

102 VISUAL DESIGN THEORY

EXERCISE /// BLINDNESS



Jose Saramago [1922 - 2010] writer
author of *The Cave*, *Seeing*, *Blindness*, Nobel Prize in Literature, 1998

“Why did we become blind, I don’t know, perhaps one day we’ll find out, Do you want me to tell you what I think, Yes, do, I don’t think we did go blind, I think we are blind, Blind but seeing, Blind people who can see, but do not see.”

from *BLINDNESS*. 1995

italo calvino [1923 - 1985] writer
author of italian folktales, difficult loves, marcovaldo, if on a winter's night a traveler

“And Polo said: ‘The inferno of the living is not something that will be; if there is one, it is what is already here, the inferno where we live every day, that we form by being together. There are two ways to escape suffering it. The first is easy for many: accept the inferno and become such a part of it that you can no longer see it. The second is risky and demands constant vigilance and apprehension: seek and learn to recognize who and what, in the midst of the inferno, are not inferno, then make them endure, give them space.’”

from INVISIBLE CITIES. 1972

EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS

divide into pairs of two
establish rules for seeing and not seeing [note taking . stasis]
twenty minutes per individual
experience the architecture building - the path to the library - the library
[NA section]

requires an enormous amount of trust . silence . honesty
an awareness of various senses [touch - hands and feet and body
temperature - hearing - smell]

NO STAIRS and be careful!!!