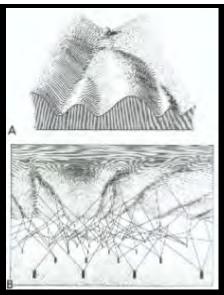


Edith Sitwell's hand holding a helical shell. (From 1958 Christmas card of Eve and Lance Whyte.)



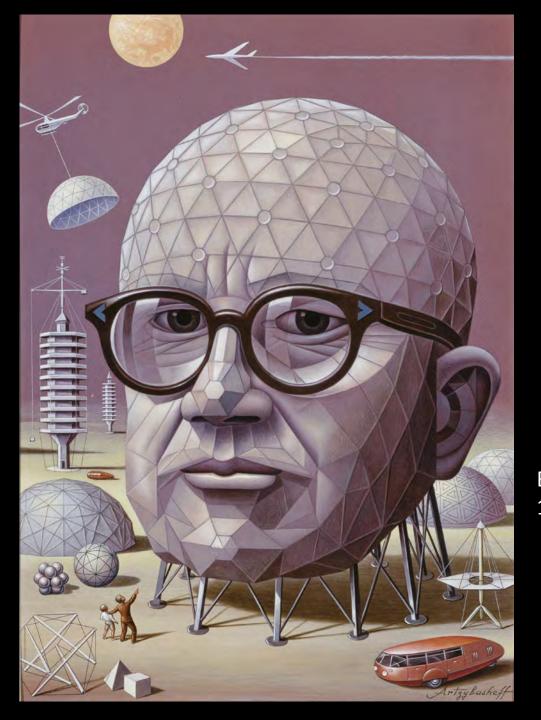
HUAS 6312-001 20537

BIOS: Art, Architecture, Design, and Biology
Dr. Charissa N. Terranova
University of Texas at Dallas
Spring 2014
Monday 4:00-6:45
JO 3.532

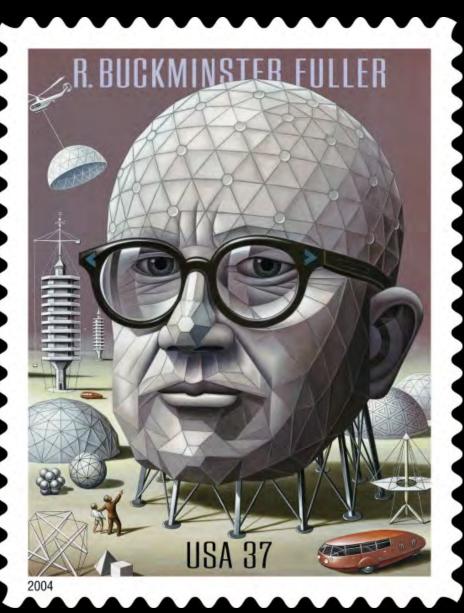
Office Hours: Monday 1:00-4:00
Office Location: JO 3.920
Contact: terranova@utdallas.edu

