



Project Title: **Schichtwechsel im Selveareal
(Change of shifts in Selve-area)**

Students Name: **Alexandra Förster**

Level:

Course: **Diploma**

Advisor/Instructor: **Markus Gasser**

Principal Investigator: **Udo Gleim**

Department / School: **Faculty of Architecture**

**Technical University of Darmstadt,
Darmstadt, Germany**

Summary description of project:

Change of shifts... ..in the “Selve-area”. Industry has left the ground. Discotheques and bars that liven up the area are temporary solutions only. These improvised uses are spread all over the place and seem to split it into lots of segments without any connection. Therefore the former steel-work with its old halls is in the need for a new identity.

The central situated area is separated from the city-center only by river, railway track and a lowered street. To work against the inner dissection of the area a new structure is developed that follows the bands of the old “Zühringerstadt” in its use of forms. The new building is reacting to the different existing urban development situations and opens up a dialogue between old and new. The volumes facing each other build new spaces and define places with varied characters. The new respects the old and gives space to work. Old and new cooperate without touching each other. The area’s peculiarity implies the use of the new building: there is a relation between the use of old and new as well as within old and new itself. The new bond is divided in the sections working, living and retreat. These are overlapping, forming one building, providing openings and passages to get an impression of the whole area in its totality. A new generation captures the area without destroying the old industrial character. The new flows through the area, breaks through and carries away, it is permeable, open and sometimes border... ..the shifts have changed now!

Jury Comments

I particularly like this project presentation. The use of 3D is very successful in this urban design. The designer is able to communicate with ease the different scales of the concept. The rendering technique selected is appropriate to the scale of the project. Very compelling communication of a complex idea with simplicity.

- *Alain Cohen*



