Designerly ways of being

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“One’s own body is in the world just as the heart is in the organism: it continuously breathes life into the visible spectacle, animates it and nourishes it from within, and forms a system with it.”

Maurice Merleau-Ponty
Outline

• Research focus
• Initial research question: on gesture in design crits
• Method: interaction analysis
• Theoretical Framing: participation frameworks, stances
• Recast research question: on design stances
• Case Analysis: illustrating the stances
• (Re)conceptualizing design activity: from thinking to being
Research focus

• Practitioner-student interactions
• “Vulgar competence” in the domain: ID (G and Jr)
• Social activity is embodied and artifactually mediated: hence voice and gesture and inscriptions and gaze and body orientation and ...
Initial research question
Method

- Joint interaction analysis on 3 “cases” to develop theoretical generalizations.
- Writeup cases.
- Check generalizations across the other cases of gesture in our target crits, modifying as necessary.
Goffman & Goodwin: participation framework

Shared context for mutual gaze and reference
Participation framework in the design critiques
Goffman & Goodwin: stance

Stances are defined by the way in which individual participants position themselves —through speech, body orientation, gesture, and gaze—with respect to the participant framework.
What stances do designers embody during design critiques?
Case analysis to illustrate the design stances
“Man is simultaneously subject and object, first person and third person, absolutely free and yet dependent.”

Maurice Merleau-Ponty
1. FREEZER

Frozen air is a proven way to maintain the freshness of any clothes and keeping them in a state of freshness even after a week of wear. The condensed air keeps the clothes from becoming wrinkle-free and helps prevent dust and odor from settling in.

What do you do with the clothes that you don’t want to wear?
Inscriptional stance

“but the function is, uh effectively that it pulls air in”
3rd person stance

“... and slides it through the, um, through the closet and out at the top”
Phenomenal stance

“... so that the clothes would get a strong airflow and, uh, help them kind of breeze out.”
Inscriptional

3rd person

phenomenal (1st & 3rd)

on the page

out there

in here
From designerly ways of thinking ...

... to designerly ways of being