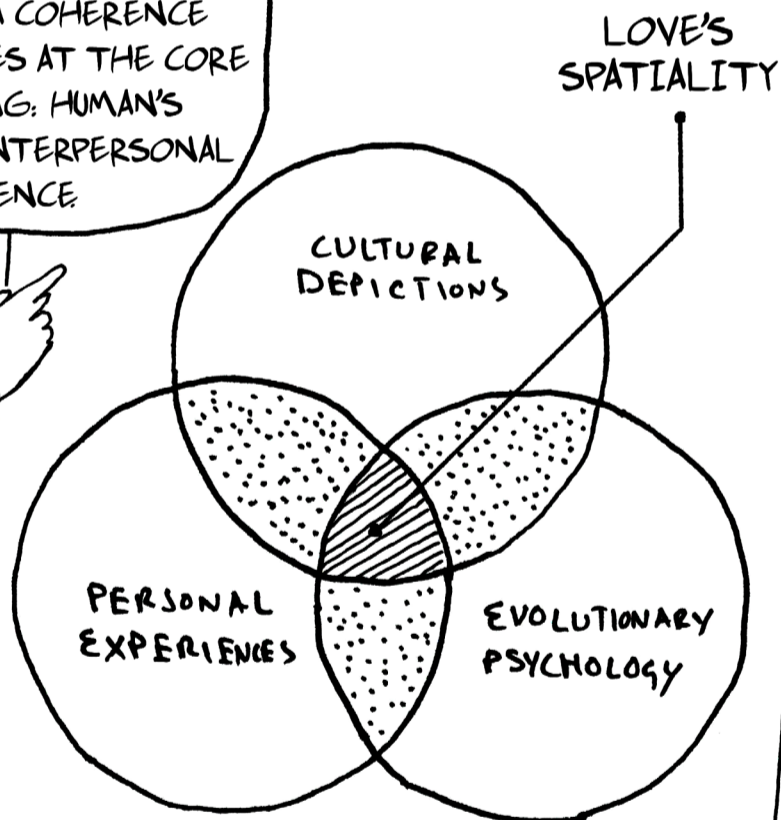
# INTRO

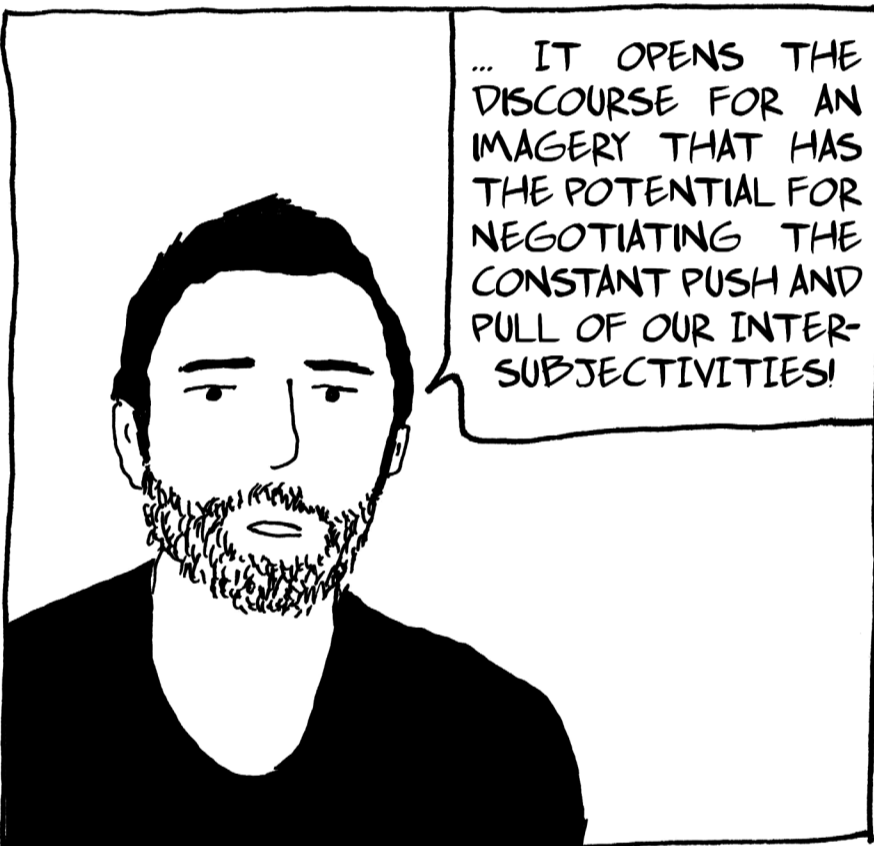
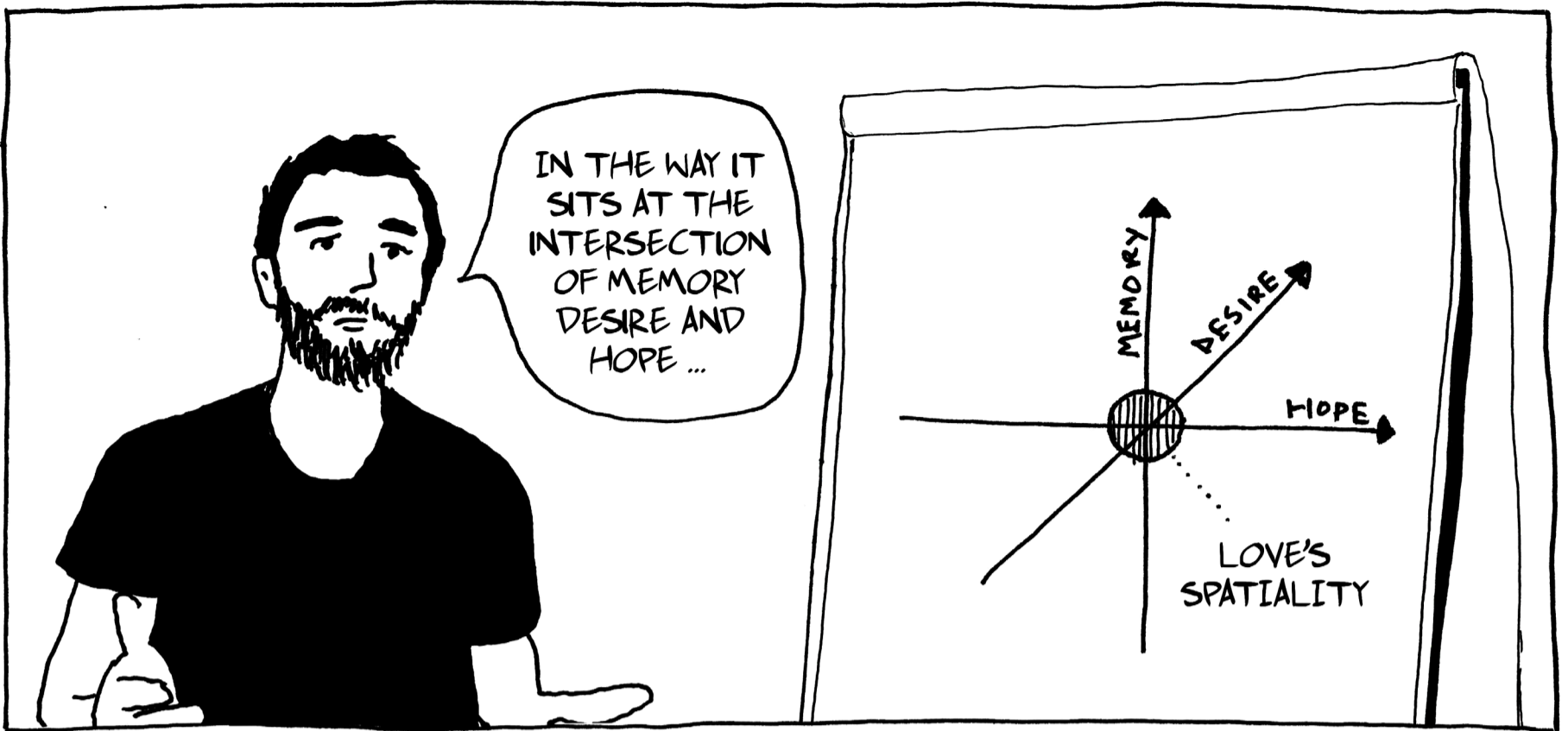
LENT - 2020

WHAT WOULD OUR  
CITIES, STREETS  
AND BENCHES  
LOOK AND FEEL  
LIKE IF WE'D START  
TO IMAGINE THEM AS  
BUILT UPON LOVE?