03/31/2014
On Growth and Form

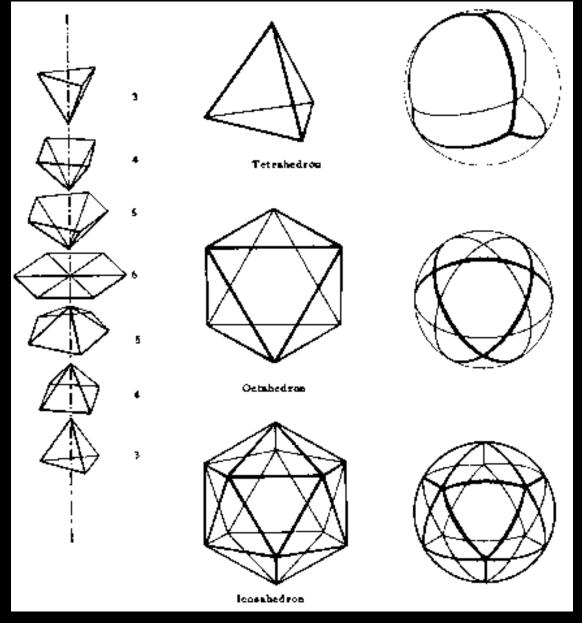
Tensegrity



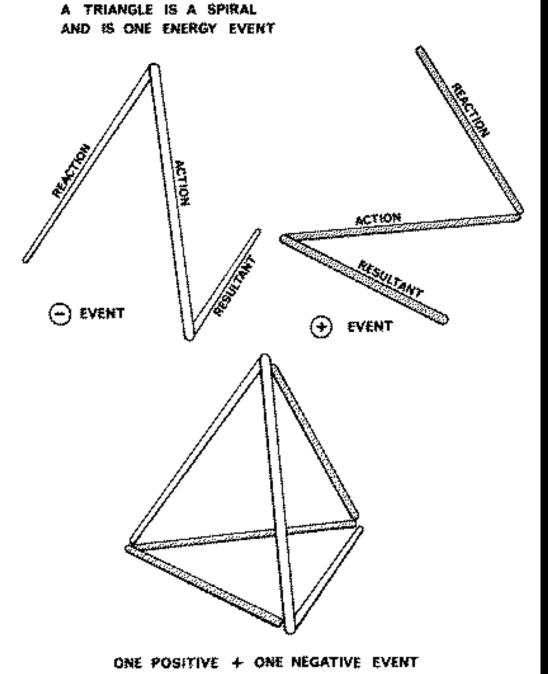
Boris Artzybasheff, R. Buckminster Fuller, 1963



Tensegrity, tensional integrity or floating compression, is a structural principle based on the use of isolated components in compression inside a net of continuous tension, in such a way that the compressed members (usually bars or struts) do not touch each other and the prestressed tensioned members (usually cables or tendons) delineate the system spatially. The term *tensegrity* was coined by Buckminster Fuller in the 1960s as a portmanteau of "tensional integrity".



The Three Basic Structural Systems in Nature with Three, Four or Five Triangles at Each Vertex: Tetrahedron, Octahedron, Icosahedron

