



Carnegie Mellon University

School of Architecture  
College of Fine Arts, CFA 201  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



Still from movie *Godzilla* 1956 dir *Honda Ishirō*

48500, 48650 Advanced Synthesis Option Studio

**Building the Unbuilt: the Model Metropolis**

18 units Tues/Thurs 1.00-4.50pm

Anne Chen, AIA, LEED AP,

How is creative diversity interpreted and experienced? The imposition and interpretation of contextual design upon our built environments- through occupancy and use restrictions and aesthetic prescription- reinforces a trajectory where what was will always be. This hegemony leaves little room for the creative designers and planners outside of this system. What might a new urban unconstrained by interpretations of physical context look and feel like? What frameworks are still essential to promote function?

The studio proposes to design and model a city creating an imagined urban landscape of geographic features, plots and circulation pathways, with experimental zoning rules to guide the placement of structures and spaces. The city will be populated with the unrealized real, using the commissioned yet unbuilt projects of a wide diversity of architects. This nearly limitless library of building designs, assembled in an urban context absent of the 'context' in which the buildings were designed, will provide a space for asking and answering questions.

In addition to providing the landscape for answering our own research questions, the studio establishes the goal of launching the environment as product to continually be populated and rearranged with new modeled unbuilt projects as a true open-source environment. Who it is for and how it can inform future design and planning are questions to be engaged.