The resistant virtues of the structures that we are searching for depend on their form. It is because of their form that they are stable, not because of an awkward accumulation of matter.1

In his essay, Architecture and Construction, Uruguayan engineer Eladio Dieste recalls a conversation in which a former colleague dismissed the work of Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí stating that “Gaudi’s work has nothing to do with us — in fact, I wouldn’t know how to draw one of his buildings”.2 This statement highlights what Dieste called the “tyranny of the drawing board” and the resulting technological dominance of planar geometries in most modern and contemporary architecture. This dominance has had an effect on the separation between material knowledge and the conditions that shape the relationship among geometry, material, and labor.

Serious reflection on labor must entail a recognition that buildings begin in both embodied and disembodied - material and immaterial - production, not just in architect’s designs but also in bodies on the construction site.3 Ruled surfaces are one of the four structural masonry innovations developed by Eladio Dieste and used in buildings such as the Iglesia del Cristo Obrero in Atlántida, Uruguay. Matter of Material Labor is part of ongoing research that explores the relationship between architectural workflows and the historical role of collaborative labor. The broader agenda of this project is to position brick masonry and the work of Eladio Dieste at the intersection of design and construction workflows. Digital fabrication workflows continue to affect architects’ ability to manipulate form and generate ways of reconfiguring the relationship between geometry and material. In many cases this reconfiguration minimizes the role of labor or reinterprets labor through means of automated production, like robotics and programmable assemblies. Matter of Material Labor considers how the politics of labor and the structural implications of materiality are fundamental to the authorship of a collective process. This project is part of a faculty-led collaboration with 15 undergraduate architecture students. The first part of this collaboration focused on designing the construction of a 10'-0" long by 8'-0" tall ruled surface brick wall. The construction of this doubly-curved sinusoidal brick wall was documented over a four-week period.

REFERENCES
2. Ibid, 183.
MATTER OF MATERIAL LABOR

Scott Roper and Janice Eberwein

The notion of labor as the structure that we are building for depend on their form. It is a matter of design, development, and development of an architectural material.

In this way, Matelarpe and Constable, Ukrainian engineer Oleg Strel's materials a construction of a material labor, a way of building that can be seen in the work of Roman Krym and his team. However, it is not that simple, as the team also works on the design of material labor, the development of new materials, and the design of the building.

Materials are the result of labor, and they are also a reflection of the cultural and social context in which they are created. The building is not just a product of architecture; it is also a reflection of the society in which it is built. The materials used in the construction of a building are not just a matter of design; they are also a reflection of the values and beliefs of the society in which they are created.

The team at Matelarpe and Constable is also working on the development of new materials, which are a reflection of the cultural and social context in which they are created. The team is also working on the design of the building, which is a reflection of the values and beliefs of the society in which it is built.

References

