

junkspace or running room

****Understanding Junkspace or Running Room: The Modern Architectural Phenomenon****

junkspace or running room is a term that has intrigued architects, urban planners, and design enthusiasts alike. It captures a peculiar aspect of contemporary architecture and urban environments—those sprawling, often chaotic spaces that seem to lack a clear purpose or identity yet are omnipresent in our daily lives. As cities expand and commercial developments mushroom, the concept of junkspace or running room helps us critically examine the spaces we inhabit and how they impact human experience.

What is Junkspace or Running Room?

The phrase "junkspace" was popularized by Rem Koolhaas, a renowned architect and theorist, to describe the leftover, often neglected spaces created by rapid urbanization and commercial development. These spaces are characterized by their amorphous, fragmented nature and are typically found in malls, airports, office complexes, and other large-scale developments. Junkspace or running room refers to the corridors, lobbies, waiting areas, and transitional zones that seem to stretch endlessly without a clear architectural narrative.

Unlike traditional architecture that often prioritizes form, function, and aesthetics, junkspace is a byproduct of modern building techniques, economic pressures, and consumer culture. It is the space that exists not to inspire or delight but to accommodate movement, commerce, and the flow of people in an efficient yet uninspired manner.

The Origins of Junkspace or Running Room

The term gained traction in the early 2000s when Koolhaas published essays dissecting the phenomenon. He observed that junkspace is an inevitable consequence of globalization, where the pursuit of economic growth and convenience often overrides thoughtful design. This results in spaces that are heavily commercialized, cluttered with signage, and filled with generic furnishings that could be found anywhere in the world.

Running room, on the other hand, can be thought of as the practical corridors or pathways facilitating movement within these environments. While running rooms serve a functional purpose, they often contribute to the overall feeling of disorientation or monotony that junkspace evokes.

Characteristics of Junkspace or Running Room

To better understand junkspace or running room, it helps to look at their defining traits:

- **Disjointed Layouts:** Rather than cohesive or intentional design, junkspace is often pieced together haphazardly, resulting in confusing floor plans.
- **Overwhelming Scale:** Many junkspaces are vast and impersonal, such as expansive shopping malls or airport terminals that prioritize capacity over comfort.
- **Generic Aesthetics:** The design language is often bland, featuring mass-produced materials, fluorescent lighting, and uninspired color schemes.
- **Commercial Saturation:** Advertising, signage, and retail clutter dominate the visual landscape, emphasizing consumerism.
- **Transitional Nature:** These spaces are often in-between zones—waiting areas, corridors, or places designed solely for movement rather than lingering.

Why Does Junkspace or Running Room Exist?

Several factors contribute to the proliferation of junkspace or running room:

1. **Economic Efficiency:** Developers aim to maximize rentable or sellable areas, often leading to leftover spaces that are neither fully functional nor aesthetically pleasing.
2. **Globalization:** The spread of multinational corporations and franchises results in homogenized environments that prioritize brand consistency over local identity.
3. **Technological Advancements:** HVAC systems, escalators, and other infrastructure require specific configurations that produce awkward spaces.
4. **Urban Density:** As cities become more crowded, architects and planners struggle to create meaningful public realms, resulting in leftover, underutilized areas.

The Impact of Junkspace or Running Room on Human Experience

While junkspace or running room might seem like mere architectural background noise, these spaces significantly influence how people feel and behave.

Psychological Effects

The sterile, monotonous, and often overwhelming nature of junkspace can induce feelings

of alienation or disorientation. People may find these environments stressful or uninviting, which impacts their willingness to linger or engage meaningfully with the space. This phenomenon is evident in vast airport terminals or labyrinthine shopping centers where travelers and shoppers often experience fatigue or confusion.

Social Implications

Junkspace or running room typically lacks areas that encourage social interaction or community building. Because these spaces prioritize movement and commerce, opportunities for spontaneous connection or relaxation are limited. This contributes to a sense of isolation, even in crowded environments.

