metamorphosis
The Continuity of Change

15th International DOCOMOMO Conference
Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana, Slovenia
August 28-31, 2018

Programme
15IDC Metamorphosis. The Continuity of Change.
Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana 28-31 August 2018

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# 15IDC Programme

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<td>Keynote Lecture: Damjan Prelovšek (SL)</td>
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THE REPUBLIC SQUARE, 1960-1980
Architect: Edvard Ravnikar

The Republic Square represents the largest monumental design of the 20th century in Slovenia. It comprises a large platform with an underground car park, two extended towers with cantilever cores, a retail store with an underground arcade, annexes to existing buildings in the eastern part, a park containing a memorial to the Revolution and the Cankarjev Dom national cultural centre. The two towers immediately became recognisable landmarks in the city skyline. The square is located in a culturally, historically and archeologically very rich area in the south centre of Ljubljana known as the Nuns’ Garden. The basic compositional element of the square is the diagonal. For the square, Ravnikar strove to find a rich and differentiated architectural language, claiming that a non-geometric division of the urban space kept the design from losing authenticity. It is an emphatically hybrid, holistically designed space, which does not discriminate between architecture, urban planning and design. Ravnikar’s aim was social anthropology of the space. The attention dedicated to the design of the details is reminiscent of Plečnik’s. Anton Bitenc apart, all collaborators were Ravnikar’s graduates: Miloš Bonča, Jože Koželj, Anton Pibernik, Franc Rihtar, Vladislav Sedej and many others.
CANKARJEV DOM – CULTURAL AND CONGRESS CENTRE, 1977-1980
Architect: Edvard Ravnikar (1907-1993)

Cankarjev Dom represents the finest example of Slovenian Structuralism, and originates in Ravnikar’s composition exercises in »B-course« the minor degree programme at the Ljubljana School of Architecture in the 60s. Ravnikar describes it thus: »Classically counter-classical architecture that does away with the traditional space and replaces it with boundless space, space without rear and front, without up and down, ... There is no image or concept of any specific architectural vision, but excitement and sensation from inside going directly through the complex conflation of energy-charged forms ... it has three completely different facades, it is frontness without frontality and without perspective, because the world is around us, not just in front of us. Several views open from several directions simultaneously in the same way that we look around in the street and everything constantly changes. Architecture is de-centred, returned to the natural cluster of the random, connected with the reactions of the mundane and always different ... From one line to another, what is created is living order of improvisation, which is learnt ignorance, knowledge interspersed with not knowing.«

Nataša Koselj,
Docomomo Slovenia
ANA TOSTÕES, PhD, architect, architecture critic and historian, chair of Docomomo International and editor of the Docomomo Journal. Full Professor at Técnico, University of Lisbon, where she is in charge of the Architectural PhD programme. Invited professor at universities worldwide. She has a degree in Architecture, a Master’s degree in History of Art with a thesis entitled Os Verdes Anos na Arquitectura Portuguesa dos Anos 50 (FAUP, 1997), holds a PhD on culture and technology in Modern Architecture (Idade Maior, FAUP, 2015, awarded with the X BIAU Prize 2016). Her research field is the critical history and theory of contemporary architecture, focusing on the relationship between European, Asian, African and American cultures. On this topic, she has published books and essays, curated exhibitions, organised scientific events, coordinated research projects, supervised theses, taken part in juries and committees, and given lectures worldwide. She coordinated the research project Exchanging World Visions published and awarded the Gulbenkian Prize 2014, and currently coordinates the research project Cure and Care_the rehabilitation.