LOVE'S SPATI-  
ALITY IS SUCH  
AN INTEREST-  
ING DISCOURSE  
BECAUSE IT  
APPEARS TO BE  
GENERATED  
BY A VERY  
TELLING SET  
OF FORCES

COMING FROM WHAT APPEARS AS  
A COMBINATION OF CULTURAL  
PRODUCTION, PERSONAL  
EXPERIENCES AND EVOLUTIONARY  
PSYCHOLOGY, LOVE'S SPATI-  
ALITY POTENTIALLY PLACES AT OUR  
DISPOSITION A COHERENCE  
FIELD THAT GOES AT THE CORE  
OF OUR BEING: HUMAN'S  
FUNDAMENTAL INTERPERSONAL  
EXISTENCE.



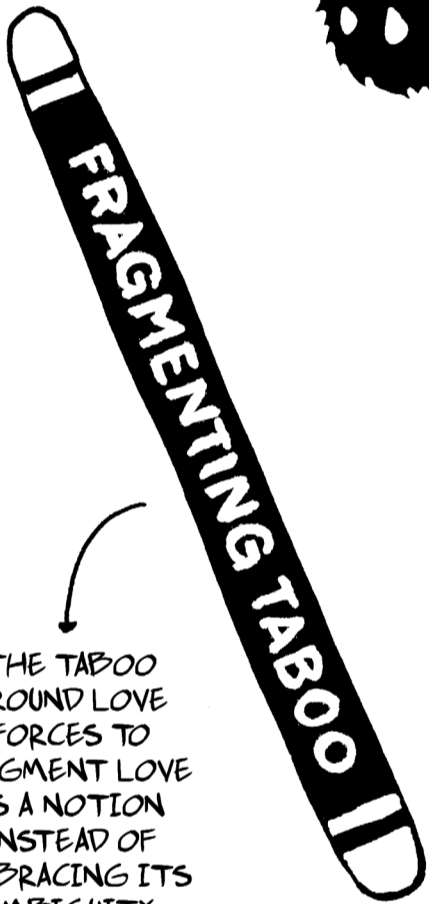


THE PROCESS I'M DESCRIBING COULD METAPHORICALLY BE REPRESENTED BY A PIÑATA...

# PIÑATA METAPHOR!

THE MASK OF ACADEMIC SHYNESS COMPLICATES THE TASK, BLINDING YOU FROM RESSOURCES

WHEN SHAKING IT, WE CAN FEEL AND KNOW SOMETHING IS INSIDE



THE TABOO AROUND LOVE FORCES TO FRAGMENT LOVE AS A NOTION INSTEAD OF EMBRACING ITS AMBIGUITY



THE CLICHE IS THERE FULL OF POTENTIAL WAITING TO BE BROKEN



THE CLICHES ARE SOCIALLY DEFINED AND PERSONALLY HELD AND THEY CONTAIN AND CONDENSE THE INSTITUTIONS OF MODERNITY\*. ALLOWING FOR REFLECTION, THEY PROVIDE A PATH FOR ITS OVERTAKE

\*EVA ILLOUZ

WHICH SPARKS AN ARRAY OF QUESTIONS WHICH ARE AT THE CORE OF THE PROJECT.

WHAT CONSTITUTES OUR SPATIAL DEFINITION OF LOVE?

HOW IS LOVE POWERFUL WITHIN A LARGER SOCIAL/POLITICAL AGENDA?

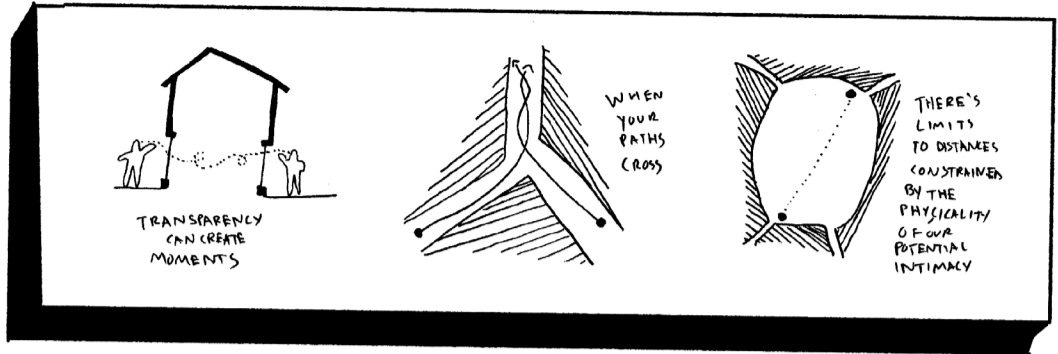
WHICH COMPONENTS ENTERS OUR CONSTRUCTION OF LOVE'S SPATIAL DIMENSION?

HOW TO USE LOVE AS A COLLABORATIVE TOOL IN THE FORMULATION OF BETTER ENVIRONMENTS?

WHEN BREAKING IT WE REVEAL WHAT APPEARS AS THE CONDITIONS THAT CONSTITUTE AN UNDERSTANDING OF A SPATIALITY OF LOVE.