Commercial Consequences

Interestingly, despite their negative attributes, junkspace serves a commercial function by guiding people efficiently through retail zones or transit hubs. However, the lack of engaging design may reduce dwell time or customer satisfaction in some cases, prompting conversations about balancing functionality with user experience.

Design Strategies to Mitigate Junkspace or Running Room

Although junkspace or running room is widespread, architects and urban planners are increasingly aware of its drawbacks and seek ways to improve these environments.

Creating Meaningful Transitional Spaces

One approach is to design corridors and waiting areas that offer visual interest, comfortable seating, and natural light. Incorporating artwork, greenery, or interactive elements can transform a mundane running room into a more inviting passage.

Human-Centered Design Principles

By focusing on the needs and behaviors of users, designers can break away from generic layouts. This might involve creating smaller, more intimate zones within large complexes or integrating local cultural elements to foster a sense of place.

Flexible and Adaptive Spaces

Designing spaces that can serve multiple functions reduces the likelihood of leftover or underused areas. For example, a wide corridor might double as an exhibition space or pop-up market on weekends, adding vibrancy and utility.

Embracing Technology Thoughtfully

Smart lighting, digital wayfinding, and responsive environments can improve navigation and comfort in running rooms. These technologies help mitigate some of the confusion associated with sprawling junkspaces.

Examples of Junkspace or Running Room in Contemporary Architecture

To visualize the concept, consider these common real-world examples:

- **Airport Terminals:** Many terminals feature endless hallways and waiting lounges that feel disconnected and overwhelming.
- **Shopping Malls:** The endless corridors lined with stores often create a sense of monotony and commercial saturation.
- **Office Parks:** Large corporate campuses sometimes contain vast, underutilized atriums or hallways that serve little purpose beyond circulation.
- **Convention Centers:** These venues frequently have large transitional spaces designed to handle crowds but lacking character or warmth.

These examples highlight how junkspace or running room is embedded in everyday environments, influencing how we move through and perceive the built world.

The Future of Junkspace or Running Room: Rethinking Urban Environments

As cities evolve and sustainability becomes a top priority, the challenge will be to transform junkspace or running room into environments that contribute positively to urban life. This means prioritizing human experience, environmental considerations, and cultural relevance over mere functionality.

Innovations in modular architecture, green building practices, and participatory design offer hope that future developments will minimize junkspace or make running rooms more engaging. The goal is not only to reduce the presence of lifeless architectural leftovers but also to reimagine them as vibrant, multifunctional spaces that enrich daily life.

In the end, understanding junkspace or running room invites us to look more closely at the spaces we often overlook, questioning how design choices shape our interactions with the world around us. It's a conversation that pushes architects, developers, and communities to create places that are not just functional but also meaningful, welcoming, and alive.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the concept of 'junkspace' in architecture?

'Junkspace' is a term coined by architect Rem Koolhaas to describe the fragmented, chaotic, and often commercially driven spaces that result from modern urban development, characterized by their lack of coherence and aesthetic value.

Who introduced the idea of 'junkspace' and what does it critique?

Rem Koolhaas introduced the concept of 'junkspace' as a critique of contemporary architectural environments that prioritize functionality and commercial interests over design quality, leading to spaces that feel cluttered, impersonal, and disconnected.

How does 'junkspace' relate to modern urban environments?

'Junkspace' often manifests in modern urban environments through malls, airports, corporate offices, and other commercial spaces that lack a unifying design language, reflecting rapid development and consumerism.

What is meant by 'running room' in the context of architecture or urban planning?

'Running room' refers to designed spaces that facilitate movement and circulation, allowing people to navigate easily through buildings or urban areas, often emphasizing fluidity and connectivity.

How can 'running room' improve user experience in public spaces?

'Running room' enhances user experience by providing clear, unobstructed pathways that encourage smooth pedestrian flow, reduce congestion, and create a sense of openness and accessibility.

