

Re:Forum TRIESTE 2020

Architecture and Urban Design Post-Corona

Androna Campo Marzio 8, Trieste, 03.09. - 06.09.2020



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Even before Corona, the world was not „alright“, but faced with an increasing number of dangerous crises. Climate, finance, ecosystems, democracies - hardly any area of life in which we have not seen the signs of decadent development towards an unsustainable future. As residents of highly developed industrialised countries, we are not infested by these crises - rather, they are intrinsic to our societies: our lifestyle is the real crisis.

Many committed, critical people have thought, written, discussed, acted,... but the proposed solutions and changes remain no more than a placebo. COVID 19 has changed the situation unexpectedly: after a few weeks, nothing is as it was, and it will not be „as before“ - including architecture and urban planning. “Social distancing” made us aware of how great the desire for presence and concreteness is - and thus the longing for architecture. But the production of space and the work on the city are now part of the problem to the same extent as they are part of the solution. The crisis offers us the opportunity to question the philosophical, ethical and theoretical foundations of our work and to develop relevant solutions. It is obvious that this redefinition is a defensive act. Our societies have surrendered their leadership to the economy. Economic guidelines such as maximum profitability, thoughtless waste as well as the questionable developments of over-regulation and building legislation determine politics and “Baukultur”. How can architects under these conditions assume their responsibility for architecture and the city - as a system, as an object and as a symbol - and contribute through their competence?

After the cancellation of the BIENNALE, at Re:Forum TRIESTE 2020 Symposium architects present themselves through one project to the constructive criticism of colleagues and experts. Shared conclusions are worked out in disciplined discourses.

The symposium is based on past initiatives, from CIAM to Team X. Like at these, architects and urban planners should gather in a real place to jointly develop spatial strategies for a „good life in a just society“. Every lecture is based on a concrete project that is as current as possible and will be critically examined against the background of the recent developments.

The aim is to jointly formulate a Charta: "How can architecture and urban design contribute to a good life in a just society?"

CONCEPT

Peter Lorenz, Giulia Decorti, Christian Kühn, Harald Trapp

HOST

Austrian Architectural Foundation
ArchitekturStiftung Österreich



CONTACT

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Symposium

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For the presentations, we will adopt the grid-system Team Ten was using for their meetings to structure the presentations. This implies a series of key-references, according to which each project will be presented and analysed.

The proposed grid will be as follows:

property (land-use planning, ownership, client, benefit, profit)

resources (energy, water, waste, land)

building (layout, organisation, form, norms and laws, cost, liability)

neighbourhood (community, dialogue, quality assessment, participation)

city (infrastructure, public space, politics, regulations)

Each project presented will be critically examined according to these different aspects of the production of space and presented along these reference-points. Experts will prepare their presentations accordingly, focussing on their fields of expertise. At the end of each presentation we encourage the speakers to present three theses on how architecture and urbanism can best contribute to a "good life in a just society", which we will use as an input to the Charta.

SYMPOSIUM FEE

Selected institutions: city planners/ urban planning departments; fee: 1.000,- €

Professionals: architects/ non-architects; fee: 600,- €

Students: 300,- €
(a limited number of free tickets available for students of TU Vienna, University of Trieste, University of Ljubljana)

Journalists: free

REGISTRATION

Please contact:
ReForum@architekturstiftung.at

Registration deadline: 25th of August, 2020
Limited number of participants.

RE:FORUM Verein zur Förderung des Architekturdiskurses
Hypo Tirol Bank AG | IBAN AT96 5700 0300 5562 0757

SCHEDULE & SPEAKERS

THURSDAY, 03.09.20
18:00 Welcome Drink at Campo Marzio
19:30 Exploring Cucina Trieste

FRIDAY, 04.09.20
08.30 Registration
09:15 Official Welcome and Introduction
09:30 Giulia Decorti
10.00 Andrea Zanderigo
10.30 Stavros Stavrides
11:00 Wilfried Kühn
11:30 Tina Gregoric, Aljoša Dekleva
12:00 on site lunch
13:30 Christian Kühn
14:00 Peter Riepl
14:30 Fran Tonkiss
15:00 Bernd Vlay

15:30 Gerhard Schuster,
Peter Hinterkörner
16:30 Preparation of Charta
20:00 Dinner

SATURDAY, 05.09.20
09:15 Giuseppe Cappochin

09:30 Harald Trapp
10.00 Hemma Fasch, Jakob Fuchs
10.30 Michael Obrist
11:00 Peter Lorenz
11:30 Paola Viganò