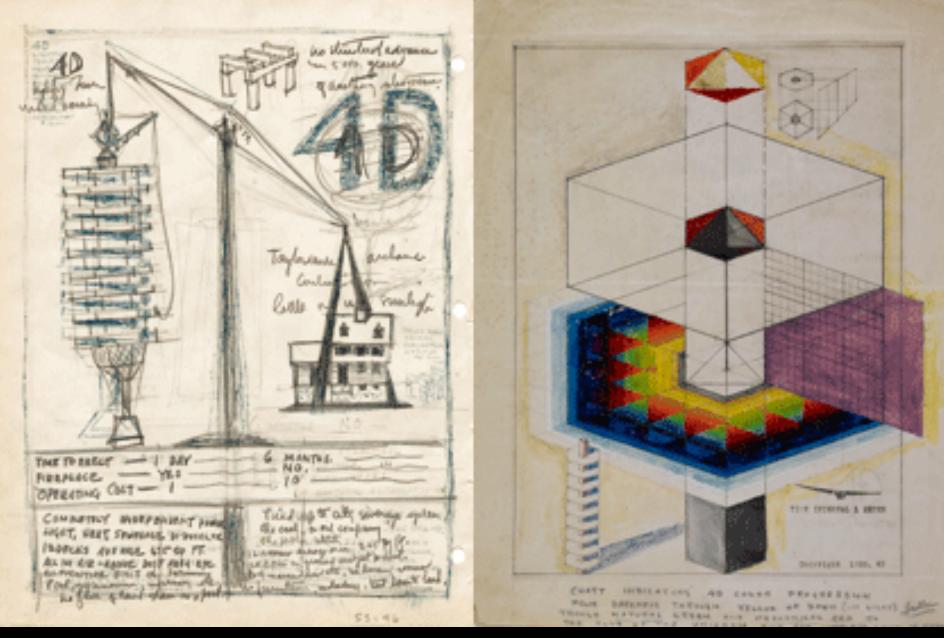


= TETRAHEDRON

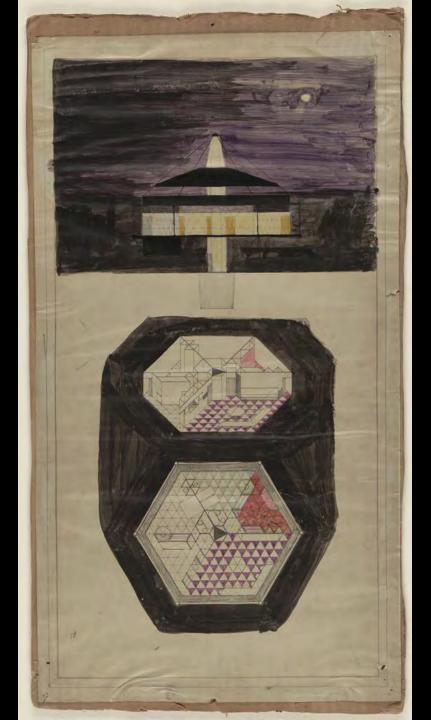
DYMAXION

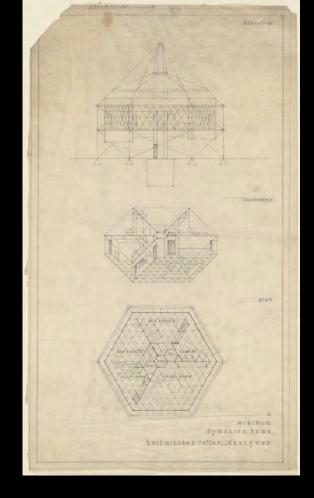
DYnamic -- MAXimum - tens**IONDYMAXION**

DYnamic -- MAXimum - tensION

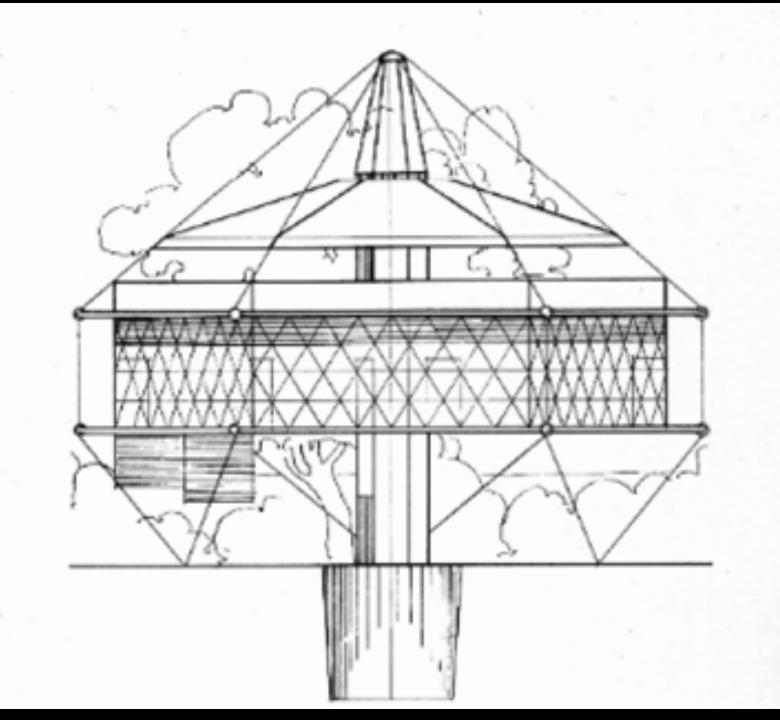


Buckminster Fuller, 4D Tower: Time Interval 1 Meter, 1928 / Comparison of Lightful Houses and Traditional Homes, 1928