AND WE CAN START TO PICTURE, IMAGINE AND OBSERVE DESIGN CONDITIONS THAT RESPOND TO THE UMBRELLA CATEGORIES

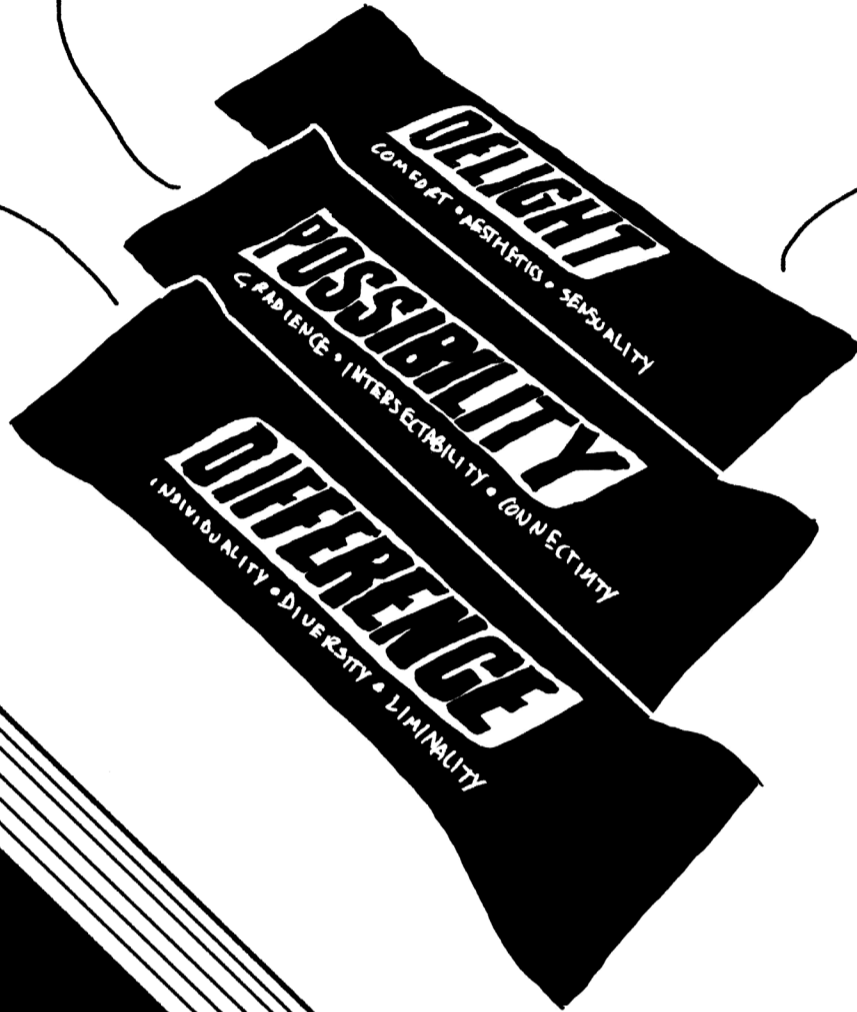
POSSIBILITY



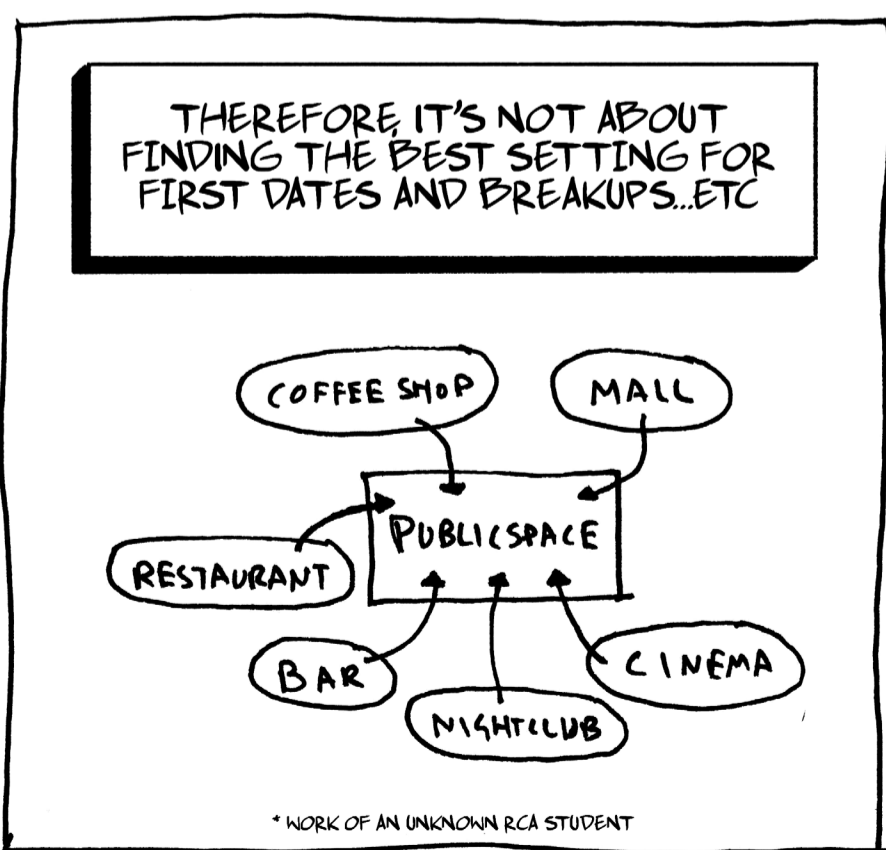
DIFFERENCE



DELIGHT



SEE STRATEGIES - 05A\_BOX MODELS  
SEE STRATEGIES - 04\_PATTERNS AND OBSERVATIONS  
SEE ANALYSIS - 08\_LOVE'S COMPONENTS IN ROMBER



BUT MORE ABOUT  
PICTURING THE CITY AS  
AN ATELIER FOR A ...



# Bouquet of Moments

\* MOMENTS AS PORTRAYED BY LEFEBVRE IN HIS CRITIQUE OF EVERYDAY LIFE (1977)

\* ANALOGOUS TO A VIEW OF MOMENTS AS MEETINGS IN THE SENSE ADVANCED BY MARTIN BUBER - I AND THOU (1923)

MOMENTS THAT INTEGRATES SOCIAL RELATIONS IN THE IMMEDIACIES OF THEIR CONTEXT AND ENCOURAGES THE FUSION OF TIME AND SPACE BY PRODUCING THE POINTS OF CONTACT AND SPONTANEITY TO COUNTERACT THE NECESSITY OF INTERMEDIARY "GUARANTEES"\*



\*ANTHONY GIDDENS

AND SEEING LOVE'S SPATIALITY...  
ITS PHYSICALITY  
AND ITS REPRESENTATION...