13:30 Umberto Napolitano
14:00 Martin Dücks
14:30 Much Untertrifaller

15:30 Charta-Discussion
18:00 Charta Round-up

SUNDAY, 06.09.20
10:00 Guided tour Trieste
13:00 Departure of Guests
15.00 Start Student Workshop

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Giulia Decorti

has studied law and architecture in Trieste and completed with honours at the Graz University of Technology. Registered architect in Austria since 2013, she is a member of the Austrian Chamber and also of the Italian Order of Architects. Entering LORENZATELIERS in 2004 she became partner in 2014 and is now its deputy CEO. She is actively involved in the design and development of most of the projects in the office, e.g. the new faculty of medicine at the University in Linz, the Olympic swimmingpool Ilirija in Ljubljana (Slovenia), the masterplans and social-housing projects in Vienna (Breitenfurterstraße, Nussbaumallee), the residential building Sottofaro in Trieste, Italy, ... She is external examiner in various universities, including the Vienna University of Technology and has among her objectives to support her hometown Trieste in the urban and architectural future.

“Growing or Shrinking” - case-study Trieste

Similar to Vienna between 1918 and 1985, Trieste has lost a third of its population between 1973 and 2020. Our hostcity has developed quite typically from a Roman foundation and has been growing in different boosts over the centuries, many generated by the Austrian Empire. We can observe some extraordinary urban planning developments, on the highest European level and avantgardistic for its time, like the “Borgo Teresiano” and the “commercial port” (now Porto Vecchio - old port). A growing city is developing its capacity for urban visions, for providing housing and infrastructure. Obviously these capacities are not required anymore when the city is shrinking. Both developments are not easy to solve but maybe the shrinking one is even more difficult. Trieste seems to have reached its lowest point with only 200.000 habitants today. What is now necessary and what has to be done is to encourage and install an urban vision again, urbanistic planning and a high standard in architecture. Could Trieste become a role model for European shrinking cities? The potential and the opportunity are very big!

Martin Dücks

is a qualified architect and currently Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Bamberg University, Germany. After having completed his studies in architecture in 2004, he worked as an architect and completed his studies in philosophy. In 2011 he obtained a PhD in philosophy (Doctoral thesis: *„Architektur für ein gutes Leben. Über Verantwortung, Moral und Ethik des Architekten“*. / *Architecture for the good life. About responsibility, morals and ethics of the architect*). Since 2014 he is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Bamberg University. 2018 he spent as Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall, Cambridge University. 2020 he handed in his Habilitation (*Menschliche Architektur – eine philosophische Annäherung*) (humane architecture – a philosophical approach).

Building for a good life in a just society - suggestion for an ethical framework

The question what it needs to be a morally good architect and what it needs to build for a good life in a just society is a question that already Vitruvius tried to answer in his writings; and the question of morality in architecture has been an important one in architectural theory ever since then. Nevertheless, moral aspects of architecture have been the subject of scientific ethical scrutiny only on rare occasions. In general one could state, that moral philosophers have forgotten about architecture and architects and architectural theoreticians did not make use of the means and models of ethics as the relevant scientific discipline. So one cannot talk about there being any architectural ethics or any relevant tradition of scientific ethical deliberations on architecture.

However, the question what it needs to be a morally good architect is in the 21st century with its social and environmental problems probably more relevant than ever. At the same time, our moral intuitions are getting less certain in a globalized and secularized world with its manifold economic, political, social, cultural and environmental conflicts. This makes it even more important to develop an ethical framework for architects, in order to guide their moral aspirations in a structured and scientifically justified way. I would like to suggest the so-called ethics of principles (Beauchamp/Childress 2009) as a suitable ethics model for architecture. Despite the meta-ethical problems that this model brings with it, an ethics of principles of architecture could prove suitable for structuring the moral responsibility of the architect in a meaningful way and for orienting his actions morally accordingly. I will suggest and discuss seven principles, which could form the framework for an architectural ethics, namely justice, autonomy, care (Sorge), do-not-harm-principle, beauty, sustainability and honesty.

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Hemma Fasch

is a registered architect in Austria, and principal partner of Fasch and Fuchs Architects, together with Jakob Fuchs and Fred Hofbauer. Born in Graz, Styria, she studied architecture at the TU Graz and received her diploma in architecture under the supervision of Guenter Domenig. From 1992 to 1998 she was assistant professor at the Department for Building Construction and Design, Professor Helmut Richter. Guestprofessorships at TU Wien in 2007 and 2020/21.

