"SURFACE SYMMETRIES: The Smith House Revisited"

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12:30 - 2:00pm
Room 7-431

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Abstract
This work proposes the use of partial order lattices along with representational schemes to account for patterns of ambiguity and emergence in the description of designs. The complexity of such designs is viewed as an aggregation of spatial layers that can all be decomposed by the subgroup relations of the symmetry of the configuration. At the end, this methodology points to a combinatorial approach that generates visual prototypes for future use in design synthesis. Here, Meier' 's work is just a case study that validates the group theoretical approach.

Bio
Edouard Din is an architect by training graduated from ETH/EPF. In his second life, he earned a MA in Math (UNC-Chapel Hill) and a PhD in Architecture (Design Computing) at Georgia Tech. In the meanwhile, he has wore several hats such as architect in Atelier de Montrouge in Paris, national Director of Habitat in Cameroon, editor of Papyrus, a quarterly of techniques of arts and culture, and founder of www.kmtspace.com : African Art and Architecture. Currently, Dr. Din is associate professor of architecture and director of digital technology at the Robert Taylor School of Architecture at Tuskegee University. His research goal is to expand shape grammars both theoretically and geographically. On one hand, he is working on formal systems (symmetry|group theory) in analysis and synthesis of complex designs by expanding the work of Lionel March, George Stiny, Terry Knight, and Thanos Economou on shape grammars. On the other hand, he is also actively working to build a network of native African researchers in North America and Africa to create ACADIA-Africa.