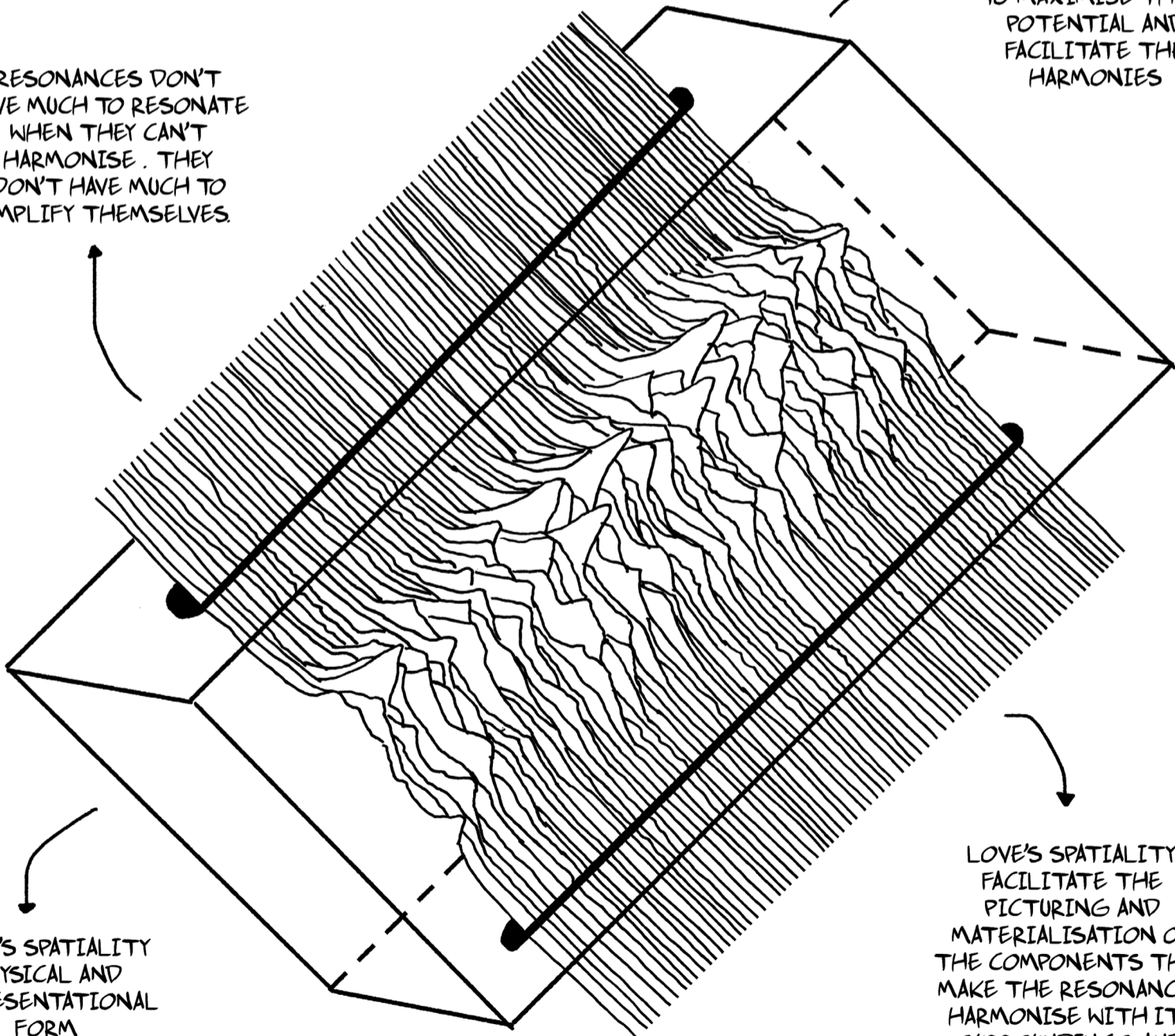


... AS A FLEXIBLE SOUND-BOX THAT ADAPTS ITSELF TO LET RESONANCES FIND THEIR HARMONY

## SOUNDBOX METAPHOR!

RESONANCES DON'T HAVE MUCH TO RESONATE WHEN THEY CAN'T HARMONISE. THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH TO AMPLIFY THEMSELVES.

THE SOUND BOX ADAPTS ITSELF IN DIALOGUE WITH THE RESONANCE INSIDE TO MAXIMISE THEIR POTENTIAL AND FACILITATE THE HARMONIES



LOVE'S SPATIALITY PHYSICAL AND REPRESENTATIONAL FORM

LOVE'S SPATIALITY FACILITATE THE PICTURING AND MATERIALISATION OF THE COMPONENTS THAT MAKE THE RESONANCES HARMONISE WITH ITS SURROUNDINGS AND FELLOW HARMONIES

\*JOY DIVISION UNKNOWN PLEASURES ALBUM COVER - PICTURING DATA PLOT OF SIGNALS FROM A RADIO PULSAR.

THE IDEA OF A CITY BUILT UPON LOVE IS A CONCEPT THAT GOES IN LINE WITH THE THOUGHTS OF MANY FEMINIST THINKERS WHO ADVANCED EACH IN THEIR OWN WAY FOR A BUILT ENVIRONMENT RECONNECTED WITH WOMEN, FEMINITY AND EMOTIONS.

"TO LOVE SOMEONE IS TO PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR PLACE, WE SAY, WHICH IS TO PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR STORY, OR FIGURE OUT HOW TO TELL YOURSELF THEIR STORY. WHICH MEANS THAT A PLACE IS A STORY, AND STORIES ARE GEOGRAPHY, AND EMPATHY IS FIRST OF ALL AN ACT OF IMAGINATION, A STORYTELLER'S ART, AND THEN A WAY OF TRAVELING FROM HERE TO THERE."



REBECCA SOLNIT

WANDERLUST  
2000



BELL HOOKS

ALL ABOUT LOVE  
2000

"WE WANT TO LIVE IN A CULTURE WHERE LOVE CAN FLOURISH"

"OUR CULTURAL OBSESSION WITH DEATH CONSUMES ENERGY THAT COULD BE GIVEN TO THE ART OF LOVING"

"THE GOAL OF GENDER EQUALITY IS NOT EQUAL DETACHMENT BUT AN EQUAL CAPACITY TO EXPERIENCE STRONG AND PASSIONATE EMOTIONS."



EVA ILLOUZ

WHY LOVE HURTS  
2011



BEATRIZ COLOMINA

SEXUALITY AND SPACE  
1992



LYNDA JOHNSTON

SPACE, PLACE, AND SEX  
2009

"THIS KIND OF LOVE RADIATES FROM THE CORE OF THE SELF, MOBILIZES THE WILL, AND SYNTHESIZES A VARIETY OF ONE'S DESIRES. AS HARRY FRANKFURT PUT IT, LOVING FREES US FROM THE CONSTRAINTS AND DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN THE FACT OF NOT KNOWING WHAT TO THINK, AND I WOULD ADD, WHAT TO FEEL."

"ONE'S LIFE HAS VALUE SO LONG AS ONE ATTRIBUTES VALUE TO THE LIFE OF OTHERS, BY MEANS OF LOVE, FRIENDSHIP, INDIGNATION AND COMPASSION."



SIMON DE BEAUVOIR

THE SECOND SEX  
1949

"AUTHENTIC LOVE MUST BE FOUNDED ON RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF TWO FREEDOMS. FOR EACH OF THEM, LOVE WOULD BE THE REVELATION OF THE SELF THROUGH THE GIFT OF THE SELF AND THE ENRICHMENT OF THE UNIVERSE."

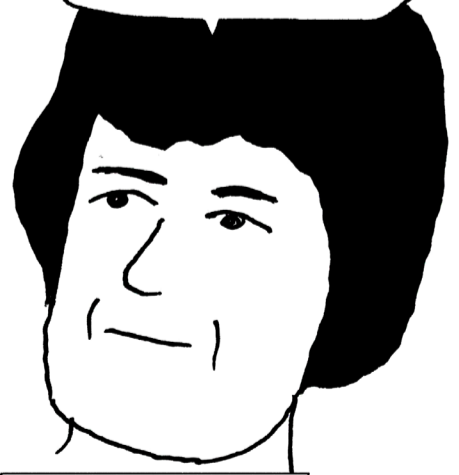


ANDREA WHEELER

WITH PLACE LOVE BEGINS  
2005

ANDREA WHEELER IS THE AUTHOR OF A THOROUGH STUDY ON THE POTENTIAL INCLUSION OF THE THEORIES OF LUCE IRIGARAY IN THE ARCHITECTURAL DISCOURSE. ONE OF THE VERY FEW ATTEMPTS AT SUCH COLLATION

"LETTING BE AND YOU AND ME, NEVER REDUCING THE OTHER TO A MEANING. WE ARE LISTENING TO EACH OTHER AGAIN AND AGAIN FOR THE SUBSISTENCE OF THE IRREDUCIBLE."



LUCE IRIGARAY

ETRE DEUX  
1994

AN IDEA THAT ALSO RESONATES WITH THE THOUGHTS OF MANY THINKERS OF VARIOUS DISCIPLINES

"LOVE IS ALL BUT PACIFIC. IT IS THE FIGHT OF AUTHENTIC LIFE AGAINST ITS FALSIFICATIONS."

"FEAR OF FEMINITY, OF NATURE AND OF LIFE IS WHAT MOST OFTEN CHANGES LOVE IN HATE."



MICHEAL HARDT

POLITICS

"LOVE SHOULD EXTEND ACROSS SOCIAL SCALES AND CREATES BONDS THAT ARE AT ONCE INTIMATE AND SOCIAL, DESTROYING CONVENTIONAL DIVISIONS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE."