Campus Neustift and Campus Aspern

Crises bring substantial problems for both the society and the individual, which then lead to a search for answers within social matters and in the immediate environment. With every crisis that challenge people, similar questions are raised such as questions about the effects on architecture and urban planning, which have therefore not only been ‚virulent‘ since Covid 19. Globalization has required a one-dimensional path for architecture and urban development in many areas, which is accompanied by misleading and obscuring terms (e.g. smart) and mostly driven by profit maximization. People’s lives and their environment are strongly shaped by urban planning and architecture, but human needs have lost their importance due to economic forces. The question of a just society and a good life only becomes relevant after times of crisis. In this context, two recently completed educational projects will be presented and analysed using the key references of the symposium: Campus Neustift and Campus Aspern. These projects also highlight questions that play an important role in the area of public buildings and education systems:

- what is the connection between educational and spatial concepts?
- can architecture create appropriate conditions for social developments?
- can spatial constructs accelerate social processes?
- what role should architects play in the planning of public buildings?
- what role does the contracting authority want to play in its commitment to building culture?

Aljoša Dekleva and Tina Gregorič

are principals of Ljubljana-based architecture practice Dekleva Gregorič Architects. Through diverse projects, scales, programs, climates and localities they explore specific conditions of the context to define the ultimate generative tool aiming to challenge the obvious. Tina and Aljoša both graduated from the University of Ljubljana and later earned postgraduate Master of Architecture at the Architectural Association (AA) in London, where they started to address topics like new collectivity, sharing, participation and collaboration to frame a social position of architecture. Their work - from local affordable housing to university campus and a Venice Biennale pavilion - reflects their approach to thinking and making architecture, underlining its social position, material manifestation and architectural legacy, where the user experience and participation are the central objectives. Their projects have received numerous international awards including Architectural Review House Award, Architizer and WALLPAPER* award, among others and five nominations for the Mies van der Rohe Award.

Alongside their practice Aljoša and Tina lead a distinctive design research on nanotourism, a participatory, locally oriented, responsible tourism and are intensively involved in reshaping approaches to architectural education. Since 2014, Aljoša is Programme Head of AA nanotourism Visiting School at the AA (Architectural Association) in London and Tina is Professor of Architecture at TUW (University of Technology Vienna). Their practice and teaching both pursue the concept of

'research by design' as well as 'design by research' and respectively inform each other with the tendency to continuously question the role of architecture in order to improve our society.

Science Center

The international competition was held in 2018 to select the most relevant, technologically advanced, innovative and most expressive contemporary building for a new Science Centre in the green area just south from Ljubljana city center. This key public infrastructure is expected to perform as a demonstration building to allow testing and presentation of the most current technologies and systems even after construction - a building able to evolve over a long period of its life cycle. It is anticipated to represent inclusive architecture with ambitious programming, which to the greatest possible extent allows growing and flexible structure to accommodate the latest and future technologies that protect human health, save energy and material resources while respecting the environment. The circle is a universal symbol representing the world from the atom to planet. Additionally, circle also reflects social self-organisational patterns within community. In the design proposal, the circle was chosen as the design tool for the systematic spatial and programmatic organisation, uniting a series of circular pavilions under a common roof. An adaptable system of circular pavilions within the park helps retaining its green attributes, yet also upgrades and redefines it with an aspiration to inform visitors to the necessity of delicate coexistence of science and nature. The Science Centre is conceived twofold – as a national public institution, a focal reference within the capital and as a unique neighborhood community center.

With current climate and health crises in the foreground we are carefully addressing the issues of limited resources and CO2 emissions we are challenging the basic perception of sustainability as material preference and evolving the project towards the circular economy and even further on to circular programming. Ultimately, in times of natural or man-made disasters the Science Centre could easily be temporary repurposed as the extension of the local school, local elderly home or as the temporary patient or refugee facility with enormous green roof for exercise and food production.

Christian Kuehn

Born in 1962 in Vienna. Studied at the TU Vienna (Dipl.Ing.) and at the ETH Zurich (Dr.sc.techn.). Teaches at TU Wien since 1989. Professor at TU Wien since 2001. Chairman of the Austrian Architectural Foundation since 2000. Member of the OECD Working Group for Educational Buildings 2005 - 2011. Research areas: history and theory of architecture; social infrastructure with a focus on educational facilities. Architectural critic for various newspapers and journals (among them "Architektur- und Bauforum", ARCH+, Merkur, "Die Presse"). Chairman of the Board for "Baukultur" in the Austrian Federal Chancellery since 2015. Co-Author of the "Austrian Report on Building Culture" 2006, 2011 and 2017. Commissioner and Curator (with Harald Trapp) for the Austrian Contribution to the Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2014.