ARCHITECTURE AS A LANGUAGE WITH EMOTIONAL IMPACT

From Aldo van Eyck (1918-1999) to Pancho Guedes’ (1925-2015) works and thoughts, this lecture aims to look at an uncommonly critical attitude against the common bureaucratic functionalism in force, developing an authentically modern and human architecture. With parallel paths, sometimes crossed, they were both part of Team X and they both defined architecture as the “built meaning”, recalling its multiple meanings, languages and responsibilities: “I claim for architects the rights and liberties that painters and poets have held for so long” (Guedes, 1950s). Aldo van Eyck, from the studies on the sub-Saharan Dogon region to the PREVI proposals in Peru, and Pancho Guedes, from the survey on the Mapogga doors to his surrealist approaches in Mozambique, give examples of the metamorphosis process, on how the modern project got elasticity, creativity, endurance, and finally feeding the utopia. This lecture aims to reveal how these two minds envisaged architecture as a language with an emotional impact and a social and cultural scope, as the primary visual medium with which human society expresses and reveals itself, conceiving architecture as dialogue, designing buildings as means for creating relations between people rather than as an end in itself.
HUBERT-JAN HENKET (1940), emeritus professor of the Delft and Eindhoven Universities of Technology in the Netherlands, is the founder (1988) and honorary president of DOCOMOMO international. In 1969 he graduated cum laude with Aldo van Eyck as his mentor in Delft and worked in Helsinki and London from 1970 till 1976. In that year he started his own practice, since 2010 known as BiermanHenket architects. His portfolio includes the restoration of sanatorium Zonnestraal (with Wessel de Jonge), the Gerrit Rietveld Art Academy in Arnhem and the supervision of the Berlage Stock Exchange in Amsterdam, the Dudok Institute Neerlandais in Paris and Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (1995-2008). Among others he designed the Dutch Embassy in Bangkok and several museums such as “de Fundatie” in Zwolle. He has written the book “Waar Nieuw en Oud Raken” (2013) and edited with Hilde Heijnen “Back from Utopia” (2002).

THE IN-BETWEEN REALM;
Some memories of Aldo van Eyck and other Team 10 members in the 60’s
Team 10, a loose bond of likeminded architects, from the 1950’s till the early 80’s, formed a reaction against the rationalist approach of CIAM. One of the protagonists Aldo van Eyck promoted the introduction of imagination, reciprocity and relativety in architecture and developed ideas about twin phenomena, the in-between realm, user participation and configurative design. He used his poetic gift to weave thoughts, words and practical experience into magical inspiration. In this paper I will tell about my memories, as a student at the faculty of architecture of the Delft University of Technology, of the Team 10 participants Aldo van Eyck, Jaap Bakema, Cor van Eesteren (CIAM), Giancarlo de Carlo and in the early 70’s of Reima Pietila in Helsinki and Christopher Dean in London.
LIANE LEFAIVRE, a Canadian and an Austrian, is o-Professor (Professor Ordinaria) of Architectural History and Theory at the University of Applied Art in Vienna Austria, now retired. She completed her undergraduate degree at McGill University and her doctorate at the University of Utrecht. Her writing and research relates to two formative modern periods: first, from the Renaissance to the end of the Enlightenment, and second from the late nineteenth century to the present. She coined, with Alexander Tzonis, her partner in work and in life since 1972, the concept of Critical Regionalism, inspired by the wide-ranging aesthetic, historical, political and environmentalist writings of Lewis Mumford and they have published widely on the topic of critical regionalism as a global phenomenon, in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Greek, German, Chinese and Japanese. She is a member of the board of The Journal of Architecture (Royal Society of Architects, London), and she has been on the boards of Design Book Review (Berkeley), and Archithèse (Zurich) and Architecture (New York), Architect’s Newspaper (New York) Cahiers de la Recherche (French Ministry of Culture, Paris). Her latest book, published in 2017, is Rebel Modernists.

ALDO VAN EYCK AND THE POSTWAR AMSTERDAM PLAYGROUNDS.
An Urban Metamorphosis

In the period immediately following World War II, Amsterdam became the site of a remarkable phenomenon. Almost one thousand playgrounds built over the next two decades and each one was conceived individually, obsessively, down to the smallest detail by Aldo van Eyck. The play furniture was of elementary concrete or metal tubing and combined and recombined in situ, in relation to the configuration of each plot of land, like variations on a theme. Some of the earliest sites for these playgrounds were the plots of land left gaping in the wake of the Nazi occupation of The Netherlands, especially in the 17th century Jordaan (part of Amsterdam). Although Amsterdam was not bombed during the war, the houses that had been left vacant by their occupants after being sent to the death camps, were demolished by their neighbours, reportedly for firewood. Soon the playgrounds spread all over the city, into the 19th century Amsterdam urban fabric, and eventually into the new garden cities to the West of the city. This intense involvement left an indelible mark on the young architect, fresh out of architecture school in Zurich. Through it, Van Eyck worked out the highly idiosyncratic architectural language that went on to shape his entire oeuvre. These playgrounds left as much of a mark on Amsterdam as they did on their designer. Still commonly referred to as the “Aldo van Eyck playgrounds,” they shaped the city’s collective memory and identity. Noteworthy as they were individually, however, these playgrounds are even more so when taken as a whole, as an example of urban planning. As such it represented an unprecedented kind of public place: not a square, not a boulevard, not a park but, rather, a polycentric public place, bottom-up and top down, rooted in the small interstices of the city as vast as the city itself. How people, ideas and politics came together to create a new kind of public space - polycentric, interstitial, participatory - is the subject of this talk.
DAMJAN PRELOVŠEK, born on 18 February 1945 in Ljubljana, where he finished grammar school in 1965. He studied history and history of art at the University of Ljubljana. After his graduation in 1969 he spent one year in Vienna as holder of the Herder post-graduate scholarship. He took his doctor’s degree in 1977. Since 1971 he has been employed at the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts – the France Stele Institute of Art History. He has often made study trips to Italy, Austria and Germany. In 1990, 1991 and 1996 he lectured as visiting professor at the University of Salzburg and in 1992 at the Middle European University in Prague. Since 1992 he has been a regular member of the European Academy of Science and Art, domiciled in Austria. From 1998 to 2002 he was posted as Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in the Czech Republic. 2008 he became to be honoris causa of the High Shool of Aplied Art in Prague. His main field of research is the history of architecture from the baroque to the modern, times especially the work and life of the Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik, about whom he published some books in Slovenia and abroad.