Can 'junkspace' and 'running room' coexist in the same architectural project?

While 'junkspace' is often characterized by chaotic and cluttered environments, incorporating 'running room' concepts can help mitigate these effects by designing better circulation and movement spaces within such environments.

What are common examples of 'junkspace' in everyday life?

Common examples of 'junkspace' include sprawling shopping malls, airport terminals, chain hotels, and office parks that prioritize commercial function over cohesive design and often feel disjointed or overwhelming.

How does the concept of 'junkspace' influence sustainable architectural practices?

'Junkspace' highlights the challenges of wasteful and unsustainable urban development, encouraging architects and planners to focus on creating meaningful, efficient, and environmentally responsible spaces.

What role does technology play in shaping 'junkspace' or enhancing 'running room'?

Technology can both contribute to 'junkspace' through excessive digital signage and commercialization but can also enhance 'running room' by enabling smart navigation systems, responsive lighting, and adaptable spaces that improve movement.

How can architects avoid creating 'junkspace' in their designs?

Architects can avoid creating 'junkspace' by prioritizing coherent design principles, focusing on human-centered spaces, ensuring functional circulation (running room), and integrating aesthetics with sustainability and community needs.

Additional Resources

Junkspace or Running Room: Understanding the Modern Architectural Phenomenon

junkspace or running room are terms that have increasingly entered architectural discourse and urban studies, reflecting a growing interest in the sprawling, often chaotic spaces that define much of contemporary built environments. While seemingly disparate in usage—junkspace often carries a critical connotation regarding architectural clutter and loss of meaning, and running room suggests dynamic, functional space—their intersection offers a compelling lens through which to evaluate modern spatial design. In this article, we explore the concepts behind junkspace and running room, assess their implications in

urban planning and architecture, and analyze their relevance in today's built landscapes.

Defining Junkspace and Running Room

The term “junkspace” was popularized by architect Rem Koolhaas in his essay "Junkspace" (2001), where he critiques the proliferation of fragmented, non-cohesive architectural environments that lack a clear identity or purpose. Junkspace describes spaces that emerge from uncontrolled development—overlapping, fragmented, and often characterized by excessive use of glass, plastic, and synthetic materials. These spaces are typified by malls, airports, and convention centers that prioritize consumerism and circulation over meaningful spatial experience.

On the other hand, “running room” is a concept used to describe spaces designed for movement, flow, and functional circulation within buildings or urban environments. It refers to areas that provide physical and psychological room to navigate, encompassing corridors, atriums, and transitional zones. Running room is essential in architectural design to facilitate efficient movement, prevent congestion, and enhance user comfort.

Understanding these two terms provides insight into contrasting spatial phenomena: junkspace represents disjointed accumulation, whereas running room emphasizes purposeful spatial progression.

The Characteristics and Impact of Junkspace

Junkspace is often symptomatic of rapid urbanization and commercial development. Its characteristics include:

- **Fragmentation:** Spaces are compartmentalized into small, disconnected units without a cohesive narrative.
- **Homogenization:** Design elements are standardized globally, leading to a loss of local identity.
- **Excessive Artificiality:** Use of synthetic materials, bright lighting, and excessive signage create sensory overload.
- **Functional Ambiguity:** Areas serve multiple, sometimes conflicting purposes, confusing users.

These traits contribute to environments that often feel impersonal and overwhelming. For example, large shopping malls or airport terminals can appear as endless mazes of stores and corridors, lacking in human scale or environmental harmony. The prevalence of junkspace poses challenges for urban planners and architects striving to create meaningful, livable spaces.

Junkspace in Contemporary Urban Environments

Rapid globalization and economic pressures have intensified the spread of junkspace. In many metropolitan areas, commercial districts are peppered with glass-fronted retail outlets, food courts, and open-plan offices that prioritize function over form. Cities in Asia and North America exhibit rampant junkspace phenomena due to accelerated development and consumer culture.