Degrowing Architecture

In the debate between "degrowth" and "ecomodernism" architecture as a discipline is strongly tied to the camp of ecomodernists. Both camps share the goals of sustainability, but while the former are demanding a fundamental change in lifestyle and the renunciation of GDP as a measurement of human well-being, the latter embrace the idea of decoupling human well-being from its

environmental impact through technological and organizational progress. Translated into architecture, this promise of having your cake while eating it leads to a triumphant aesthetics of optimism that has been dominating mainstream architecture for the past 50 years. Closely entangled in a global system of distributing money and power necessary to realize a built environment on a large scale, it has survived all attempts of fundamental change it was confronted with. My presentation will contrast this architecture with an architecture of “degrowth” and an aesthetics that is based on hope rather than optimism. I will argue that a reduction of material resources needed for shaping the built environment must be accompanied by a massive growth of typologies and programs and a policy of social and spatial experiment and innovation.

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Ecomodernist manifesto

<http://www.ecomodernism.org/manifesto-english>

Responses to ecomodernist manifesto

<http://www.bruno-latour.fr/sites/default/files/P-175-SHADES-OF-GREENpdf.pdf>

<https://www.resilience.org/stories/2015-05-06/a-degrowth-response-to-an-ecomodernist-manifesto/>

Wilfried Kuehn

is an architect, designer and curator and partner in the architectural firm Kuehn Malvezzi in Berlin and directs the department of spatial design at the Vienna University of Technology. From 2006 to 2012 he was professor for exhibition design and curatorial practice at the Karlsruhe University for Arts and Design/ZKM where he founded *Displayer*, a periodical focusing on curatorial design. In 2011 he curated the exhibition *Carlo Mollino. Maniera Moderna* together with Armin Linke at Haus der Kunst, Munich, in 2014 he curated *Hollein* at MAK Vienna and in 2015 the exhibition *Wohnungsfrage* at HKW in Berlin. With Kuehn Malvezzi he earned a reputation in museum architecture and exhibition design; completed projects in this field include *Documenta 11* in 2002, the extension of the *Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum der Gegenwart* in Berlin in 2004, the *Julia Stoschek Collection* in Düsseldorf 2006, the extension and museography of the *Museum Belvedere* in Vienna 2009 as well as the extension of the *Modern Gallery of the Saarlandmuseum* in Saarbrücken in 2017. Kuehn Malvezzi took part in the Manifesta 7 in Trento, in the Venice Architecture Biennial 2006, 2012 and 2014, in the Chicago Architecture Biennial in 2015 and 2017, and in the Lisbon Triennale 2019.

Jobcenter with Rooftop Greenhouse, Oberhausen 2019

The new building was realised in 2019, following a competition won in 2016. It comprises of nearly 8 000 m² of office space and an 800 m² greenhouse on top. Commissioned by a city-owned real estate firm, the building’s purpose is to house the local government-run unemployment agency. What until the 1980s would have doubtlessly been a public building, today qualifies as a commercial building of public use. Like many projects built in the last decade, it is a hybrid of sorts, and this became the starting point for the project and its architecture altogether. Oberhausen is a city of 200 000

inhabitants and reflects in many aspects the decline of traditional industries and work environments such as coal mining and steel production. It appears ironic to build a new Jobcenter in a place where jobs are simply missing. At the same time, an unemployment agency in a city like Oberhausen is not all about hiring and firing, but also about social care, about retraining, and distributing unemployment benefits. For some long-term unemployed, it could be the only place to meet people outside of their home.

Occupying a prominent site on the city's central Altmarkt square, the new office building faces a church, as well as a fruit and vegetable market. The problem with this sort of typical European city is its commercial decline, independent of the industrial downturn. Even wealthy cities like Bremen or Hamburg show similar symptoms: local shops are closing, multinational chain stores move in and out, the fluctuation and vacancies show an increasing degree of abandonment regarding the urban ground floor. Oberhausen's 'Centro', one of Germany's largest shopping malls built on the urban fringes 25 years ago, dealt a blow to the downtown infrastructure already years before e-commerce took its toll. If on the one hand, there is no way back to the busy and at once cozy market square of former times, it seems on the other hand inadequate to surrender the historical places of encounter to the encounters provided by 1 Euro shops and massage salons. A non-commercial way of addressing the vacancies of the urban ground floor following the disappearance of traditional commerce is therefore topical. The competition called for the addition of a rooftop greenhouse to be used for research and urban farming to the Jobcenter, and the inclusion of a coffee shop. We added a public infrastructure that was not in the brief: by connecting the greenhouse with the market square in the form of a vertical parcours within a steel scaffolding, we proposed the seemingly classical public space of a garden in a novel typology. In collaboration with Berlin-based landscape architects atelier le balto, greenhouse specialist Haas Architekten, as well as HL-Technik from Munich, we designed a building that could serve as a laboratory for questions of urban sustainability, from the reinterpretation of public space to the concrete use of grey water for urban agriculture.