JOŽE PLEČNIK – Architectura Perennis

Plečnik’s life story is extraordinary: from being a cabinetmaker apprentice with a less than adequate general education, he developed into a master of architecture with an extraordinary sense for material and form. He came to Vienna as a factory worker in the furniture industry and would probably have remained one, had not his younger brother Janez, a medical student, joined him in the capital of the Hapsburg Monarchy. This encouraged Plečnik to follow an academic career as well. Even though he was rejected by the School of Arts and Crafts of the Austrian Museum of Art and Industry, he was accepted by Otto Wagner at the Academy of Fine Arts, who recognised in him a talented draughtsman with a vast creative imagination. The time of celebrity architects and their extravagant “l’art pour l’art” is starting to bore us. All this contributes to increasing the significance of Plečnik’s art, which drew from the healthy foundations of the European classical tradition and preserved the human element even in the most monumental tasks. Throughout his life, Plečnik dealt with fundamental architectural topics, to which he brought novel and unique solutions, which attracted great contemporary interest. He was an avid supporter of the tradition of the European humanism. His architecture is full of unusual ideas, turns and proportions; it is never dull and is always full of life.
VLADIMÍR ŠLAPETA was born in Olomouc (Moravia), graduated in architecture at the Czech Technical University ČVUT in Prague. After short architectural practice in Ostrava, he served as a Head of Architecture Dpt. of the National Museum of Technology in Prague (1973-91). After the Velvet revolution he became professor at the ČVUTm where he was 9 years Dean of Architecture, later also at the University of Technology in Brno (Dean 2006-10). He prepared around 40 exhibitions and published books on Czech and Central European Architecture /Czech Functionalism - AA London 1987, The Brno Functionalists, Bata - architecture and urbanism 1910-1950, The Werkbund Estate Baba 1932, Adolf Loos and Czech Architecture, Neues Bauen in Breslau, FLW and Czech Architecture, Jan Kotěra, Adolf Benš etc./ He is a member of the Akademie der Kuenste in Berlin and he lectured in Europe, North and Latin America, Japan and Australia.

PLEČNIK AND PRAGUE
Jože Plečnik worked regularly in Prague as a professor from 1911 to 1921, later on distance from Ljubljana (and during summer on building-sides) till 1933, when he was engaged in the reconstruction of Prague Castle for residence and office of President T.G. Masaryk. His works appeared in Bohemia, thanks to his friend Jan Kotěra from 1900 onwards. He certainly went through both good and bad time here, but he was by no means a man who cared for official success, however his activities in Prague cannot be regarded only as an episode. Although Czech architecture between two world wars drunk with phenomena of the international Avant-gard, went in different directions, and only a few Plečnik’s students followed in their master’s footsteps, he represented for all his students the highest moral and artistic authority. His architectural heritage in Prague, however, even after 90 years is by no means history. His strong individual architectural language still has much to say to present and future generations.
CLAES CALDENBY is an architect and architectural historian. He is professor emeritus in Theory and history of architecture at Chalmers university of technology in Gothenburg. He has also been one of the editors of Arkitektur, the Swedish review of architecture, since 1977. As an architectural historian he has specialized on Swedish post-war architecture. He has edited and contributed to books like Asplund (1985), Sigurd Lewerentz: Two churches (1997), 20th century architecture: Sweden (1998) and several others in Swedish. Altogether he has written some 80 books and 800 articles.

ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIETY. THE CASE OF WHITE ARCHITECTS
The office of White architects was founded in 1951 with the outspoken ambition to work for the rapidly expanding public sector in post-war Sweden, designing housing, schools and hospitals. From the beginning it was based on team work and quite early on it was owned by the employees. Following an economic crisis in the early 1970s the profile of the office was widened to clients from the growing private sector. Today the office has over 900 employees and 12 offices in Sweden and abroad. Specializing in the social and ecological sustainability now in demand White architects claim to produce “a desirable, democratic architecture that empowers people”.
IN TIMES OF CREATIVE DESTRUCTION,
THE STRUGGLE TOWARDS A NON-OPPRESSIVE ENVIRONMENT

Looks like this place could use
A bit of misbehavior
We take what we want …
We got all the ways to be
So many ways to be wicked

(Dove Cameron, Sofia Carson, Booboo Stewart and Cameron Boyce, 2017)

In Times of Creative Destruction, the Struggle Towards a Non-Oppressive Environment,’ a concise reflective view over the years that followed the end of World War II till today, one of the most seminal and dramatic epochs of wicked ‘metamorphosis’ in architectural and environmental history. Of all human products, traditionally architecture has been referred to as the most serene and stable. In contrast to this time-honored belief, in our epoch, architecture appears as driven by an unprecedented creative metamorphosis, supporting by new ways of living, confusing inseparably the natural and the artificial, bringing about the possibility of a ‘third ecology’. Thus, the news media pronounced: Never had architects at their disposal such profusion of means to create, financial, technological, and legal. Never, the desire of clients to create was so strong, never was such a desire for daring first-time ‘star’ constructions, (prize-winning master-pieces,), a cornucopia of ‘star’ buildings by ‘star’ architects attained by ‘star’ developers. Yet, at the same moment, as if we lived in two separate universes, equally credible news media announced that for all this creativity, this architectural affluence led to environmental poverty, to unanticipated, intractable, and very often irreversible destruction not only of ageing buildings but also of community and diversity of cultural, social and ecological. Why this inequality? How did it happen, and in such a brief time? It all started when …
ŠPELA VIDEČNIK and ROK OMAN, both graduates from the Ljubljana School of Architecture and London’s Architectural Association, established OFIS arhitekti in 1996. Its international team is based in Ljubljana and Paris. Since its creation, the practice has been investigating space relations in different scales and context. Their build work is represented by various programs from public, sport, cultural and religious buildings to single and multiple housing. Most of their work is result of winning competitions, including their internationally completed construction of a student residence on Route des Petits Ponts in Paris and Football Stadium Bate Arena in Belarus. Their academic research combines different interests and curiosities. They investigate European and local Slovenian identity in contemporary architectural language, which includes traditional knowledge of vernacular buildings into revitalisations, conversions and new build in Alpine Area. They teach, run studios and workshops in various Schools for architecture including Harvard Graduate School of Design, ENSA Paris Val de Seine and Faculty for architecture in Ljubljana.

IDENTITY THROUGH CHANGE

The relation to modernist architecture in Slovenia should be understood in the context of general attitude to our half past history. In the rapid transition from our socialistic system towards something better, the public denied the values connected with the regime, culture and ideology between the Second World War and our independence. Therefore evaluation of modernist architecture is problematic, mostly due to the fact, that private and public sector has no awareness of its quality. Bringing the discourse of modernism and pointing the values towards general public will be specially important in the next few years, when architecture from that period reached the age and point that renovation or regeneration is needed.

Through our practice in OFIS we touched several extensions, renovations, refurbishments and conservation connected with modernist architecture. With both clients from private and public sector we tried to face their new needs, limited budged and to create contemporary architecture in a dialogue with the existing. We could mention several interventions, ranging from public such as extension of the Maribor Football Stadium, and refurbishment of the primary school ground-floor that was build by the architect Emil Navinšek, to small scale residential projects. Hopefully we managed to open the eyes also to general public and users and prove that existing modernist qualities can be appreciated and kept together with creating spaces of tomorrow.
Session 01_City Growth, Change, Transformation: Modern Project and the Inclusion of Difference
Session Chair: Horacio Torrent (Chile)

