

A DIAGRAM IS A TRIVIAL MACHINE

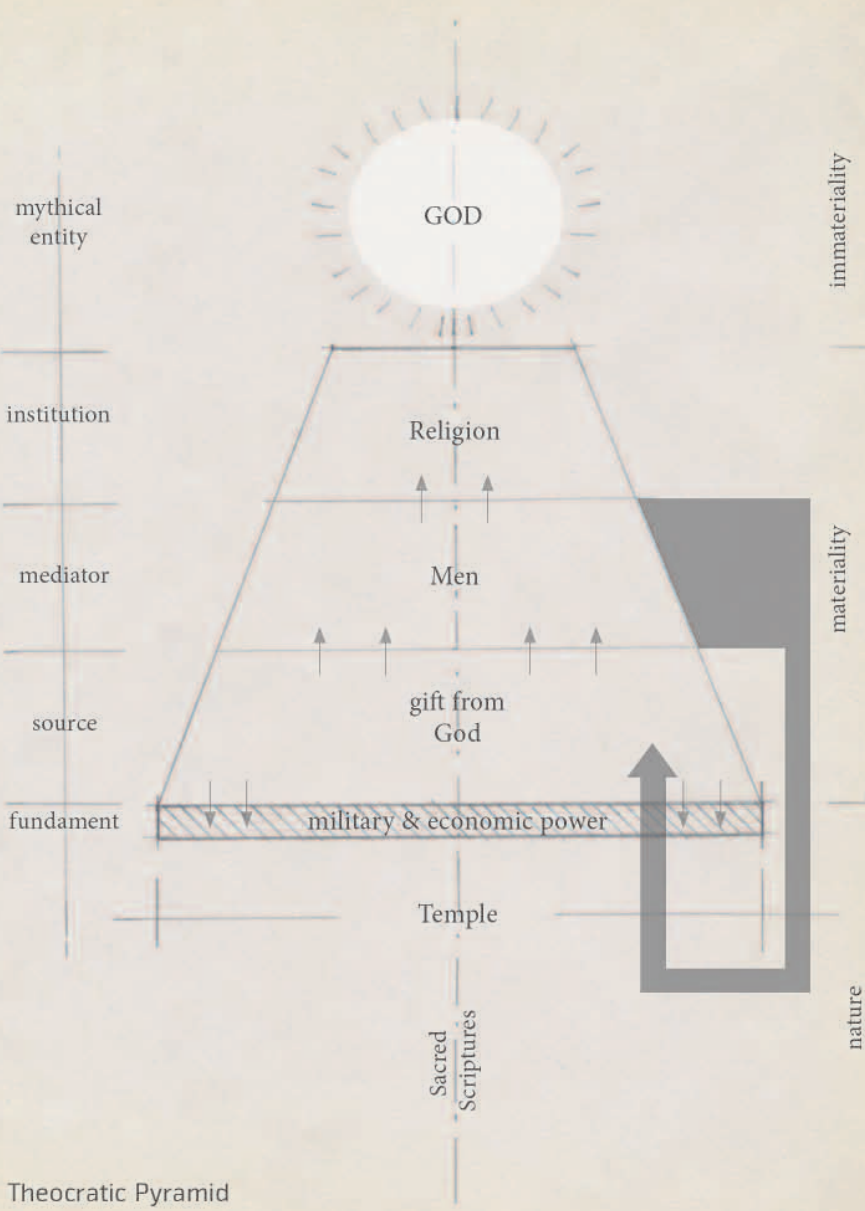
MARIO ASEF

The idea of the diagram emerged almost at the same time as the idea of the machine, although we cannot really tell which existed first. However, it seems clear that both are intrinsically connected. What they share is essentially narrative: we create machines using diagrammatic narratives, and with these narratives, we create knowledge. Narratives are the real machines.

I generate diagrams with the purpose of understanding the narratives, forms, and aesthetics of sociocultural and political structures. This leaves room for the production of artistic works that can be introduced into the machinery of everyday life.

The city
is The
deployment
of time

A piece of white paper with handwritten text in black ink. The text reads "The city is The deployment of time". The word "city" is circled in white. The word "of" is circled in blue. The word "time" is circled in white. Pink lines connect the circles: one from "city" to "of", one from "city" to "time", and one from "of" to "time".



