

Exploring the Dualistic Nature of Design: Integrative Perspectives and Methodological Approaches in Design Research

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Abstract : The concept of design has historically been elusive and characterized by its fluidity, leading to divergent viewpoints on its fundamental nature. Guy Julier views design as inherent in material culture, while Sanders sees it as a collective endeavor focusing on the outcome. Design's dualistic nature, procedural and outcome-oriented, spans various domains, including objects, individuals, and the environment. This comprehensive view of design challenges the notion that design practice is distinct from research, highlighting their shared exploratory nature. The article explores methodological techniques in design research and the three prevalent approaches: "into design," "through design," and "for design." The contradictory meanings of design arise from its etymology and its duality as both process and result, leading to its integrative nature across objects, humans, and the environment. The parallels between design and research activities, underscoring their exploratory and knowledge-generating nature, are situated within creative research, challenging the perception of design practice as separate from research endeavors. The "into design" approach encourages interdisciplinary collaboration, enriching design research with diverse perspectives. The "through design" approach bridges theory and practice, producing more practical outcomes. The "for design" approach supports specific design solutions, providing designers with valuable guidance.

Keywords : dualistic nature of design, integrative perspectives, methodological approaches, design research

Conference Title : ICDAVEGD 2023 : International Conference on Digital Art, Visual Effects and Graphic Design

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan

Conference Dates : December 04-05, 2023