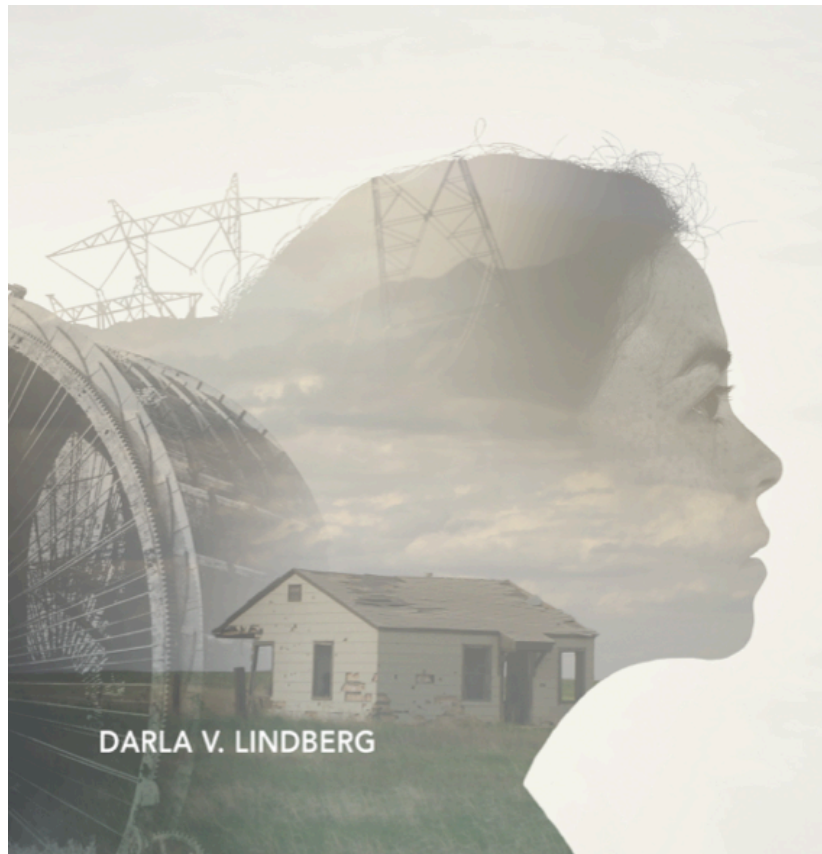


MINIMALIST DESIGN



A sculptor inspects the formation of the granite rock in the Wasatch Mountains.
He takes note of the vegetation with roots that reach deep into the rock.
He charts the way water pools and filters into those cracks.
He takes a chunk of granite back to his studio and studies these features intently.
Finally, he makes a chisel cut to break open the rock.
If he is right about his observations, the cut exposes a smooth face of granite.
If he is wrong, the effort results in rubble.

In this seminar, we will look at **MINIMALIST** design, not as an act of severe editing of a design, but as the **synTHESIS** of factors affecting choices, i.e., aligning regulatory systems such as the cost of money or zoning or code descriptions and thus, building; unpacking a genre as it captures the social story of its time; siting as it determines every other design move; lateral stability as it affects massing, structure and materials; circulation as it redefines program; and the mechanics of the way things work and the details that must come together to keep design clean and effective. Students will create a series of drawings and models of design(s) they choose to explore, i.e., a lamp, a piece of furniture, or a building to chronicle a different kind of **synTHESIS** thinking to arrive at a most elegant solution (an awesome and smart portfolio piece too!)

Arch 497 – Wednesdays 11:15am – 1:10pm
2-3 credits – location TBD