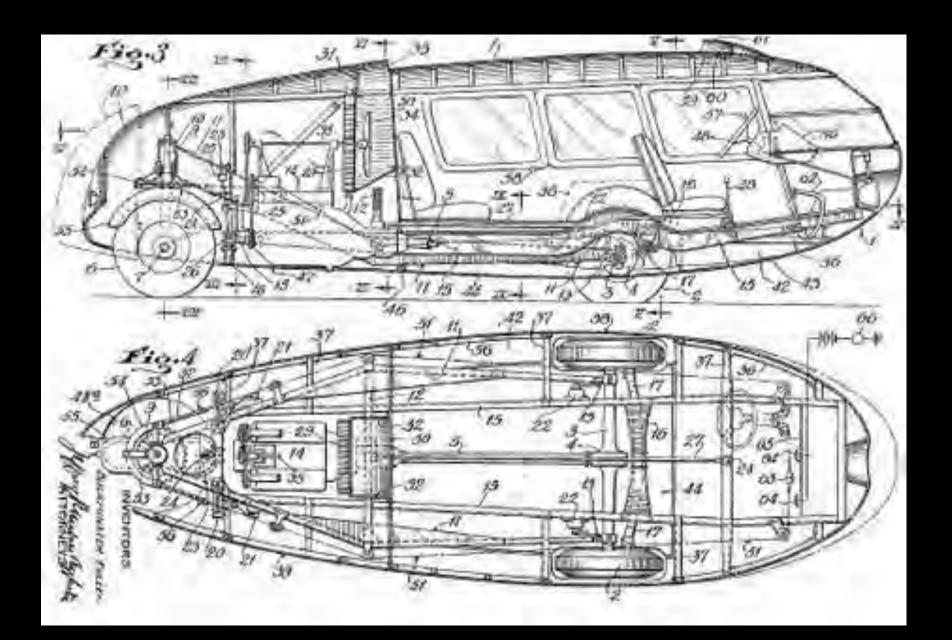
Buckminster Fuller, Dymaxion House/Dymaxion Living Machine, 1927-1929

