

The Challenge

From time immemorial, towers have been intertwined with the desire of the human race to escape the limitations of our earthly bonds. Through the construction of vertical structures we have sought to extend our reach towards the heavens, while at the same time, enabling ourselves to expand our visual mastery of the landscape to which we are so firmly rooted. Our earliest source of inspiration to gain an advantage over our surroundings is undoubtedly linked to the simple principle of a vertical cantilever as it is expressed in the functional form of a tree. The ability to move Up is intrinsically linked to structure, and therefore, to material.

Students are challenged to design a tower on a site of the designers' choosing. While the purpose, scope and scale of the tower are left to the discretion of the designer, it is important to focus on what it means for us to engage and experience structure as 'Up.' The structure must be primarily steel, but otherwise, the material palette is open.

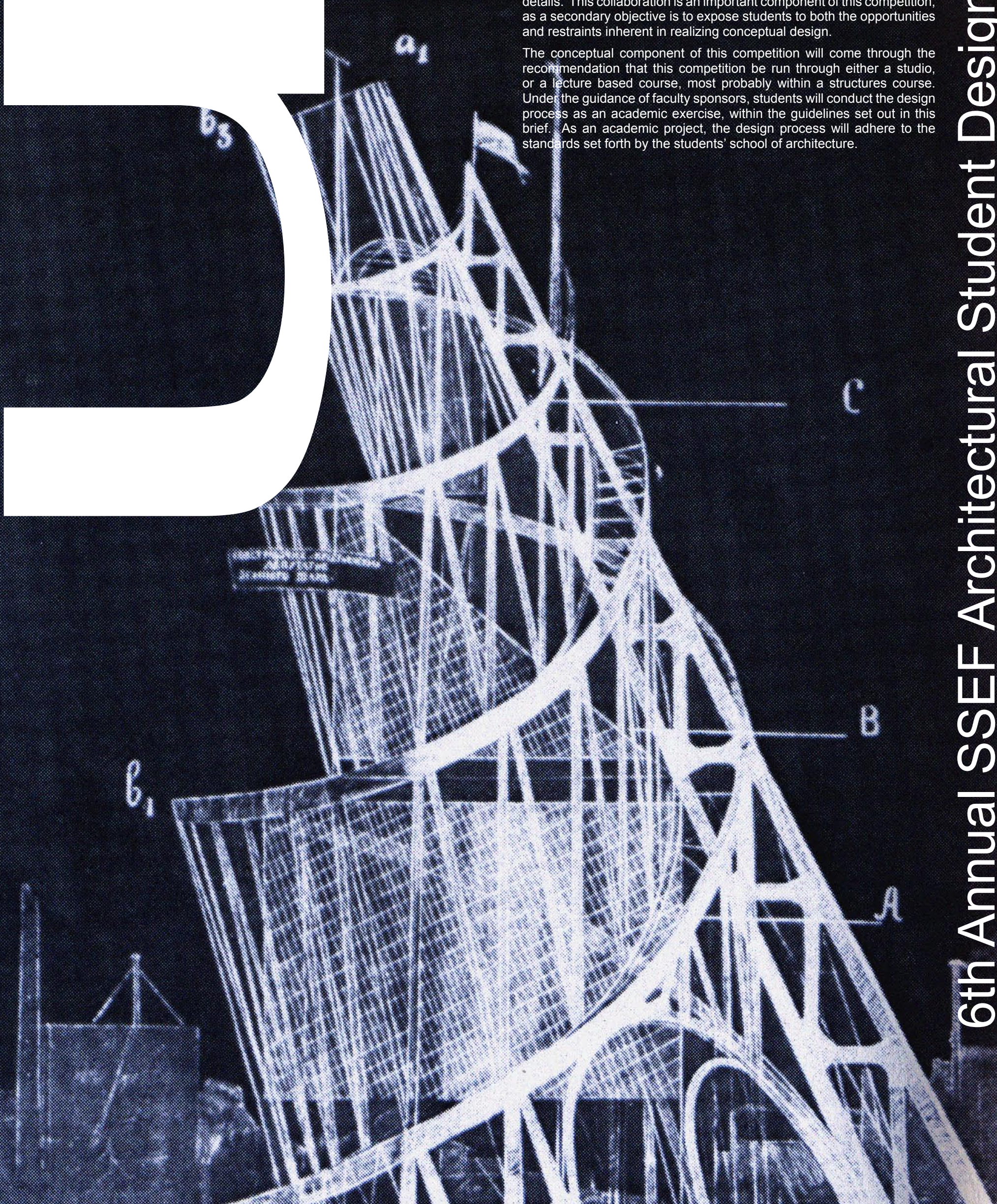
Competition Statement

The intention of this design competition is primarily to provide students of architecture in Canada with a unique opportunity: to enter into a design process that brings together, of necessity, concept and reality. It is important for students of architecture to grasp the fact that structural design lies not just in the realm of the engineer, but can be a means for architects of arriving at a meaningful realization of architectural ideas. It is when theory meets physical necessity that architecture can become really interesting.

The exploration will, of course, include issues related to program and site, but the emphasis in this competition is upon the architectural exploration through form and material, on the essential relationship between architecture and structure.

The reality of this competition comes in two forms: through the requirement for buildable details, primarily utilizing structural steel; and through the collaboration with the steel fabrication industry on those details. This collaboration is an important component of this competition, as a secondary objective is to expose students to both the opportunities and restraints inherent in realizing conceptual design.

The conceptual component of this competition will come through the recommendation that this competition be run through either a studio, or a lecture based course, most probably within a structures course. Under the guidance of faculty sponsors, students will conduct the design process as an academic exercise, within the guidelines set out in this brief. As an academic project, the design process will adhere to the standards set forth by the students' school of architecture.



Technical Requirements