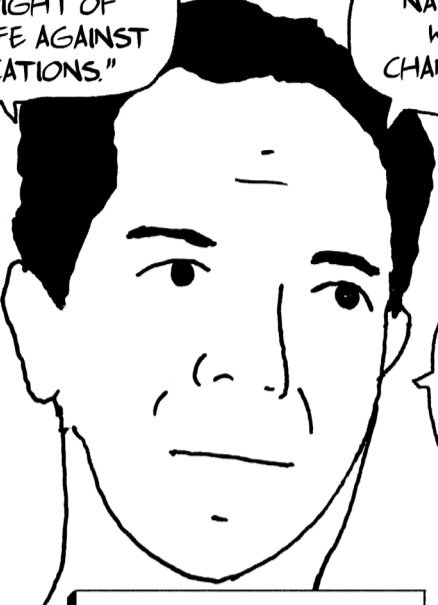
"LOVE WOULD HAVE TO OPERATE IN A FIELD OF MULTIPLICITY AND FUNCTION THROUGH NOT UNIFICATION, BUT THE ENCOUNTER AND INTERACTION OF DIFFERENCES"

"[...] A POLITICAL LOVE MUST TRANSFORM US [...] IT MUST DESIGNATE A BECOMING SUCH THAT IN LOVE, IN OUR ENCOUNTER WITH OTHERS WE CONSTANTLY BECOME DIFFERENT."

"FEELINGS DWELL IN MAN; BUT MAN DWELLS IN HIS LOVE. [...] LOVE IS BETWEEN I AND THOU."

"WHAT ELSE IS THE BOREDOM OF EVERYDAY LIFE IF NOT THE FAILURE OF TRANSFORMATION AND REVOLUTION PROCESSES THAT THE NASCENT STATE PROPOSE TO ENGAGE?"

"LOVE IS THE PRODUCT OF THE IMAGINARY. BUT OF AN IMAGINARY THAT MAKES ITSELF PROJECT. THAT WANTS TO MODIFY REALITY FOR ITS REALISATION, TO EMBED ITSELF IN THE WORLD"



RAOUL VANEIGEM

SITUATIONIST

"LOVE UNITES THE USELESS TO THE ESSENTIAL"

"THE MECHANISMS THAT REDUCES LIFE TO SURVIVAL ARE THE SAME THAT RUINS THE RICHNESS OF LOVE"

"THE NEW WORLD WILL BE LOVER OR WON'T BE"



DAVID SHUMWAY

ENGLISH CULTURE

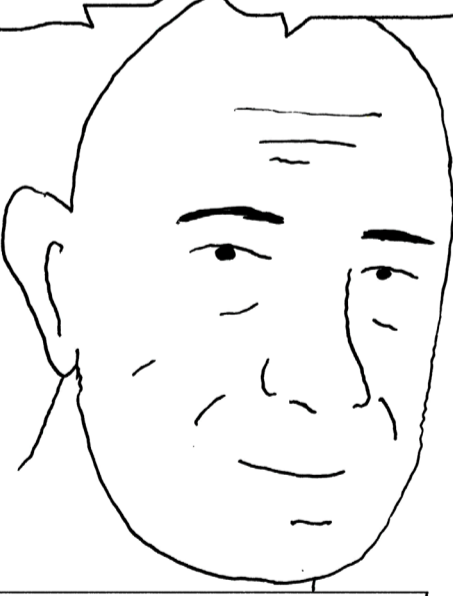
"IN THE BEGINNING IS RELATION."

"ALL REAL LIVING IS MEETING"



MARTIN BUBER

PHILOSOPHY

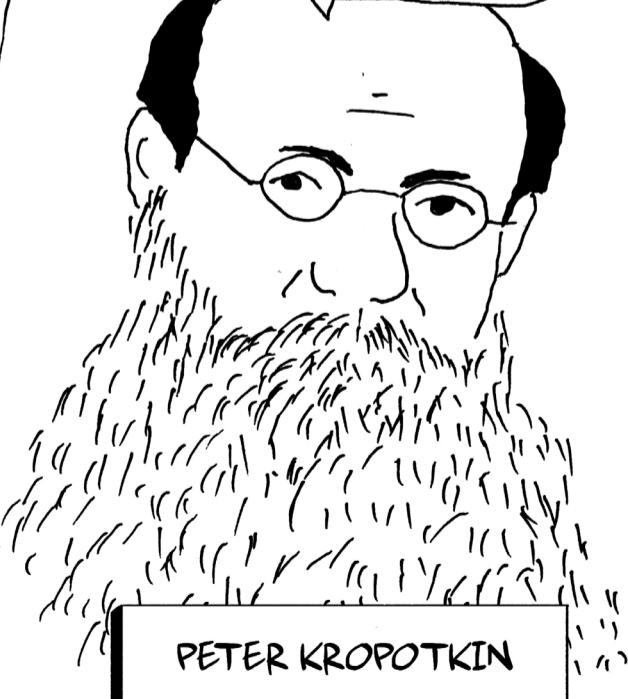


FRANCESCO ALBERONI

SOCIOLOGY

"FALLING IN LOVE DOESN'T CORRESPOND TO THE DESIRE TO LOVE SOMEONE BEAUTIFUL OR INTERESTING, BUT TO THE DESIRE TO RECONSTRUCT SOCIETY, TO SEE THE WORLD WITH NEW EYES."

"BE STRONG. OVERFLOW WITH EMOTIONAL AND INTELLECTUAL ENERGY, AND YOU WILL SPREAD YOUR INTELLIGENCE, YOUR LOVE, YOUR ENERGY OF ACTION BROADCAST AMONG OTHERS."

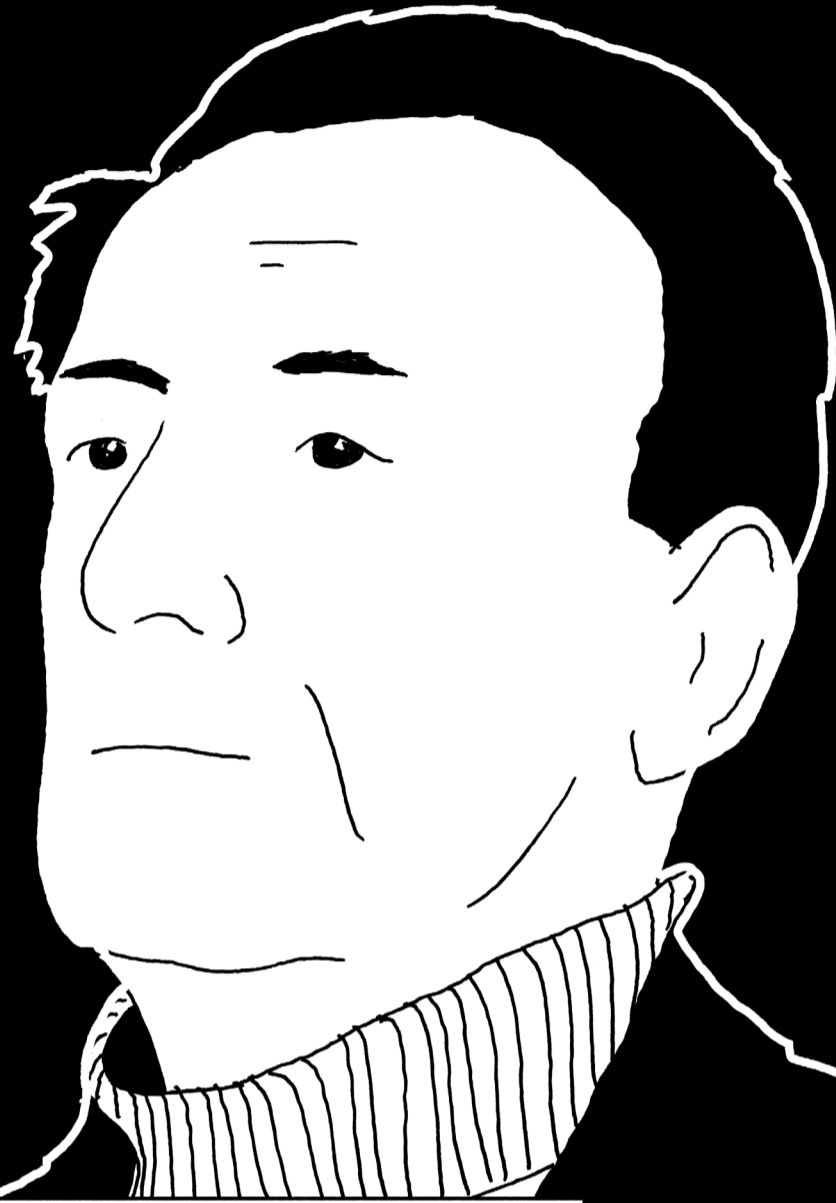


PETER KROPOTKIN

ANARCHIST



"ALL  
I HAD  
EVER  
WRITTEN  
ABOUT  
IS  
LOVE."