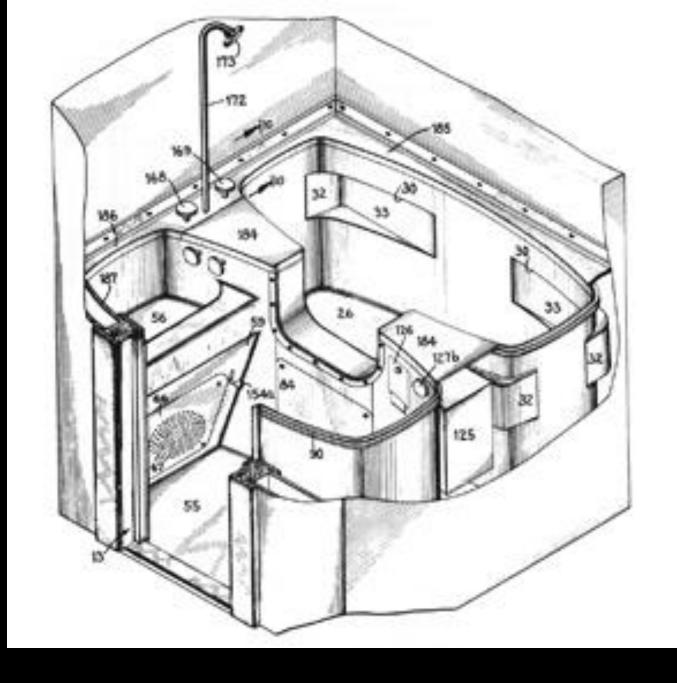




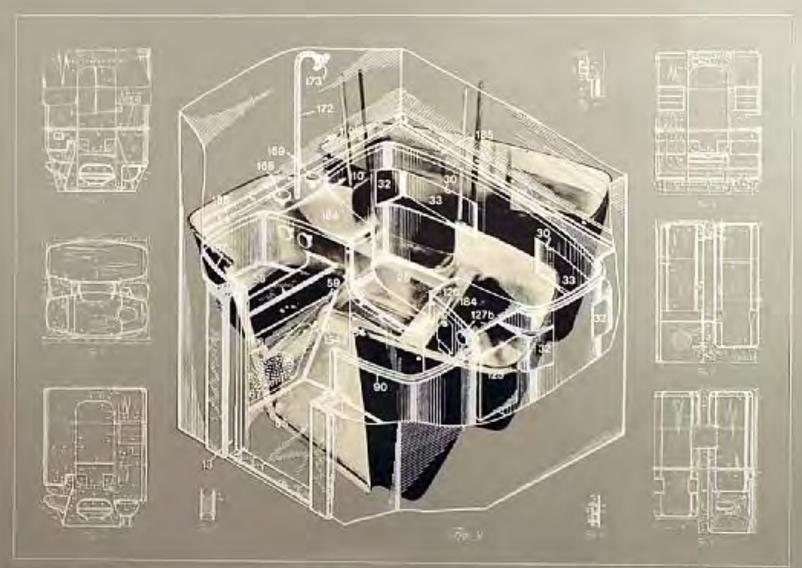


Buckminster Fuller, Dymaxion Car, 1933





Buckminster Fuller, Dymaxion Bathroom, 1937

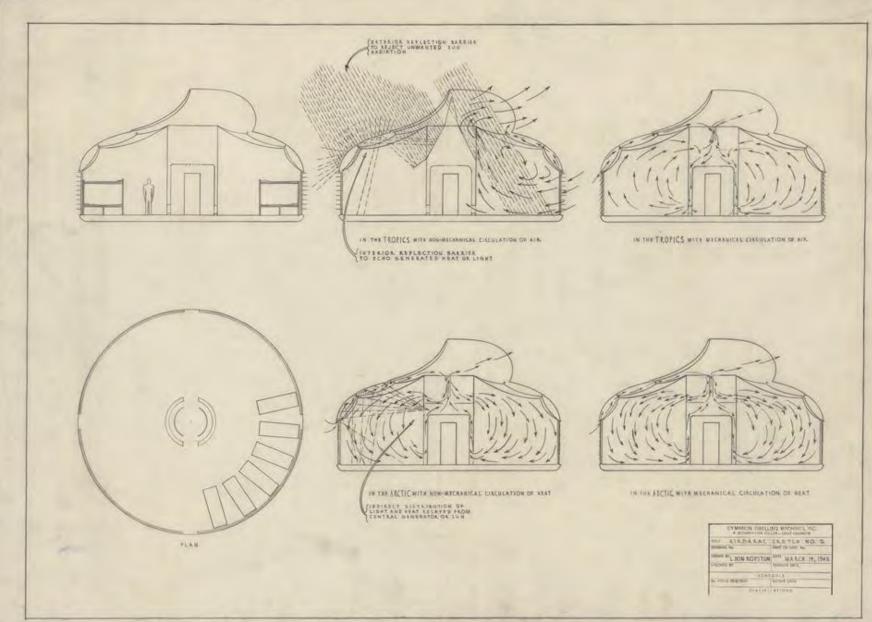




Buckminster Fuller, Building Construction – Dymaxion Deployment Unit, United States Patent Office no. 2,343,764, filed March 21, 1941, serial no. 384,509, granted March 7, 1944