Moreover, junkspace can negatively impact psychological well-being. Studies in environmental psychology suggest that overly cluttered, non-intuitive spaces can increase stress levels and reduce spatial satisfaction. The absence of natural elements and human-scale design further alienates occupants.

The Role of Running Room in Effective Architectural Design

Contrasting with junkspace, running room is a fundamental concept in architecture that ensures fluidity and comfort in spatial navigation. It is critical in both public and private buildings, as well as urban infrastructure.

Features of Good Running Room

Effective running room incorporates:

- **Adequate Width and Clearance:** Corridors and pathways must accommodate expected pedestrian traffic without congestion.
- **Clear Sightlines:** Visual connection facilitates orientation and enhances safety.
- **Logical Sequencing:** Spatial progression should follow intuitive routes, reducing confusion.
- **Integration with Functional Zones:** Running room connects different areas seamlessly, supporting building usage.

An excellent example of running room is the design of airport terminals, where efficient movement of thousands of passengers necessitates well-planned circulation. Similarly, in healthcare facilities, running room design directly impacts operational efficiency and patient comfort.

Running Room and User Experience

The presence of sufficient running room improves accessibility and inclusivity. For people with disabilities, spacious corridors and ramps are essential for mobility. Moreover, from a psychological perspective, open and well-organized circulation spaces contribute to a sense of freedom and reduce feelings of confinement.

Architectural critics often emphasize that running room is not merely physical space but a spatial experience that shapes user interaction. The way people move through a building impacts their perception of the environment, influencing satisfaction and engagement.

Intersections and Tensions: Junkspace vs. Running Room

While junkspace and running room appear conceptually opposed, they intersect in nuanced ways within contemporary architecture.

For one, junkspace often contains elements intended as running room but executed poorly. For example, wide corridors in malls may exist, but their overwhelming signage, cluttered storefronts, and impersonal design negate the benefits of fluid circulation. Conversely, running room can be a strategic tool to mitigate the negative effects of junkspace by introducing order and navigability.

The tension also arises in urban planning debates. Proponents of densification and multi-use developments sometimes risk creating junkspace through haphazard layering of functions. Ensuring adequate running room within such complex environments is essential to maintain usability.

Case Studies Illustrating the Dichotomy

- **Westfield Shopping Centers:** These large retail complexes exemplify junkspace with their sprawling, repetitive design and overwhelming commercial presence. However, their design also incorporates extensive running room to accommodate high foot traffic.
- **High Line Park, New York:** An adaptive reuse project that transforms an abandoned railway into a linear park, emphasizing running room as a continuous pedestrian path. The design resists junkspace by fostering a coherent spatial experience.
- **Singapore's Changi Airport:** Noted for its efficient running room, the airport uses spacious terminals and clear signage to create comfortable movement, despite the complexity of the space.

These examples underscore the importance of balancing running room with spatial quality to avoid the pitfalls of junkspace.

Implications for Future Architectural Practice

The rise of junkspace challenges architects and planners to rethink spatial design paradigms. Several strategies can be employed to counteract junkspace tendencies:

1. **Contextual Design:** Emphasizing local culture and environment to resist homogenization.
2. **Human-Centered Approaches:** Prioritizing user experience through thoughtful running room and spatial clarity.
3. **Sustainable Materials and Practices:** Reducing reliance on synthetic, disposable elements common in junkspace.
4. **Mixed-Use Planning with Clear Zoning:** Preventing functional ambiguity that contributes to junkspace's confusion.

Additionally, emerging technologies such as digital modeling and virtual reality enable architects to simulate user movement and optimize running room before construction, reducing the risk of junkspace formation.

In an era where urban populations continue to grow and spaces become increasingly multifunctional, balancing the need for efficient running room with the desire for meaningful, cohesive environments will remain a central challenge.

The dialogue around junkspace and running room serves as a reminder that space is not only about utility but also about human experience, identity, and well-being. Architects and urban designers must navigate these dual imperatives to craft spaces that are both functional and inspiring.