HENRI LEFEBVRE

CITED IN HENRI  
LEFEBVRE ET L'AVENTURE  
DU SIECLE, HESS, 1988

JUHANI PALLASMAA

"THE REAL  
MEASURES OF THE  
QUALITY OF A CITY IS  
WHETHER OR NOT  
YOU CAN IMAGINE  
YOURSELF FALLING  
IN LOVE IN IT." \*



\* THE EYES OF  
THE SKIN, 1996

"THE REAL  
COUNTER-PROJECTING  
MEASURES OF THE  
FRAGMENTING,  
ISOLATING AND  
ALIENATING NATURE  
OF MODERNITY ARE  
WHETHER OR NOT THE  
CITY FOSTERS,  
GENERATES AND  
PROVIDES GROUNDS  
FOR THE FORTUITOUS  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
SITUATIONS OF  
INTERPLAY ..."

LOUIS LUPIEN



SEE THESIS - OLESSAY 1P

IN SHORT, WHETHER OR NOT A CITY IS

**BUILT**

**u p o n**

**LOVE**

\* EXPRESSION BORROWED ON PEREZGOMEZ BOOK OF THE SAME NAME

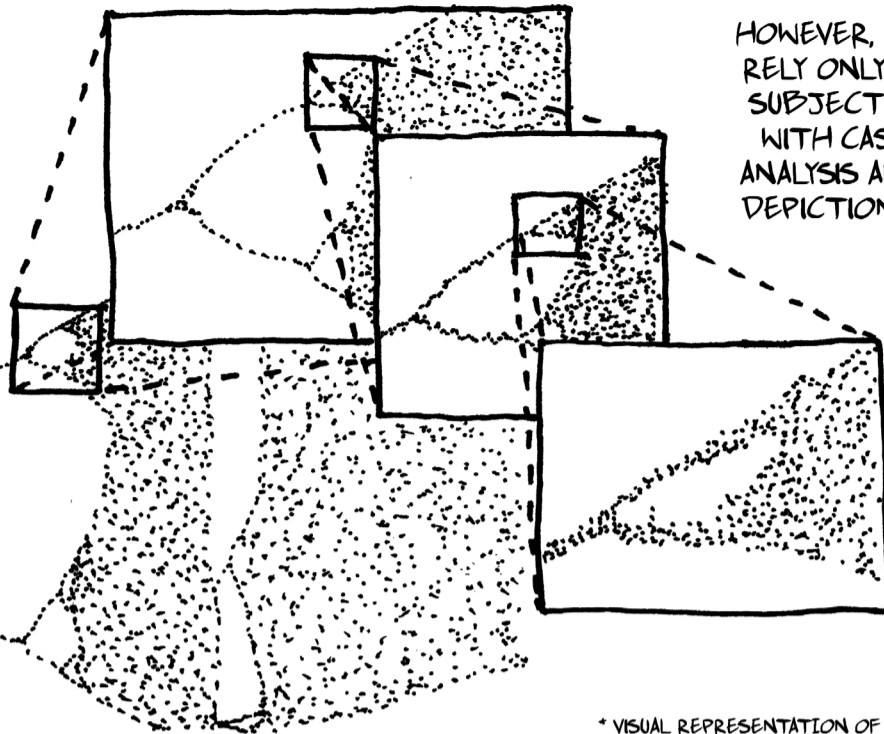
SEE THESIS - 01-ESSAY 1B

LOVE AS AN  
INTENTION

THE PERPETUAL UNFOLDING OF OUR  
STRENGTH IN COPING WITH SEPERATNESS

SEE THESIS - 01-ESSAY 1B

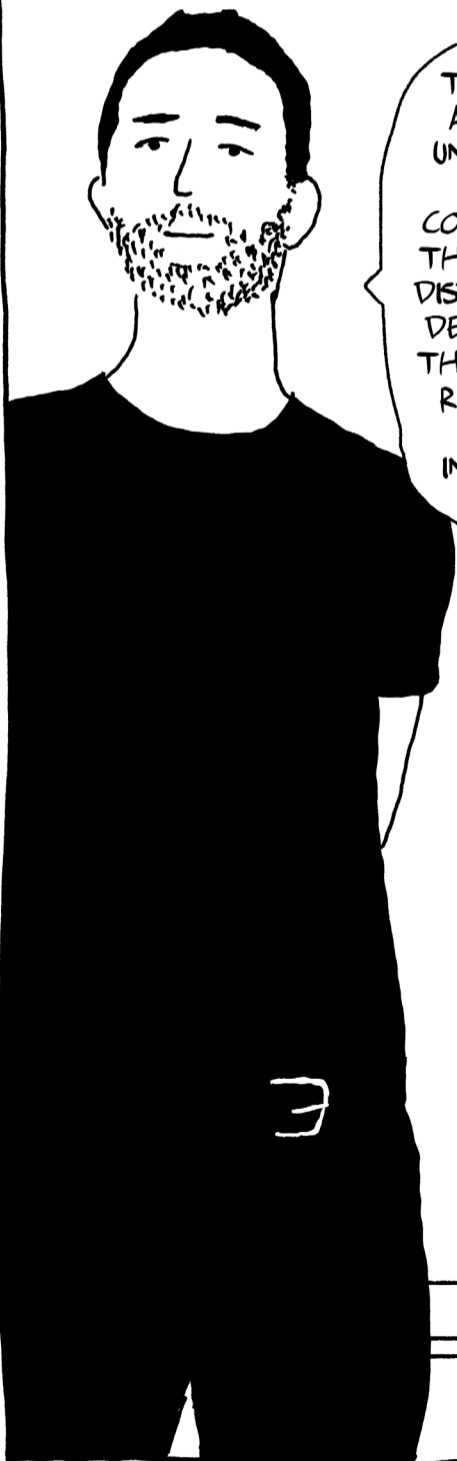
ITS INTENTIONALITY  
ALLOWS US TO ZOOM AT  
DIFFERENT LEVEL (MICRO,  
MACRO, SYSTEMIC) IN  
ORDER TO PICTURE THE  
PHYSICAL TRANSLATIONS  
OF LOVE'S SPATIALITY  
AND ITS IMPLICATIONS.