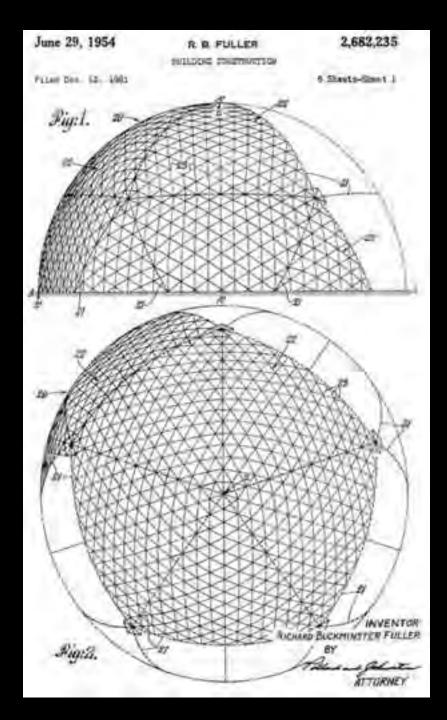
Buckminster Fuller, Wichita House, 1944













Buckminster Fuller, Geodesic Dome, 1950 (invented/Montreal dome being built at right)



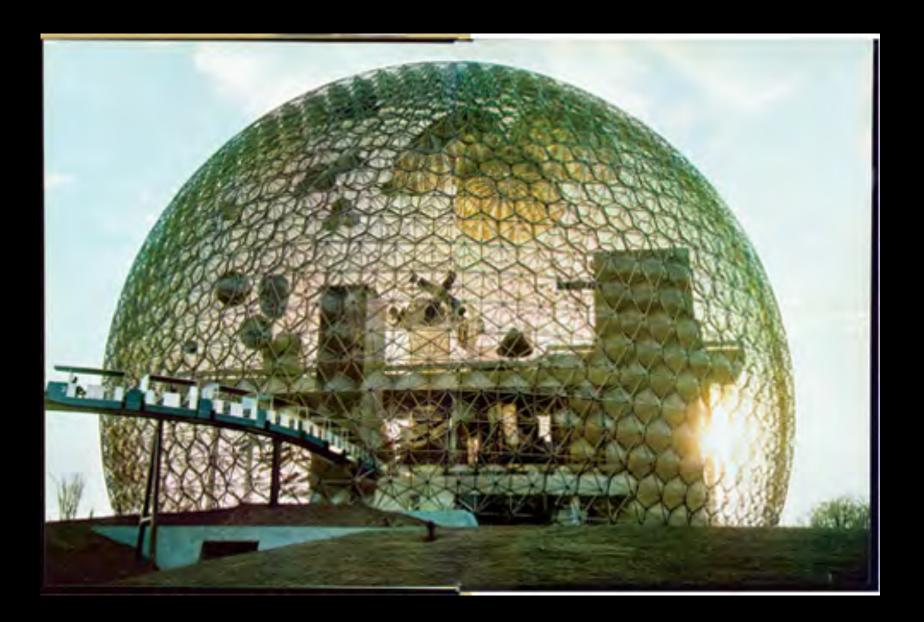
Northland Center, Detroit, Michigan, 1954

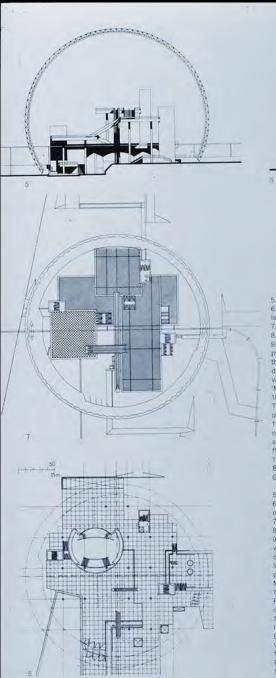


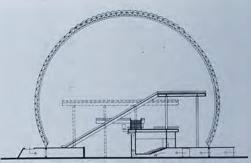
Accordion Truss, Northland Center, Detroit, Michigan, 1954