Junkspace Or Running Room

junkspace or running room: *Junkspace with Running Room* Rem Koolhaas, Hal Foster, 2016-09-13 Junkspace first appeared in the Harvard Design School Guide to Shopping (2001), a vast compendium of text, images, and data concerning the consumerist transformation of city and suburb from the first department store to the latest mega mall. The architect Rem Koolhaas itemized in delirious detail how our cities are being overwhelmed. His celebrated jeremiad is updated here and twinned with Running Room, a fresh response from the cultural critic Hal Foster. Junkspace describes the bleak and featureless world of capitalism, while Running Room seeks to find a space within the junk in which the individual might still exist.

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junkspace or running room: Practiceopolis: Stories from the Architectural Profession Yasser Megahed, 2020-07-30 This is a graphic novel about the contemporary architectural profession, in which it acts as the protagonist in the form of an imaginary city called Practiceopolis. The novel narrates quasi-realistic stories that exaggerate the architectural everyday and the tacit, in order to make them prominent and tangible. They depict and dramatise the value conflicts between the different cultures of practising architecture and between the architectural profession and other members of the building industry as political conflicts around the future of Practiceopolis. The book uses the metaphorical world of Practiceopolis to provoke big questions about everyday routines in the profession that practitioners may take for granted and to examine different ideologies at work among architects and other members of the construction industry. The novel ends in the tradition of dystopian worlds common in a certain strand of graphic novels. By vividly illustrating and narrating the critical issues he interrogates, the author has created a world which any architect, student or professional, will both instantly recognise and simultaneously reject, provoking the reader to challenge themselves and the profession at large.

junkspace or running room: The Supermarket of the Visible Peter Szendy, 2019-04-02 Already in 1929, Walter Benjamin described "a one hundred per cent image-space." Such an image space saturates our world now more than ever, constituting the visibility in which we live. The Supermarket of the Visible analyzes this space and the icons that populate it as the culmination of a history of the circulation and general commodification of images and gazes. From the first elevators and escalators (tracking shots *avant la lettre*) to cinema (the great conductor of gazes), all the way down to contemporary eye-tracking techniques that monitor the slightest saccades of our eyes, Peter Szendy offers an entirely novel theory of the intersection of the image and economics. The Supermarket of the Visible elaborates an economy proper to images, icons, in other words, an iconomy. Deleuze caught a glimpse of this when he wrote that "money is the back side of all the images that cinema shows and edits on the front." Since "cinema," for Deleuze, is synonymous with "universe," Szendy argues that this sentence must be understood in its broadest dimension and that a reading of key works in the history of cinema allows us a unique vantage point upon the reverse of images, their monetary implications. Paying close attention to sequences in Hitchcock, Bresson, Antonioni, De Palma, and The Sopranos, Szendy shows how cinema is not a uniquely commercial art form among other, purer arts, but, more fundamentally, helps to elaborate what might be called, with Bataille, a general iconomy. Moving deftly and lightly between political economy, aesthetic theory, and popular movies and television, The Supermarket of the Visible will be a necessary book for anyone concerned with media, philosophy, politics, or visual culture.

junkspace or running room: Ceilings and Dreams Paul Emmons, Federica Goffi, Jodi La Coe, 2019-07-08 Where is the space for dreaming in the twenty-first century? Lofty thoughts, like dreams, are born and live overhead, just as they have been represented in Renaissance paintings and modern cartoons. Ceilings are often repositories of stories, events and otherwise invisible oneiric narratives. Yet environments that inspire innovative thinking are dwindling as our world confronts enormous challenges, and almost all of our thinking, debating and decision-making takes place under endless ceiling grids. Quantitative research establishes that spaces with taller ceilings elicit broader, more creative thoughts. Today, ceilings are usually squat conduits of technology: they have become the blind spot of modern architecture. The twenty essays in this book look across cultures, places and ceilings over time to discover their potential to uplift the human spirit. Not just

one building element among many, the ceiling is a key to unlock the architectural imagination. *Ceilings and Dreams* aims to correct this blind spot and encourages architects and designers, researchers and students, to look up through writings organized into three expansive categories: reveries, suspensions and inversions. The contributors contemplate the architecture of levity and the potential of the ceiling, once again, as a place for dreaming.