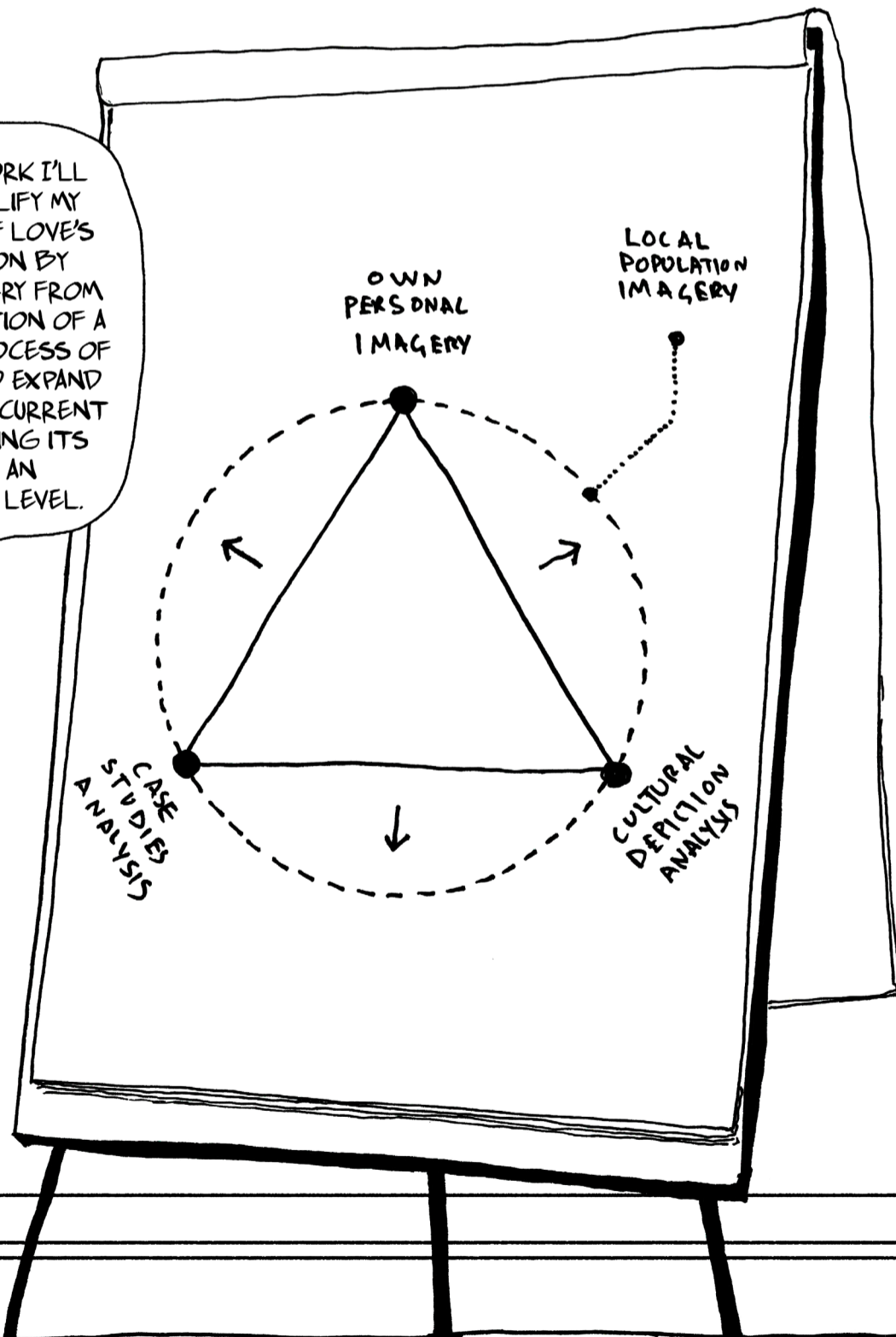
HOWEVER, I CURRENTLY  
RELY ONLY ON MY OWN  
SUBJECTIVITY PAIRED  
WITH CASE STUDIES  
ANALYSIS AND CULTURAL  
DEPICTION ANALYSIS ....

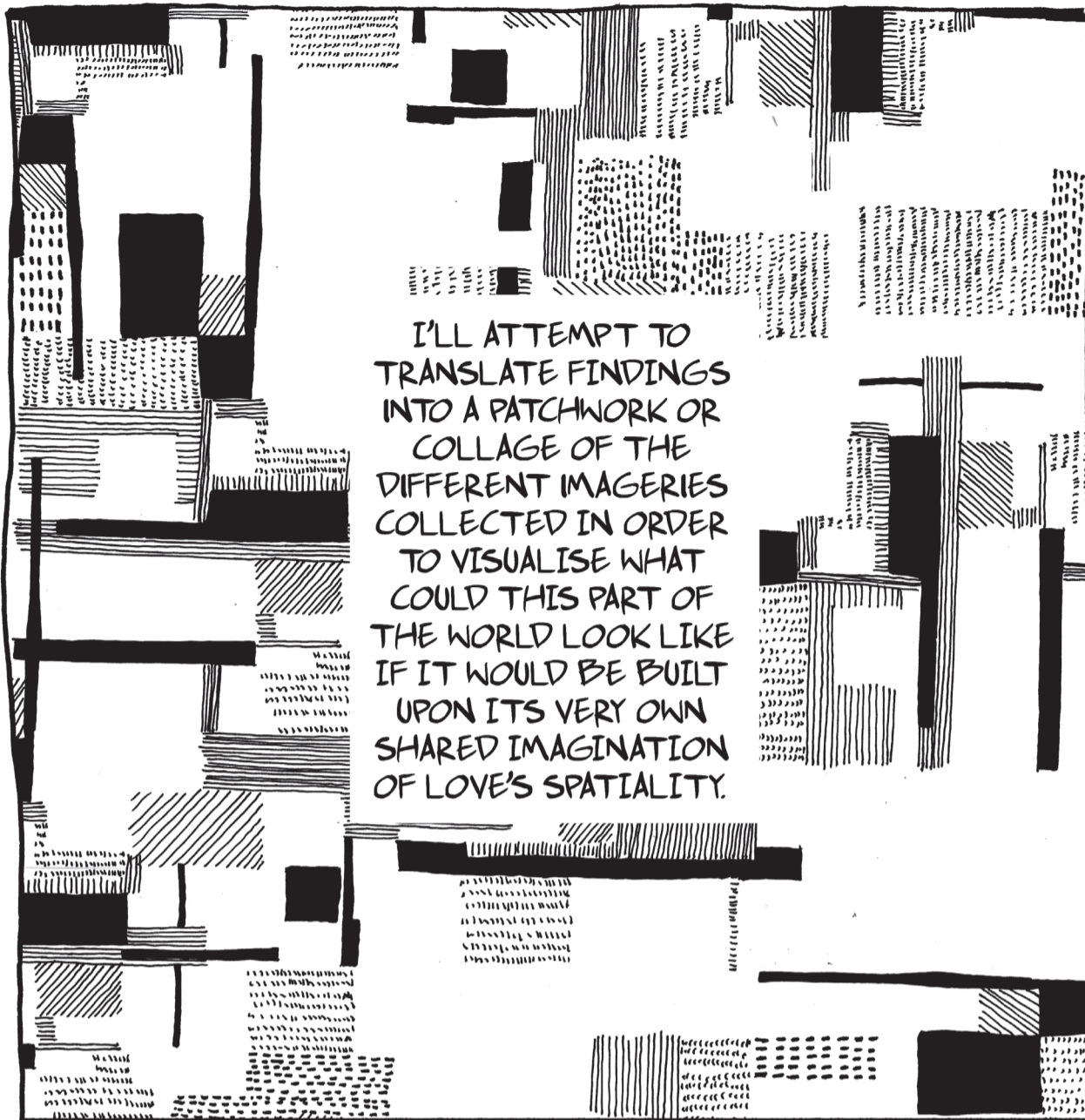
\* VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF NONLINEAR DYNAMICAL  
SYSTEMS WHERE OUTCOMES ARE PREDICTABLE TO A  
CERTAIN EXTENT UNTIL CHAOS WHILE MOMENTS OF  
BIFURCATION ARE NESTS OF INFORMATION

## FIELDWORK



THROUGH FIELDWORK I'LL  
ATTEMPT TO AMPLIFY MY  
UNDERSTANDING OF LOVE'S  
SPATIAL DIMENSION BY  
COLLECTING IMAGERY FROM  
THE LOCAL POPULATION OF A  
DISTRICT IN THE PROCESS OF  
DENSIFICATION AND EXPAND  
THE REACH OF THE CURRENT  
RESEARCH AND BRING ITS  
RELEVANCE TO AN  
INTERSUBJECTIVE LEVEL.





