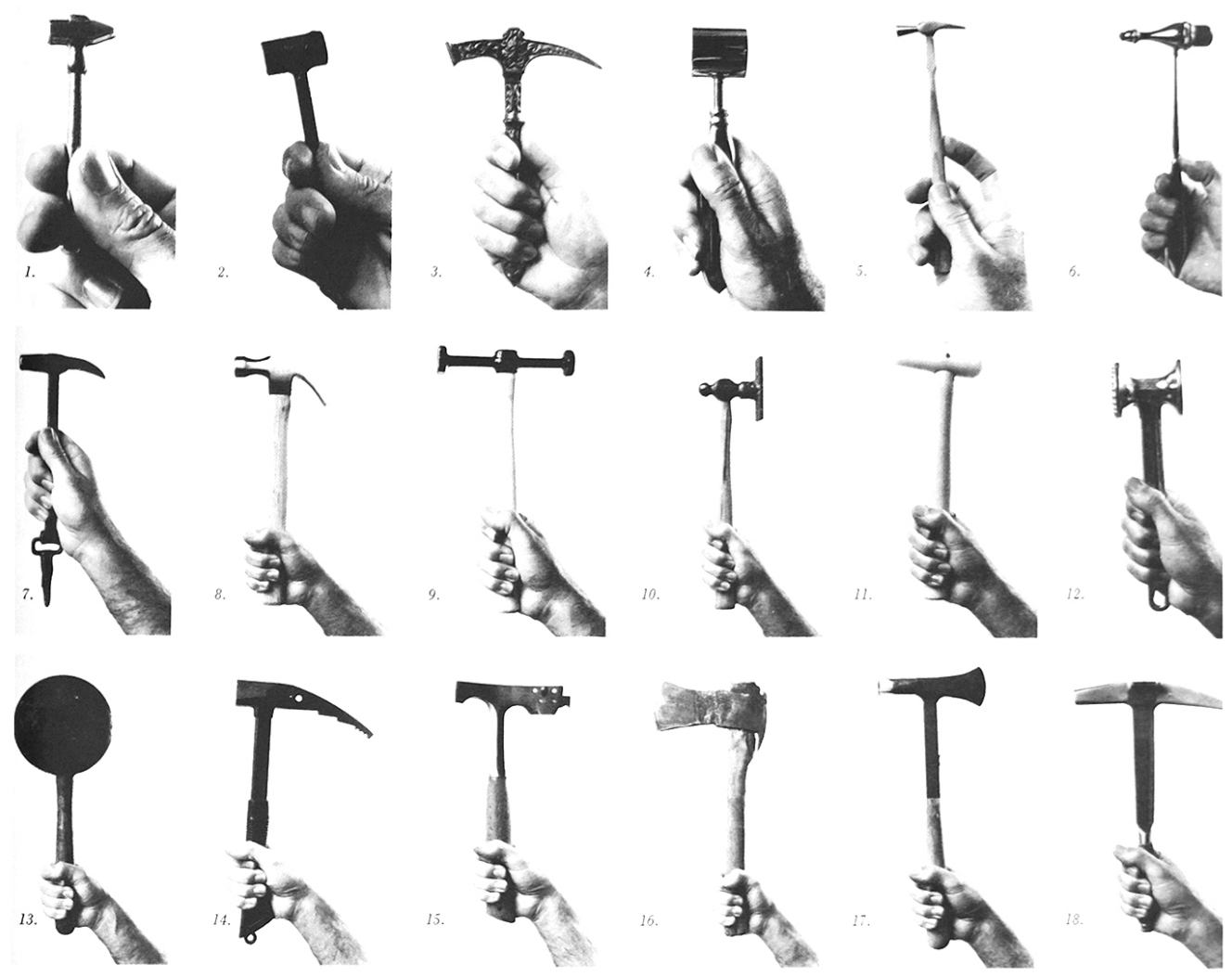


ARCH 521: MEDIA TECH VI: WORKFLOWS: FALL 2019

Federico Garcia Lammers



Hans Hollein. Aspects of Design: Man Transforms, 1976-77

Workflows are a modern myth...

Technics and technological
advancements do not depend
on architecture. Historically,
architecture has depended on
technics and technology to
advance its own agenda.