junkspace or running room: *Bad New Days* Hal Foster, 2015-09-29 One of the world's leading art theorists dissects a quarter century of artistic practice *Bad New Days* examines the evolution of art and criticism in Western Europe and North America over the last twenty-five years, exploring their dynamic relation to the general condition of emergency instilled by neoliberalism and the war on terror. Considering the work of artists such as Thomas Hirschhorn, Tacita Dean, and Isa Genzken, and the writing of thinkers like Jacques Rancière, Bruno Latour, and Giorgio Agamben, Hal Foster shows the ways in which art has anticipated this condition, at times resisting the collapse of the social contract or gesturing toward its repair; at other times burlesquing it. Against the claim that art making has become so heterogeneous as to defy historical analysis, Foster argues that the critic must still articulate a clear account of the contemporary in all its complexity. To that end, he offers several paradigms for the art of recent years, which he terms "abject," "archival," "mimetic," and "precarious."

junkspace or running room: *Posthuman Urbanism* Debra Benita Shaw, 2017-10-24 The World Health Organisation estimates that, by 2030, six out of every ten people in the world will live in a city. But what does it mean to inhabit the city in the twenty-first century? *Posthuman Urbanism* evaluates the relevance and usefulness of posthuman theory to understanding the urban subject and its conditions of possibility. It argues that contemporary science and technology is radically changing the way that we understand our bodies and that understanding ourselves as 'posthuman' offers new insights into urban inequalities. By analysing the relationship between the biological sciences and cities from the nineteenth-century onward as it is expressed in architecture, popular culture and case studies of contemporary insurgent practices, a case is made for posthuman urbanism as a significant concept for changing the meaning of urban space. It answers the question of how we can change ourselves to change the way we live with others, both human and non-human, in a rapidly urbanising world.

junkspace or running room: *Monumental cares* Mechthild Widrich, 2023-01-31 *Monumental cares* rethinks monument debates, site specificity and art activism in light of problems that strike us as monumental or overwhelming, such as war, migration and the climate crisis. The book shows how artists address these issues, from Chicago and Berlin to Oslo, Bucharest and Hong Kong, in media ranging from marble and glass to postcards, graffiti and re-enactment. A multidirectional theory of site does justice to specific places but also to how far-away audiences see them. What emerges is a new ethics of care in public art, combined with a passionate engagement with reality harking back to the realist aesthetics of the nineteenth century. Familiar questions can be answered anew: what to do with monuments, particularly when they are the products of terror and require removal, modification or recontextualisation? And can art address the monumental concerns of our present?

junkspace or running room: *The Return of the Contemporary* Nicolás Campisi, 2024-12-17 In *The Return of the Contemporary*, Nicolás Campisi combines the fields of post-dictatorship studies and environmental humanities to analyze Latin American cultural production in the neoliberal age. Each chapter pairs two authors from different parts of Latin America and the Caribbean who create a common vocabulary in which to frame the various crises of the region's present and recent past, such as climate change, forced migration, the collapse of state institutions, and the afterlives of slavery. By situating his argument at the intersection of ecocritical and environmental humanities, affect studies, and the politics of memory and postmemory, Campisi presents new comparative methods to show how Latin America's neoliberal crisis prompted significant changes in how the novel as a form imagines a different future.

junkspace or running room: *Outrage* Ian Nairn, 2025-03-04 Acclaimed architectural critic Ian Nairn's masterpiece, reissued for the first time since 1955. In June of 1955, *The Architectural*