Peter Lorenz

was born in Innsbruck, where he went to school and studied architecture. Established his own practice in 1980 in Innsbruck and since 1990 in Vienna. LORENZatelier has so far designed around 470 projects, almost a quarter of which were built. Numerous activities in teaching, advisory boards, juries, lecturing, etc.

Resolving the Periphery

Until the industrial revolution in the 19th century, the texture of cities around the world was simple. On the street level, people worked and traded, on the upper floors they lived. In the 19th century, when factories emerged with their huge emissions, a rural exodus to the cities began, leading to overcrowding and new poverty. Well-known consequence was a social revolution. leading to a new order after the First World War with Le Corbusier's ideas and the Charter of Athens 1934: the separation of functions as problem solving. From today's perspective, the long-term consequences for the periphery are devastating. Despite these technical findings, the inveterate land use definition of separated residential and commercial areas remains unchanged and not only leads to a waste of

land and increased traffic, but has numerous other negative effects. Resolving the terrifying state of the European periphery will primarily be the task of the 21st century. Paradigms need to be challenged and reformulated. City extensions and new cities are not needed in Europe for the time being ...

Umberto Napolitano

studied architecture at the Università Federico II in Naples and then at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris - La Villette. Founder of LAN (Local Architecture Network) with Benoit Jallon in 2002, he also conducts a theoretical work through research projects, exhibitions and conferences all around the world. Umberto was professor at the Columbia University GSAPP of New York (USA) and currently teaches at the AA (Architecture Association) School of Architecture in London (UK). He is a member of the French Academy of Architecture since 2016 and was appointed Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 2018.

Michael Obrist

is an architect and partner of feld72 architekten zt gmbh. He studied architecture at the Technical University of Vienna and the School of Architecture of Portsmouth. He added a few semester of studies in philosophy at the University of Vienna and the Academy of Fine Arts (Seminar Peter Sloterdijk). Since 2018 he is professor for housing and architectural design at the Technical University of Vienna. From 2013 to 2018 he was visiting professor for space&design_strategies at the University for the Arts Linz. From 2016 to 2018 he was lecturer on "theory of the city" at the department for urbanism at the Technical University Graz. 2015 and 2016 he was professor at the masterclass for Public Space at the Salzburg Summeracademy. 2015 he was Professor at the Architectural Association Visiting School Slovenia 2015. From 2003-2011 he was lecturer for "Conceptual Architectural strategies" at the University for the Arts Linz, from 2013-2016 Lecturer for Housing and Urbanism at the Technical University Vienna. Michael Obrist was leading workshops at the School of Architecture in Bergen / Norway (2011) and the masterclass for architecture and urbanism at the Summer School at Bauhaus Dessau (2010), at the Summer School at Fondazione Antonio Presti in Sicily (2012) and at the Summer School PIDA in Ischia (2012). He has held lectures in numerous universities and institutions worldwide. From 2017 – 2019 he was one of the five jury members of KOER – Art in Public Space Vienna.

Peter Riepl

studied architecture at the Innsbruck University. "Riepl Riepl Architekten" studio in Linz and „Riepl Kaufmann Bammer Architektur“ studio in Vienna. Worked as visiting professor at Kassel University, University of Applied Sciences Munich, Technical University Darmstadt, Technical University Graz and on the architectural advisory boards of Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft, Passau, Salzburg and Regensburg.

Projects: RISC Research institute Hagenberg / OK Offenes Kulturhaus Linz / School Center Kirchdorf/Krems / Church St. Franziskus, Steyr / 09 Hafenhalle, Linz / Nursing Home Liesing, Vienna / "Wohnzimmer" Sonnwendviertel, Vienna / Media Center ORF Austrian Broadcasting Cooperation, Vienna / University of Applied Arts, Vienna / JKU Campus Linz / ÖAW Campus Wien. Awards: Austrian "ZV" Client Award (1990, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2013, 2015, 2019), Cultural Award of Upper Austria

(1989), Architecture Award of Burgenland (2004), Architecture Award "New Alpine Architecture" Sexten (2006), Timber Construction Award Upper Austria (2003, 2009), Timber Construction Award Vorarlberg (2007, 2x 2013).