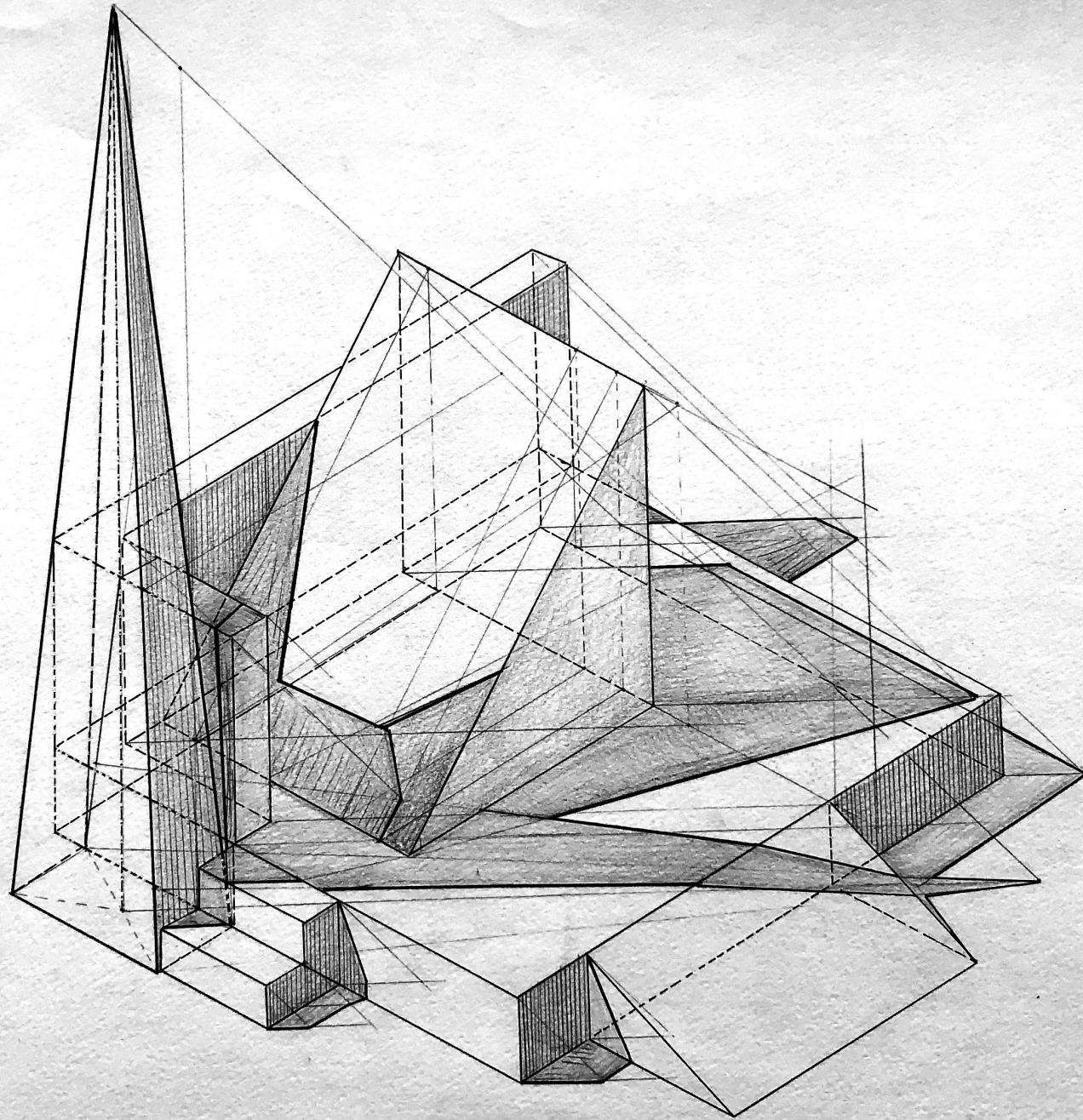
Continual indifference to the role that **instruments** play in the production of architecture - **workflows** - is an important disciplinary and professional blind spot. Arch 521 looks at the contemporary effects of this **historical blind spot**.