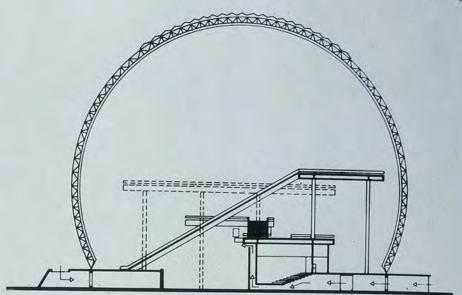
Buckminster Fuller and Shoji Sadao, United States Pavilion, Montreal World's Exposition, 1967



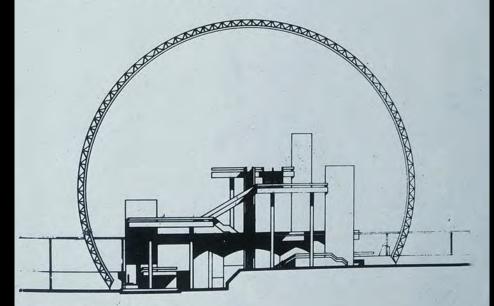




- 5. Indoor equipment, seen from the south.
- Cross-section in the north-south direction, with the 123 ft. long escalator leading to the highest platform.
- 7. Plan with the four upper platform levels.
- 8. Plan with the three lower platform levels.
- 9. In spite of the manifold spatial interpenetrations and intersections of platforms, ramps and display boards (this photograph shows a view from the historic section upwards to the exhibition of contemporary paintings displayed on high, narrow wall panels), the dome was impressive from every vantage point. The dynamic effect was reinforced by the escalators and the 'Minirall' system which provided local transportation through the Pavillion.
- 10. Almost playfully, space travel was displayed on the highest platform. The dominant feature under the spacious dome was provided by the three orange-white striped parachutes of the Apollo capsule.
- 11. Instead of pedagogic pedantry, wit and self-deprecation were the dominating features. The section entitled "The American Spirit" contained selected samples of folk art; branding irons of cowboys, sprouting like flowers; guitars of pop singers, and a tower of home-made dolls.
- 12. In the "Film" section, Hollywood is gaily debunked: Among film stills Ben Hur's Roman chariot of 1925, Charlie Chaplin's garbage bin, and Greta Garbo's golden bed.
- 5. Ansicht der Pavilloneinbauten von Süden.
- Schnitt in Nord-Süd-Richtung mit der 37,5 m langen Rolltreppe zur obersten Plattform.
- 7. Grundriß mit den vier oberen Plattformebenen.
- 8. Grundriß mit den drei unteren Ebenen.
- 9. Trotz vielfältiger räumlicher Durchdringungen und Überschneidungen von Plättformen, Schrägrampen und Ausstellungstafeln (hier ein Blick aus der historischen Abteilung hinauf zur Ausstellung zeitgenössischer Malerei, auf hohen schmalen Wänden) war die Kugelhülle von jedem Standpunkt aus erlebbar. Rolltreppen und die quer durch den Pavillon fahrende Minirail-Einschlonenbahn verstärkten den dynamischen Effekt.
- 10. Fast spielerisch präsentierte sich die Raumfahrtschau auf der obersten Plattform. Stärkster Akzent unter der weiträumigen Kuppel waren die drei orange-weiß gestreiften Fallschirme der Apollokapsel.
- 11, Statt lehrhaften Ernstes dominierten Witz und Selbstironie. Die Abteilung »Der amerikanische Geist« operierte mit ausgesuchten Volkskunst-Beispielen: Brenneisen von Cowboys, wie Blumen sprießend, Gitarren der Volkssänger und ein Turm aus selbstgemachten Puppen.
- 12. Im Sektor »Film« heitere Entmythologisierung Hollywoods: zwischen Filmbildern Greta Garbos goldenes Bett, Ben Hurs römischer Wagen von 1925 und Charlie Chaplins Mülltonne.



Cross section in the north-south direction, with the 123-feet long escalator leading to the highest platform.



Indoor equipment seen from the south.





Buckminster Fuller and Shoji Sadao, Dome Over Manhattan, 1960



Tetrahedron City, Yomiuriland, Japan, aerial perspective, 1968