Community Building - On the advancement of JKU Campus in Linz

In 2016, an architecture competition took place with the aim of developing the Johannes-Kepler-University within the existing structure for the first time rather than in an expansive way. The specifications were unusually open and the main issue was the wish for more "attractiveness" to compensate the peripheral location. Founded in the 1960s, the JKU is one of the first campus universities in Austria and is located far outside of the city center right on the foot of the pronounced rise of the uplands. In the course of development, the original concept of a low rise, somewhat mesh-like development was abandoned and it arose a heterogeneous ensemble which constitutes the starting point of the competition. The aim of our interventions is, on the one hand, to tie in with early ideas and strengthen the existing structure, but on the other hand to develop distinct places of urban diversity. We are looking for the balance between coherence and autonomy. The given brief leaves abundant freedom to generate distinctive contentual topics. Building on this, we use diverse typologies and develop specific concepts. Always with the goal to avoid one-dimensional functional predermination offering a bundle of options instead. A spatially as well as functionally tense fabric stimulates lively urbanity. Going beyond the campus, we strive to break the usual hermeticism and include the surroundings of closer and wider vicinity. Inviting gestures and nexuses promote productive exchange between the academic milieu and the neighboring quarter.

Gerhard Schuster

Gerhard Schuster has been CEO of Wien 3420 aspern Development AG since 7 January 2014. After completing his degree in law at Salzburg University, Mr. Schuster began his career as an advisor on employment and social law matters at the Lower Austrian Chamber of Labour. He subsequently joined the federal civil service and held managerial posts in various government ministries, including a period as head of the consumer protection department. He then became the housing finance expert at ERSTE Bank before being appointed CEO of housing developer S-Wohnbauträger GmbH. From 1996 to 2013 Mr. Schuster was CEO of BUWOG – Bauen und Wohnen GmbH, one of Austria's most active housing construction and property development companies.

As CEO of Wien 3420 AG Gerhard Schuster is in charge of sales, marketing, communications and HR.

Stavros Stavrides

is an architect and Professor at the School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens, Greece, where he teaches graduate courses on housing design (social housing design included), as well as a postgraduate course on the meaning of metropolitan experience. Extensive research fieldwork in Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Mexico focused on housing-as-commons and urban struggles for self-management. Research topics include urban commons, urban struggles, experience of metropolitan space, housing, spatial theory, architectural design and planning. His recent

publications include *Common Spaces of Urban Emancipation* (Manchester 2019), *Common Space. The City as Commons*, (London 2016, Istanbul 2016, Athens 2019), *Towards the City of Thresholds* (Trento, 2010, Madrid 2016, Istanbul 2016, N. York 2019), *Suspended Spaces of Alterity* (Athens, 2010) and *From the City-as-Screen to the City-as-Stage* (Athens, 2002 National Book Award) as well as numerous articles on spatial theory and the urban commoning culture. He has lectured in European and North and South American Universities on urban struggles and practices of urban commoning.

Architectural practices in support of space commoning cultures

Experiences of space commoning in contemporary metropolises create forms of shared public life that overflow the boundaries of existing public spaces. Common space produced through practices of urban commoning may give form to processes of cooperation which encourage encounters and offer opportunities of creative communication. If enclave spatiality corresponds to rules that enclose and “corrupt” commoning, threshold spatiality characterizes those common spaces that invite newcomers and are not identified with any self-enclosing community. Drawing from examples related to recent experiences of participatory planning and design this presentation will attempt to show that emerging common spaces may shape potentialities of collective appropriation of the city-as-commons. More specifically, commoning will be shown to potentially shape the process of spatial organization, the expression of shared values through space and the forms of cooperation related to the construction process. Cases analyzed will include projects of FUCVAM (Associations of Mutual Help Housing) in Uruguay, projects of Homeless Workers Movements in Brazil, the Autonomous Neighborhoods in Mexico City, the CIDECI Autonomous University in San Cristobal de las Casas (Mexico) and a school in Zapatista territory (Chiapas, Mexico) designed and produced in solidarity cooperation between Greek and Mexican activists. In all of them commoning practices shape space as well as alternative social relations.

Fran Tonkiss

is an urban sociologist, and Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics (LSE). She had been involved for the last fifteen years with the LSE’s interdisciplinary *Cities Programme*, which brings together graduate students and researchers from architecture and urban design, planning and engineering, social and spatial science, law, policy and history to address urban issues and spatial problems in a collaborative, cross-disciplinary manner. Her publications include *Space, the City and Social Theory* (2006), *Cities by Design: the social life of urban form* (2013) and the forthcoming *Urban Inequalities: divided cities in the twenty-first century*.