The ultimate goal for a team's submission should combine good architectural design with sound structural considerations and material choices. The presentation of the design should provide easy access to all components of the project clearly and creatively. Entries in this competition should predominantly use structural steel in the design. By specifying structural steel as both architectural and structural elements, the designers demonstrate an understanding of the building properties of the material, and the architectural possibilities. Entries that include specifications of steel sizes, shapes and/or product specifications will be given stronger consideration by the jury. Teams should also consider the practical application of their design. The potential for buildability will be given strong consideration, as the potential exists to build the winning entry. While theoretical studio projects are strongly encouraged, submissions should reflect a clear vision of the project's place and purpose Collaborative

Collaborative Process

Collaboration between designer(s) and fabricator is encouraged as a means of obtaining architectural excellence combined with practical potential. This collaboration reflects the reality of architectural practice, and will enhance the students' ability to realize conceptual design within the framework of real construction. Students and faculty sponsors are encouraged to draw upon the experience and expertise of their local steel fabricators as part of the design process. The Steel Structures Education Foundation will forward a list of local fabricators interested in participating once an entrant's registration form is received.

Eligibility

This competition is open to all full-time students registered in an accredited program of architecture in Canada. Students may work individually or in teams. Entries that include students in Engineering are encouraged. Each entry must have at least one faculty sponsor from the architecture program.

Schedule

September, 2006	Competition announced
January 30, 2007	Deadline for registration
May 1, 2007	Deadline for receipt of entries
May, 2007	Adjudication and announcement of winners
June, 2007	Awards presented at SSEF annual general meeting
	Exhibition of winning entries
October, 2007	Publication of winning entries

Awards

Award of Excellence	
student team	\$3,000
faculty sponsor	\$1,500
Award(s) of Merit	
student team	\$2,000
faculty sponsor	\$1,000
(Up to two Awards of Merit will be awarded)	

UP! The Sixth Annual Steel Structures Education Foundation (SSEF) Architectural Student Design Competition 2006/2007

University

Faculty Sponsor

Student Names

Mailing Address

Telephone

E-mail

Please send all registration forms to:

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300 - 201 Consumers Road
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