Theocratic Pyramid

Narrative
-
History

^
Word

Materialist word /
image relationship
for configuring the
identity of a people

PLACE

FACT

Words are
tyrannical.

-
Images are the
propaganda
machinery of
words.

Image

v

Archaeology

-
Found Objects
semiophores

(1911 = f = 0)
Enrico Aulenti

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Pattern of public use
of Mexico City public
space on October
28th, 2014



Religious
festivity
“I pray to
St. Judas for
a change in
my life.”

Political
protest
“I demand
a change in
government
to change
my life.”

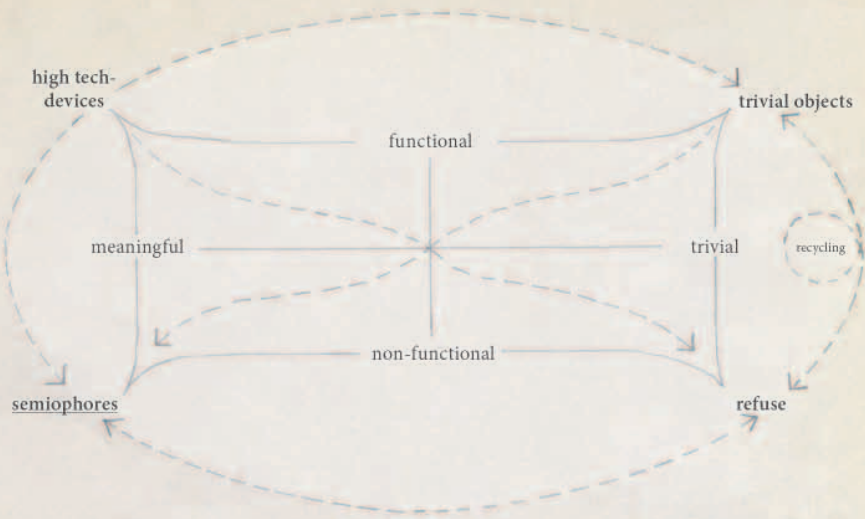
Ruins are
cultural
devices

—



Symbolic process of digging a pit

Zócalo, México D.F.



Status of Things

c) Tradition or circumstantiality?

b) Conditioned or free to choose?

a) Luck or choice?

a') Choice that carries the potentiality of finding something – luck!

b') Free to choose the place but conditioned by the expectation of finding something.

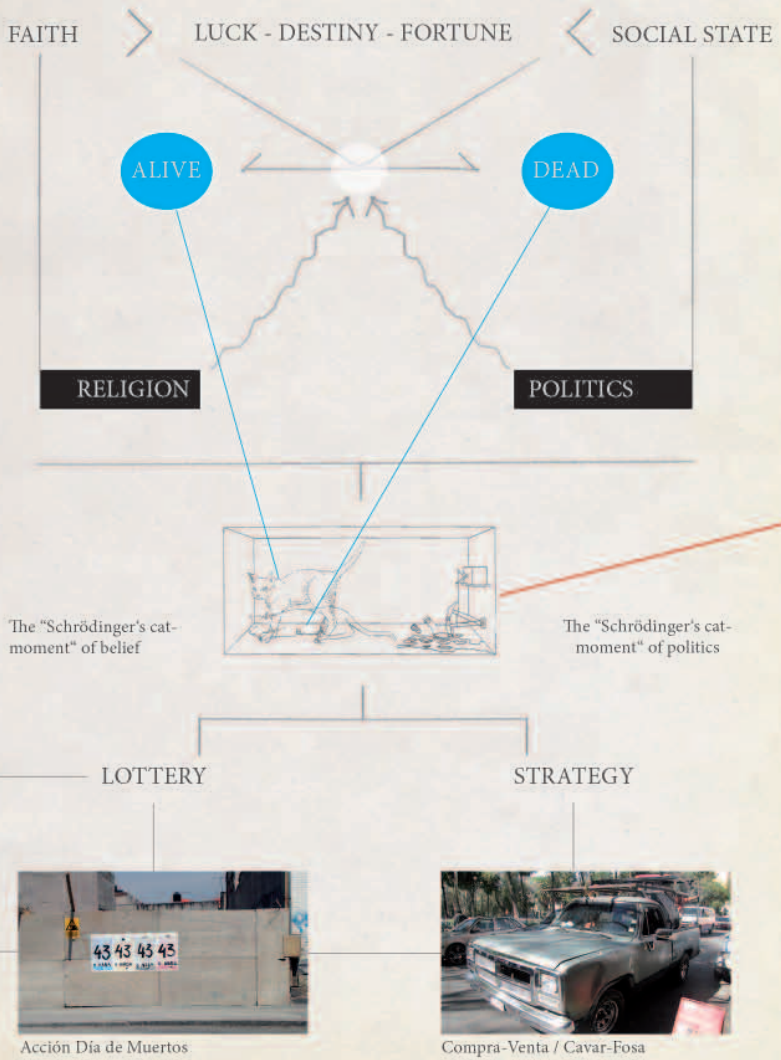
c') Driven by the circumstances that produce findings for reconstructing our tradition.