Design as a social problem

This presentation explores the symposium reference-points – property, resources, building, neighbourhood, city – as a set of social challenges involving both social relations (social interactions, organisations, conflicts and differences) and social distributions (of space, resources, opportunities and access). It considers these social dimensions of physical and spatial design problems with particular reference to the challenges posed by urgent public health concern which put into question some of the core principles of just urbanism and good design – density, permeability, collective transit, communal space, flexibility and proximity.

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Harald Trapp

studied sociology (BA/MA Munich) and architecture (BA Vienna, MA Stuttgart). He practises internationally as an architect and exhibition-designer and was assistant professor at the Faculty of Architecture at the Technical University Vienna, receiving a PhD in 2013. He co-curated and designed the Austrian Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2014 (with Christian Kühn). From 2015-2018 he was Head of the MArch-Programme at the University of East London. He currently teaches at Vienna University of Technology and is since 2019 guest-professor at the UACS in Skopje, North Macedonia. He regularly publishes in the architectural magazine ARCH+ and in 2019 co-founded AKT, a collaboration of young architects in Vienna.

Privatisation of Space

The most powerful driver of contemporary societies is the concept of privatisation. Be it individual or public space, including the digital sphere (despite the claim of "social media", they are products of private companies), communality has become secondary to the private realm of "singularities", as Reckwitz defines the citizens of late modernity. What was essential for the construction of the modern subject, "A room of one's own" (Virginia Woolf), now turns against itself. It creates the negative dialectics of a society that abolishes itself. Since the breakdown of alternative models of social organisation, privatisation has even accelerated and now controls the production of both real and virtual space on a global level. A lot of this one-dimensional development happens remotely and beyond public recognition, but its consequences have contributed to the critical situation we are in. Its direct and indirect effects on architecture and urban planning are not inevitable, but need to be critically revised and changed through legal, political and spatial intervention.

Much Untertrifaller

was born in Bregenz/Austria and studied architecture at the TU Wien. Since the 1980s he collaborated with his father Much Untertrifaller sen. and Helmut Dietrich before establishing Dietrich/Untertrifaller Architects in 1993. Today Dietrich/Untertrifaller has offices in Bregenz, Vienna, St.Gallen, Paris and Munich. Since 2016 Much Untertrifaller teaches as a honorary professor at the Konstanz University of Applied Sciences. He is a board member of the Architekturstiftung Österreich and the Austrian Architects Association. Furthermore he is member of several architectural advisory boards for cities in Austria and Germany.

Mind the Gap ...

Working on a directory for general guidelines for the development of the City of Bregenz/Austria, Dietrich/Untertrifaller tries to fill the gaping void between regional planning and architecture. A search for scopes, varying between preserving and altering, defining strategic fields of action to set up and enable particular evolutions and restrict others. No fixed settings but ongoing reflexion and adaption. No new planning instrument but an overlying strategic focus for a better use of existing instruments. Six different aspects of the city are analysed in terms of status quo, directions and stance, drawing conclusions and launching appropriate programs, all the way down from the greater

scale to single building activities. Bregenz is a multifaceted city and also a city which fosters plurality. The ongoing processes of change are focused on a liveable city with strong identity, socially just, ecologically responsible and competitive ...

Paola Viganò

architect and urbanist, is Full Professor of Urbanism and Urban Design at the Università IUAV di Venezia and coordinator of the program in Urbanism in the “Architecture, City and Design” PhD. She has recently been appointed Professor for Urban Theory and Urban Design at the EPFL. She graduated in Architecture in 1987, in 1989 she became assistant in the course of Urbanism held by Bernardo Secchi at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura of Venice. In 1994 she obtained the research doctorate in Architectural and Urban Composition.

Since 1998 she is Associate professor at the Faculty of Architecture of the Polytechnic of Bari until 2001 and later at IUAV. She is a member of the faculty of the European Postgraduate Master in Urbanism (EMU - IUAV Venice, KU Leuven, TU Delft , UPC Barcelona) and coordinator of the Venice program. In 2008 she is Associate Researcher at the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) in Montreal. Since 2013 she is professor at EPFL (Lausanne) where she directs the Laboratory in Urbanism (lab-U). In 2012 and 2013 she is a visiting professor at the Graduate School of Design (Harvard University). She was awarded the Grand Prix de l’Urbanisme in 2013 and Belgian Building Award : International Award 2015. She has organized several design competitions, including "Edifici Mondo" competition for the recovery of the old town of Salerno and has served on numerous juries for competitions in architecture and urban planning. She lectures at major schools of architecture internationally. In 1990 she founded Studio together with Bernardo Secchi.