Review (Britain's most acclaimed and well-read magazine of architectural criticism) published a special issue featuring one essay called *Outrage* by Ian Nairn. As one of Britain's most famously opinionated (and untrained) architectural critics, it came as no surprise that the issue opened with a prophecy of doom: "that if what is called development is allowed to multiply at the present rate," then all can be expected is the subsequent loss of the individuality and spirit of Britain's natural, and urban, landscapes. Nairn coined this phenomenon "Subtopia" and demonstrated it, throughout the issue, with mugshots of offending lampposts, arterial roads, and garrotted trees. For the first time in North America and the first time in decades in the UK, Nairn's influential essay is newly available, now in a handsome volume complete with the original images.

junkspace or running room: *Big Mall* Kate Black, 2024-02-13 A phenomenology of the mall: If the mall makes us feel bad, why do we keep going back? In a world poisoned by capitalism, what makes life worth living? Kate Black grew up in West Edmonton Mall – a mall on steroids, notorious for its indoor waterpark, deadly roller coaster, and controversial dolphin shows. But everyone has a favourite mall, or a mall that is their own personal memory palace. It's a place people love to hate and hate to love – a site of pleasure and pain, of death and violence, of (sub)urban legend. Blending a history of shopping with a story of coming of age in North America's largest and strangest mall, *Big Mall* investigates how these structures have become the ultimate symbol of late-capitalist dread – and, surprisingly, a subversive site of hope. Speaking as a child of PacSun and Hot Topic myself, *Big Mall* is like a madeleine dipped in Orange Julius. Like a mall, the book itself has a lot of everything, a sublime mix of memoir, history, and cultural criticism. Kate Black is a learned Virgil in the consumerist Inferno, always avoiding the obvious and leading us to surprising connections—oil, suicide, Reddit, squatters, dolphins. Whether malls fill you with nostalgia or horror, this book will change your relationship to the world we've constructed around us." – Tony Tulathimutte, author of *Private Citizens* Before there was Instagram, there was the mall. But what happens when a seasonless, tacky, fantasyland is all you knew growing up? How does one embrace a genuinely fake experience? Or to be more precise, a fake but genuine experience? Kate Black's *Big Mall* is a smart, sentimental, and perspective-shifting look at the outsized role that big malls play in modern life. Love 'em or hate 'em, one thing's for sure: after reading this book, you'll never look at a mall in the same way again. – Ziya Tong, Science broadcaster & author of *The Reality Bubble*

junkspace or running room: *Key Essays* Johnny Rodger, 2021-09-26 Any level of study within literature and culture requires an engagement with a wider scope of themes, issues and discourses, and these debates are often centred around key 'essays'. This book examines a wide range of these essays on topics such as posthumanism, racism, feminism, necropolitics, the Anthropocene, gender, Global North/South, neo- and de-colonialism, universals, borders and limits, interspecies relations, blackness, cosmopolitics, epistemology, addiction. The essays selected represent scholars from a range of disciplines, ethnicities, nationalities and genders, and offer readings relevant across the arts and humanities. Each chapter explains why the essay is of vital importance in our contemporary era, introduces and explains the key themes and theories with which it engages, demystifies any complex content and positions it within wider current debates. Covering all of the essential debates that students and academics must engage with, alongside a close analysis and critique of contemporary seminal essays in the debate, this book will be an essential read for students of literature and culture across the arts and humanities.

junkspace or running room: *Museum Thresholds* Ross Parry, Ruth Page, Alex Moseley, 2018-05-11 *Museum Thresholds* is a progressive, interdisciplinary volume and the first to explore the importance and potential of entrance spaces for visitor experience. Bringing together an international collection of writers from different disciplines, the chapters in this volume offer different theoretical perspectives on the nature of engagement, interaction and immersion in threshold spaces, and the factors which enable and inhibit those immersive possibilities. Organised into themed sections, the book explores museum thresholds from three different perspectives. Considering them first as a problem space, the contributors then go on to explore thresholds through different media and, finally, draw upon other subjects and professions, including

performance, gaming, retail and discourse studies, in order to examine them from an entirely new perspective. Drawing upon examples that span Asia, North America and Europe, the authors set the entrance space in its historical, social and architectural contexts. Together, the essays show how the challenges posed by the threshold can be rethought and reimagined from a variety of perspectives, each of which have much to bring to future thinking and design. Combining both theory and practice, *Museum Thresholds* should be essential reading for academics, researchers and postgraduate students working in museum studies, digital heritage, architecture, design studies, retail studies and media studies. It will also be of great interest to museum practitioners working in a wide variety of institutions around the globe.

