Cinema and Architecture

Week 1 – *Der Golem*
Assessment

• Essay (5000 words) due Thursday 11th May (Summer Term Week 3)
• OR 2 hour Exam in Summer term.
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<th>Lecture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
<td>SCREENING</td>
<td>15.00 - 16.00 Room A0.26</td>
<td>16.00 - 18.00 Room A0.26</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
<td>SCREENING</td>
<td>09.00 - 11.00 Room A0.26</td>
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<td>SEMINAR (Group A)</td>
<td>11.05 – 11.55 Room A0.26</td>
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<td>SEMINAR (Group B)</td>
<td>12.05 – 12.55 Room A0.26</td>
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Buildings have meanings
‘Film architecture is fictional architecture. It is unimportant whether a city, a building, a room exists in reality or whether only he facades have been built up. Film architecture is an architecture of meaning. There is nothing in the frame that is not important and does not have something to say.’ — Hans Dieter Schaal, *Architectural Design*, Vol. 70, No. 1 (2000).
What do we mean by Architecture in cinema?

• Specific buildings or building types captured on film and used within the film for specific reasons.
• The design of sets for use within the film
• The relationship between the static or moving camera and the built space around it.
• Potentially more understandings....
The Scream
(Edvard Munch, 1920)
Heuer (Mäher), (Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, 1920)
Neben der Heerstrasse / Near the Military Road (Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, 1923)
Das Cabinet des Dr. Caligari
(Robert Wiene, 1920)
Help! I can't!

M (Fritz Lang, 1931)
Paul Wegener

Carl Boese
Der Golem (1915)
Josefov, Prague
Josefov, Prague
Großes Schauspielhaus (Great Theatre), Berlin.
Renovated by Hans Poelzig, 1919.
The City

• Describe the spaces that are used in as much detail as possible (shapes, textures, structures, forms).

• Identify and analyse the ways in which the city space becomes part of the narrative over the course of the whole film.

• What might the city space and architecture be seen to express or represent?
The Golem

• How does the Golem behave? How would you describe his character?
• How might the Golem be related to the city itself?
• Is Rabbi Loew an architect?