I'LL ATTEMPT TO TRANSLATE FINDINGS INTO A PATCHWORK OR COLLAGE OF THE DIFFERENT IMAGERIES COLLECTED IN ORDER TO VISUALISE WHAT COULD THIS PART OF THE WORLD LOOK LIKE IF IT WOULD BE BUILT UPON ITS VERY OWN SHARED IMAGINATION OF LOVE'S SPATIALITY.

## UP NEXT!

IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE FULL SCOPE OF THE PROJECT, PLEASE CONSULT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE SECTIONS THAT PORTRAYS A DEVELOPED DESIGN DIRECTION REPRESENTED THROUGH DRAWINGS, DIAGRAMS AND MODELS THAT DRAWS UPON THE ON-GOING RESEARCH. THE WORK AND DESCRIPTION OF ITS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTLY SUPPORT AND REINFORCE THE CENTRAL ARGUMENT OF THE RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATE A COHERENT AND CONSIDERED RESPONSE TO AN EXPLICITLY DESCRIBED SET OF TECTONIC AND CULTURAL CRITERIA.

### SITUATION

THE PROJECT OF THE GRAND PARIS EXTENDS THE LIMITS OF JURISDICTION OF PARIS AND BRINGS GENNEVILLIERS, AN EMBLEMATIC MODERNIST ESTATE OF THE AFTER WAR RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, SUBJECT TO NEW CHANGES. HAVING TENSIONS BUILT INTO ITS HISTORY, THE AREA IS NOW AGAIN FACING DRASTIC RECONFIGURATION OF THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD AN AREA PHYSICALLY CHARACTERISED BY ITS ISLAND-LIKE MONOLITHIC MONO-FUNCTIONAL BLOCKS AND EXTENSIVE PARKING AREAS BUT ALSO BY ITS SUBSTANTIAL GREEN AREAS, ITS LOCAL MARKET AND MULTIPLE PLAYGROUNDS. AFTER READING ABOUT THE DISSATISFACTION OF THE LOCAL POPULATION TOWARDS THE PRESENTED VISIONS, I WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP WITH LOCALS AN ALTERNATIVE VISION OF WHAT THEIR CITY COULD BE LIKE. A PROCESS THAT COULD POTENTIALLY INFLUENCE FUTURE PROMOTERS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES OR INHABITANTS IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR SURROUNDINGS.

### THESIS

INTRIGUED BY THE ABOVE MENTIONED QUOTE FROM PALLASMAA, I'VE DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE WHAT WOULD A CITY LOOK LIKE IF WE'D USE OUR SHARED IMAGINATION ABOUT LOVE AND ITS SPATIALITY TO BUILD OUR CITIES. A CONCEPT AT FIRST APPARENTLY TRIVIAL THAT POTENTIALLY BEARS IN ITSELF BRIGHT POSSIBILITIES OF COLLECTIVE RESISTANCE CONTAINING A MIX OF MEMORY, HOPE AND DESIRE, LOVE, AND ITS SPATIAL CORRESPONDENCE, APPEARS TO POSSIBLY CORROBORATE WITH MANY URBAN THEORIES! WHILE MAINTAINING A RICH AND ACCESSIBLE PATH AS A CREATIVE TRIGGER. I AM ADVANCING THE IDEA THAT THE POTENTIAL COUNTER-PROJECTING MEASURES OF THE FRAGMENTING, ISOLATING AND ALIENATING NATURE OF MODERNITY ARE WHETHER OR NOT THE CITY FOSTERS, GENERATES AND PROVIDES GROUNDS FOR THE FORTUITOUS DEVELOPMENT OF SITUATIONS OF INTERPLAY. IN SHORT, WHETHER OR NOT A CITY IS BUILT UPON LOVE

### ANALYSIS

IN RELATION TO THE ANGLE ADVANCED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE THESIS, I'VE UNDERTOOK THE ANALYSIS OF THE STREETS TYPOLOGIES OF THE QUARTIER LES AGNETTES IN RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ONES CHARACTERISED AS ROMANTIC STREETS OF INNER PARIS CONSIDERED THROUGH SECTIONS AND PLANS. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES WERE HIGHLIGHTED THROUGH THE PROCESS. MOREOVER, AN HISTORICAL AND ANALYTICAL STUDY OF CULTURAL DEPICTIONS OF LOVE AND SPATIALITY HAS BEEN HELPFUL IN ITS CATEGORISATION AND TAXONOMY. THROUGH THE FILMOGRAPHY OF ERIC ROHMERY, AND VISUAL DEPICTIONS OF LOVE IN SPACE THROUGH HISTORY IN PARIS, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO UNDERSTAND BETTER THE CHARACTERISTICS THAT MAKES US PERCEIVE SPACES AS SUPPORTING SITUATIONS OF INTERPLAY. MY RESEARCH PUSHED ME TO BELIEVE THAT THEY TEND TO CORRESPOND TO SPACES THAT REFLECT CONDITIONS OF POSSIBILITIES, DIFFERENCE AND DELIGHT.

### STRATEGIES

TO PROPERLY TRANSLATE THE THESIS FINDINGS INTO FORM, I'VE LAID OUT THE DESIGN INTENTS, TACTICS AND STRATEGIES THAT I CONSIDER MIGHT BE IN LINE WITH THE DISCOVERED CONDITIONS THROUGH ANALYSIS POSSIBILITY, DIFFERENCE AND DELIGHT. IN ORDER TO DO SO, I'VE LOOK AT THE OPPOSITE OF THOSE STATES AND INTERROGATED MYSELF ON THE COMPONENTS SUSCEPTIBLE TO TACKLE THOSE SITUATIONS. INDIFFERENCE, UNPLEASANTNESS AND ISOLATION HAS BEEN ADDRESSED WITH THE PROPOSAL OF A DIRECTION FOR IMAGINATION TOWARDS A RICH, PLURAL, COMFORTABLE, SENSUOUS, COMPLEX, GRADIENT, CONNECTED, DIVERSE, SOFT AND SPONTANEOUS ENVIRONMENT. THE RESULT HAS BEEN LOOKED ON THE POINT OF VIEW OF PROGRAMMATIC RECONFIGURATIONS, DESIGN PATTERNS AND PHYSICAL IMPLICATIONS. MODELS, WERE BUILT TO ILLUSTRATE THE TRANSLATION PROCESS HAPPENING FROM THE THESIS AND ANALYTIC STAGES TOWARDS THE DESIGN PHASE.

### TRANSLATION

TO PHYSICALLY UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF CITY BUILT UPON LOVE, I'VE USED MY OWN PERCEPTION, ALONG WITH MY ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL DEPICTIONS OF LOVE'S SPATIALITY, TO TRANSLATE THE FINDINGS INTO FORM. I'VE CONDUCTED THE EXERCISE AT VARIOUS SCALES THROUGH VARIOUS MEDIA IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND WHAT COULD BE THE IMPACT OF A RECONFIGURATION OF THE EXISTING SPACES OF LES AGNETTES UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A DESIGN PROCESS FUELLED WITH LOVE. FROM A BENCH AND A ROOM TO A STREET AND A BLOCK, THE PROCESS REVEALED THE LATENT SOCIAL RELATIONS OF THE AREA, THE VAST SPACE IN BETWEEN THE BUILDINGS AND THE POTENTIAL INTENSITY AND DIVERSITY THAT THE AREA COULD REFLECT. NEXT STEP WILL BE TO INTRODUCE VISIONS OF LOCAL INHABITANTS INTO THE MIX AND FIGURE WAYS TO COLLABORATE AND EXCHANGE ABOUT A FUTURE VISION FOR LES AGNETTES BUILT UPON LOVE.