junkspace or running room: The Routledge Companion to Urban Media and Communication Zlatan Krajina, Deborah Stevenson, 2019-09-23 The Routledge Companion to Urban Media and Communication traces central debates within the burgeoning interdisciplinary research on mediated cities and urban communication. The volume brings together diverse perspectives and global case studies to map key areas of research within media, cultural and urban studies, where a joint focus on communications and cities has made important innovations in how we understand urban space, technology, identity and community. Exploring the rise and growing complexity of urban media and communication as the next key theme for both urban and media studies, the book gathers and reviews fast-developing knowledge on specific emergent phenomena such as: reading the city as symbol and text; understanding urban infrastructures as media (and vice-versa); the rise of global cities; urban and suburban media cultures: newspapers, cinema, radio, television and the mobile phone; changing spaces and practices of urban consumption; the mediation of the neighbourhood, community and diaspora; the centrality of culture to urban regeneration; communicative responses to urban crises such as racism, poverty and pollution; the role of street art in the negotiation of 'the right to the city'; city competition and urban branding; outdoor advertising; moving image architecture; 'smart'/cyber urbanism; the emergence of Media City production spaces and clusters. Charting key debates and neglected connections between cities and media, this book challenges what we know about contemporary urban living and introduces innovative frameworks for understanding cities, media and their futures. As such, it will be an essential resource for students and scholars of media and communication studies, urban communication, urban sociology, urban planning and design, architecture, visual cultures, urban geography, art history, politics, cultural studies, anthropology and cultural policy studies, as well as those working with governmental agencies, cultural foundations and institutes, and policy think tanks.

junkspace or running room: Architecture in Contemporary Literature Nevnihal Erdoğan, Hikmet Temel Akarsu, 2023-11-12 *Architecture in Contemporary Literature* artfully weaves the tapestry of architecture with the eloquence of modern literary masterpieces. In this follow up to their earlier work on architecture in fictional literature, the editors have carefully selected 31 significant works from contemporary world literature, offering a fresh educational approach to literary critique and architecture. This exploration allows readers to perceive life through the lens of architectural backgrounds. Nature, society, humans, and cities come to life through these chosen literary gems. Extensive collaboration with architects, intellectuals, academics, writers, and thinkers culminates in the selection of influential works that guide present-day architectural perspectives and aspirations. The book promises to be a valuable reference for undergraduate and graduate students in architecture, interior architecture, urban planning, fine arts, humanities, social sciences, and various design disciplines. Yet, its appeal also extends to anyone with an appreciation for urban life and a desire for a broader understanding of the intricacies of architecture. Whether you're an expert in design, culture, art, sociology, or literature, or simply an avid learner, *Architecture in Contemporary Literature* is a compelling exploration that deserves a prominent place on your bookshelf. Engage with its pages and immerse yourself in the fusion of architectural insight and literary artistry.

junkspace or running room: Circular Architecture Francesca Zanotto, 2022-02-28 *Circular*

economy opens a new domain for architectural design, where architecture is focused on its production and disposal cycles, and the process is intended as the final outcome of the project. The circular paradigm is the product of the political discourse and critical attitude which are globally questioning the use of natural resources and the origins of goods. As a model of production and consumption aiming to recover the retained value in waste and optimize resource utilization, the circular framework is one of the most radical thinking patterns of contemporary age, developing specific cultural and social attitudes.

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