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5. Encounters of Body, Mind and Place

With what, then, should architects compose?

With patterns of rooms and zones of space that are varied, available to the mind and structured to nurture many kinds of action and reflection.

With imagined bodily movements that glide through space, secure positions and eddy into niches and places of repose.

With the heat of the sun as it passes through seasons, with the path of breezes, the fall of water, the ramifications of bouncing light.

With prospects of the surroundings, foci of refuge, traces of construction and craft, and moments of surprise.

With the stuff of dreams, the conventions of community and the flows of nature.

(And, yes, with codes, costs, construction constraints, and a requisite regard for the limitations of property.)

Architects should compose, that is to say, with the encounters that their buildings will afford—as places of beautiful dwelling and as elements of great outgoings.

—*Donlyn Lyndon*