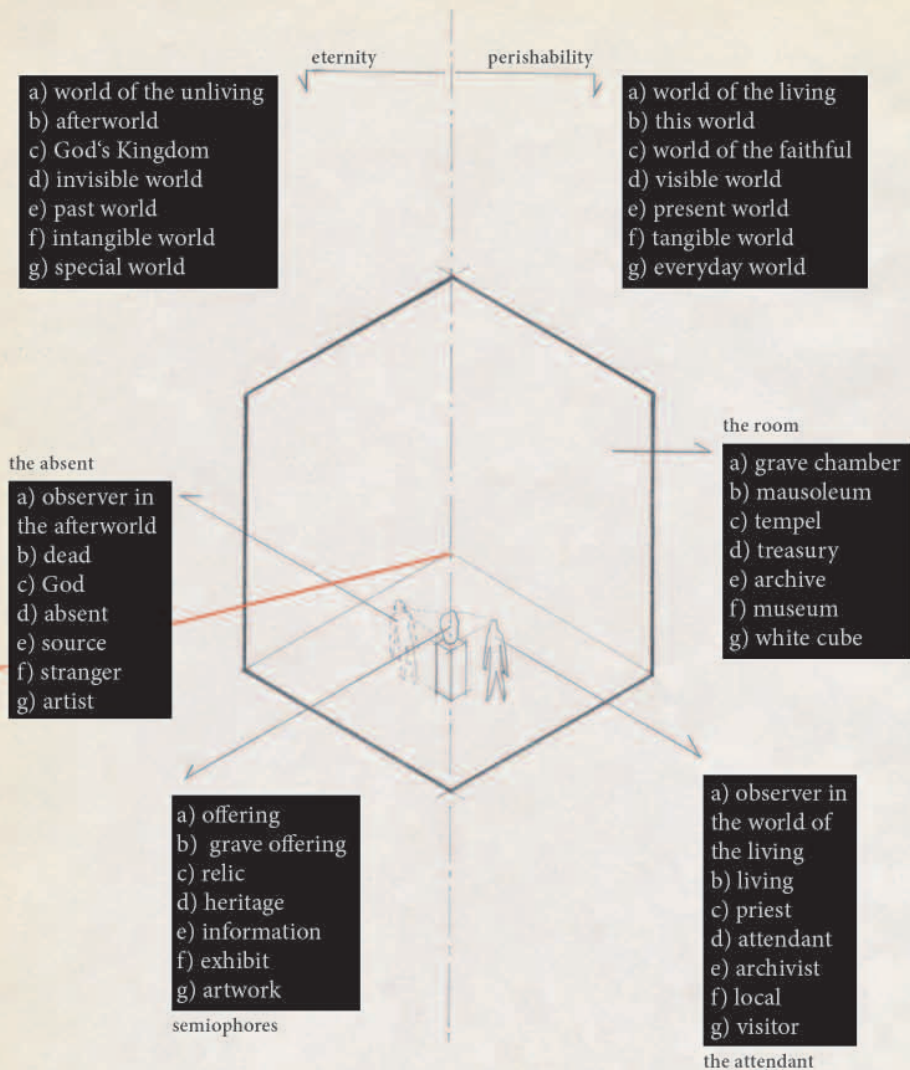
The a-b-c-conditions of digging a pit

The "Schrödinger's cat-moment" of digging a pit

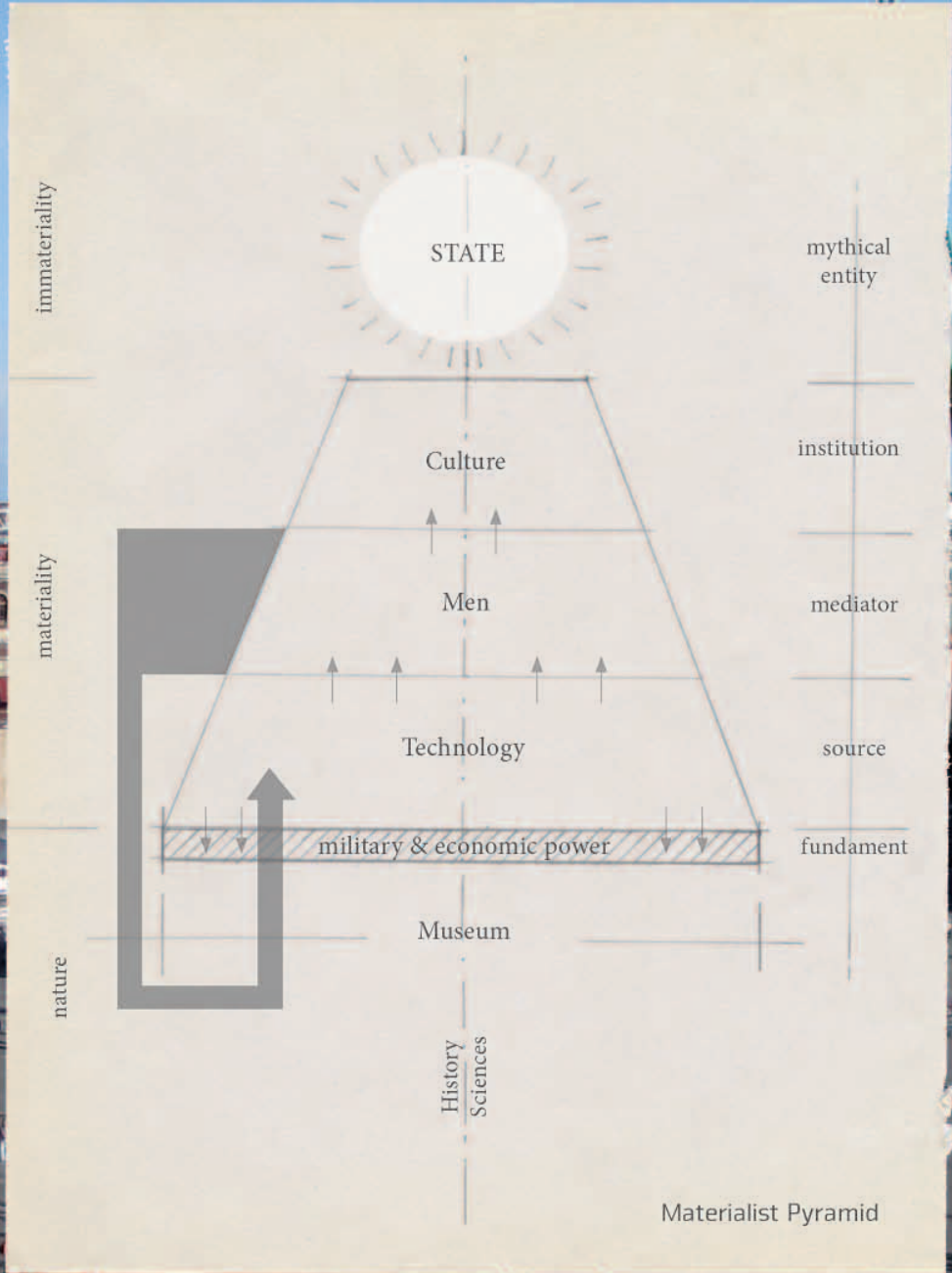



A possible social structure of belief – *luck, destiny and fortune* –





Evolution of a situation – from 'a' to 'g' –



A diagram
is a 
trivial
machine 