01 Recreating the Public Through Transformation
Fatina Abreek-Zubiedat, Ronnen Ben-Arie (Israel)

02 The life of Kosovo Modernism
Flaka Xërxa Beqiri, Vlora Navakazi (Kosovo)

03 The Brazilian Amazonia and its Modernities
Hugo Segawa, Marcos Cereto, Marianna Cardoso (Brazil)

04 The Plaza as the Locus of Continuous Modernity
Maximiano Atria (Chile)
01 Metamorphoses of Cultural Memory and the Opportunity to Safeguard the Modern Movement Heritage in Bulgaria
Ljubinka Stoilova (Bulgaria)

02 Carbonia Project: The Reinvention of the Urban Landscape
Antonello Sanna, Paolo Sanjust (Italy)

03 Modern Heritage and the Challenges of Urban Conservation: Between Singular Buildings and the Metamorphosis of Urban Fabric
Horacio Torrent (Chile)

04 Dirty Realism Reloaded: How can the Reality of a Contemporary City, Developed Out a (Post-War) Modernism Resist Speculative Appropriation Nowadays?
Elena Markus (Germany)
01 Modern Neighbourhoods in Ljubljana – The Splendour and Misery of Their Existence and Development
Kaja Lipnik Vehovar (Slovenia)

02 Portuguese State-subsidized Multifamily Housing Projects. Emergent Modernity During the Mid 20th Century
Gisela Lameira, Luciana Rocha (Portugal)

03 Up-to-Date Interventions and Changing Identity: The Imanta Housing Estate in Riga
Sandra Treija, Uģis Bratuškins, Alisa Korolova (Latvia)

04 The Effects of Security-Based Contemporary Urban Development on European Modern Mass Housing Landscapes
Melinda Benkő (Hungary)
Session 04_Housing in Translation
Session Chair: Ana Tostões (Portugal)

01 (Un-)Sustainability of the Concrete Mega-Blocks in New Belgrade: Potentials of Prefabricated Modern Structures for Transformation
Anica Dragutinović (Serbia, Belgium), Uta Pottgiesser (Germany, Belgium), Els De Vos (Belgium)

02 The Multiple Lives of the “Unité d’Habitation” (1945-1967-2017). Repetition of Their Iconic Value and Differences in the Construction Systems, From their Development to their Case Histories
Franz Graf (Switzerland)

03 What is the Legacy of the Architectures of Change?
Richard Klein (France)

04 The Afterlives of Social Housing: The Adaptive Reuse of Three Moderist Estates
Cecilia Chu (Hong Kong)
01 Modernism and Agrarian Utopia
Maria Helena Maia (Portugal)

02 Challenging Modern Movement Heritage Conservation in Africa
Ola Uduku (Ghana), Ilze Wolff (South Africa)

03 Hotel Resorts in The Canary Islands: Creating a Vernacular City on the Insular Landscape. Heritage Distortion, Aesthetical Fiction of Atlanticity or Tourist Attraction?
David Martín López (Spain)

04 The Formative Years of Suzana and Dimitris Antonakakis: A Transcultural Genealogy of Critical Regionalism
Stylinos Giamarellos (Greece, UK)
01 Metamorphosis and Ambiguities: Some Remarks on Modern Heritage Preservation  
Ana Carolina Pellegrini, Ruth Verde Zein (Brazil)

02 Metamorphosis as Ordinary Process of Change. Identity, Authenticity and Surviving Materials in the Case Study of Giuseppe Terragni’s Novocomum  
Carolina Di Biase, Alessia Facchi, Anna Greppi, Camilla Casonato (Italy)

03 Modern Heritage or Not: A Legacy of Post-War Restorations and Modern Movement  
Miia Perkkiö (Finland)

04 Preserving by Using. MUDE Museum as a Case Study  
Bárbara Coutinho (Portugal)
01 Patterns of Conversion in Obsolete Cinema Theatres
Joana Gouveia Alves (Portugal)

02 The Legacies of the Agricultural Production Cooperatives (LPGs) From the Former German Democratic Republic. Surviving as Monuments Without a Function?
Vittoria Capresi (Italy, Germany)

03 Continuity Through Change: the Renovation of the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme Building in Paris
Vanessa Fernandez, Catherine Blain (France)

04 Mutatis Mutandis:
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MG Small Gallery
IC Info Centre & Box Office
KC CD Club on 6th Floor
M Conference Rooms 1–4

• Toilette
• Cloakroom
• Lift
• Bar
→ CD Entrance
→ Hall Entrance
↑ Stairway

IC
ŠD
LD
MG
M
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GD
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M2
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CD Entrance
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