Abstract

This thesis deals with the fundamental notion of the library as a place of reading and research, a place where a sense of contemplation and inspiration can be experienced vis-à-vis the interactive nature of multi-media. In an attempt to capture this contemplative experience, the notion of movement and delay is considered.

Libraries should be concerned with the pursuit of knowledge and not merely information. During the time of antiquity, libraries were closely associated the quest to seek knowledge. If libraries are records of Man's history, then it should be a source of knowledge through which more knowledge could be discovered. This could be facilitated by the act of thinking, reflecting and contemplating which requires a slowing down of one's movement, a sense of delay, to capture and focus one's attention. Contemplation is therefore a state of mind which allows thorough thought and reflection.

The vehicle chosen consists of a Central Regional Library, the Business Library, the Arts Library, the National Reference Collection as well as the National Library Board. These amenities serves both public as well as specialised private interests and is located in the city.