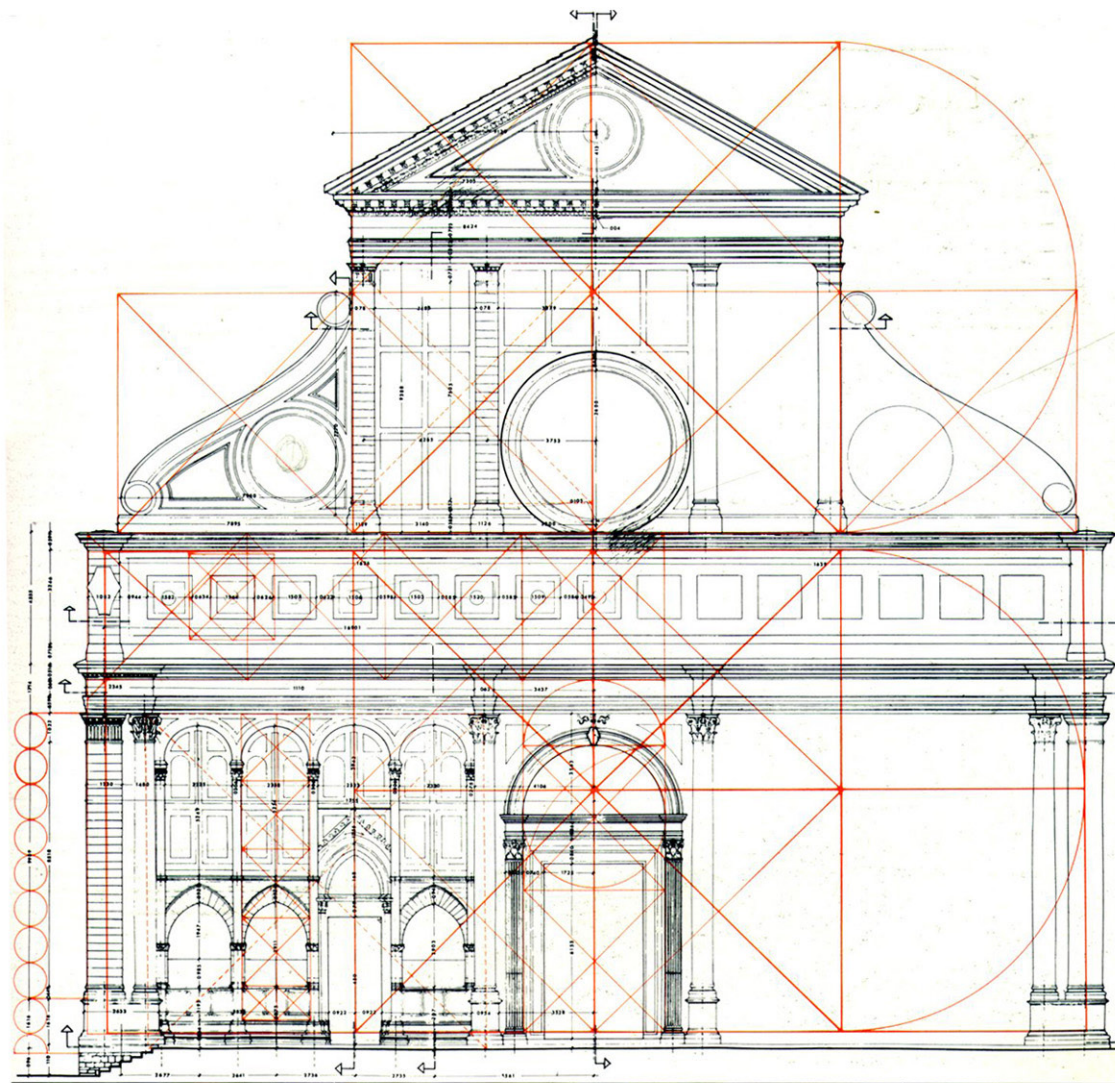


Tablas de Dibujo (Uruguay) / Instrument and Object



Facultad de Arquitectura Montevideo, Uruguay.





Images from Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects















Digital technology continues to transform the way architects work and how they are educated.

Media is what we work through
– it is a fundamental way of seeing and speculating about architecture.

Arch 521 is a media lecture course that focuses on **post-orthographic BIM (Building Information Modeling)** processes and their effect on the formal part to whole relationship in architecture.

These effects are studied by problematizing the role of workflows. The work from this media course is framed by the relationship among three areas of study:

a. History

b. Tools

c. Contemporary Practice

The link between methods of production and reflection is the conceptual thread that highlights the relationship among these areas of study.

There is a disciplinary path
in which technical aptitude
(**technics**) and theoretical
aptitude (**discourse**) continue
to be driven further and further
apart.

The confusion between technics and discourse has led many architects to **misinterpret user's manuals** and statistical analysis as novel theories - referring to them as workflows.

Shifts in “**labor time**” (graphical and construction) associated with the production of architecture has made it clear that the **speed of the medium** is decisive within any technical system.

The goal of this course is to articulate that the speed of the medium affects contemplation and the **making of knowledge**; and thus the development of technics.

To move workflows away from the legacy of scientific management - **the modernist pursuit of efficiency** - it is necessary to think of technical contemplation as an intellectual act that distinguishes between technics and technology.

Otherwise, workflows will continue to be a list of commands used to produce and manage predictable outcomes.

[https://doarchworkflows2019.
school.blog/](https://doarchworkflows2019.school.blog/)