In the Search of Certainty:

Autonomous Architecture
as opposed to
Socially Conscious Architecture in the Course of Space Creation

A Dissertation

submitted to the Department of Architecture of the

University of Moratuwa in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree of

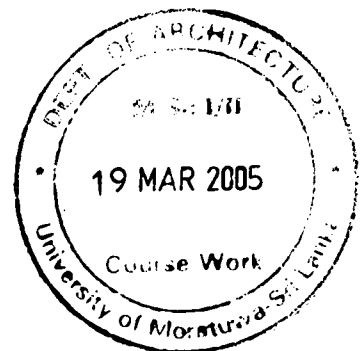**Master of Science In Architecture**

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Declaration

I declare that this dissertation represents my own work, except where due acknowledgement made, and that it has not been previously included in a thesis, dissertation or report submitted to the University or any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification.

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Abstract

Considered in the most abstract way, we could say that every object, poem, tool, etc. is a sign that continually sends out signals to those who are willing and prepared to receive them. Why certain of these objects have continued to remain alive when even their original meanings have become obscure continues to be a misery; but it is an undeniable fact and one that asks for explanation. Obviously it must have something to do with the object itself, for otherwise the revival and enjoyment of all past artifacts would approach an equal average. Instead of this we find that certain works remain in obscurity, while others oscillate in and out of favour, while still others remain in fairly steady favour -as 'classics'. It is this continual popularity of classics which has caused the most speculation in the past and made the critic search for some abstract, general quality of 'beauty' or 'significant form' or 'expressionist essence' which they all must share in common.

- Charles Jencks
Architecture and Morality

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