Bernd Vlay

is an architect and urbanist, based in Vienna; founder and co-director (with Lina Streeruwitz) of StudioVlayStreeruwitz, office for urbanism, research and architecture; Hans-Hollein-Art-Award for Architecture 2018; researcher and teacher at various schools, e.g. Columbia University NYC (1997/1998), Cornell University Ithaca/NY (2003), Technical University Vienna (2016-2018), Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (since 1999); president of European Austria; member of the Scientific Committee of European Europe, member of the Design Council of the city of Linz (until July 2020), of the Architectural Council of the Austrian Real Estate Agency (BIG)

Free heart / manifold fringe – Urban Design for the Nordbahnhof area in Vienna

The urban development of the Nordbahnhof area has been ongoing since about 20 years. In my statement I will focus on the importance of reframing the starting point of a given task. I will elaborate why I think that the act of reframing is key to an architectural attitude in search of political responsibility. The act of reframing can be seen as a provocative time-shift: architectural design does not start with responding to a given brief, but with redesigning the brief itself, “configuring” the right question(s) in order to challenge appropriately the design’s agenda. Seen in this light, my contribution is a plea to all of us: Let us just be more in time!

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Andrea Zanderigo

studied architecture at IUAV in Venice, where he graduated with honours. In 2002-04 he has been teaching assistant at IUAV for Stefano Boeri. In 2006-07 he has been visiting professor at PUSA in Aleppo (Syria). Since 2009 he has been teaching together with Kersten Geers in various universities, including Mendrisio Accademia, TU Graz, Columbia University and EPFL. He has been visiting professor at Universität Stuttgart in 2017-18 and at PBSA Düsseldorf in 2018. He is currently teaching at RCA in London and at PBSA Düsseldorf. He lectured in many universities and institutions, including UIA 2008, ETHZ, EPFL, Mendrisio Accademia, ENSA Marseille, Bauhaus-Universität in Weimar, Bozar in Bruxelles, Universität Stuttgart, UdK Berlin, Milan Politecnico, IUAV, Triennale in Milan, AUC in Cairo, TU Graz, 21er Haus in Vienna, Barbican Centre in London, GSD Harvard and the Albanian Ministry of Culture. In 2004 he founded the architectural office baukuh together with 5 partners. Baukuh won international competitions like Europan 7 in Amsterdam and Budapest, Klein Seminarie in Hoogstraten and Student City in Tirana. Baukuh's work was exhibited at the Biennale di Architettura in Venice, the Rotterdam Architectuur Biennale, the Istanbul Design Biennial, the Triennale in Milan, the Chicago Architecture Biennial, the Seoul Biennial and the Shenzhen Biennial. Baukuh published '100 Piante', 'Two Essays on Architecture' and 'Casa della Memoria'. The work by baukuh has been widely published in international magazines, including Domus, Abitare, Bauwelt, ARCH+, Architecture d'Aujourd'hui and the Architectural Review. In 2010 he founded the renowned architecture magazine San Rocco together with a group of architects, graphic designers and photographers.

Tirana Students City (2016 -) and Tirana Town Hall (2020)

Tirana Students City is a project of deep transformation of an existing cluster of university dorms for 10,000 students, cheaply built in roughly forty years from the fifties onwards. The usual array of tools in order to improve the efficiency and comfort of the existing buildings is deployed (outside insulation, new installations and typological transformation like individual bathrooms and shared spaces) while a set of new buildings try to enhance the daylight liveability of the complex (3 faculties, library, cafeteria, gym, swimming pool, start-ups). The main architectural gesture discovers on site the hidden potential of a forgotten void in the middle, turning it into a formalized yet relaxed central lawn, able to give a recognizable identity to the place and to invent its urban meaning, its civic role in the whole city. A loose constellation of forgettable built matter is re-configured into a meaningful (if difficult) new whole. In the process, (almost) nothing is thrown away.

Tirana Town Hall is a competition project for the new town hall to be sited at the northern edge of the city, where the current accumulation of informal if not illegal architectural objects will eventually be replaced by an ambitious blocks city as designed by Grimshaw's master plan. The proposed building is the simplest and most efficient form in order to host flexible office space, i.e. a cube. The structure is a responsible combination of stone (vertical) and concrete (horizontal). The façade is a double layer, in charge of getting light in, information out, cooling-insulating and photovoltaic energy production. The representation of the civic role of the town hall is entirely handled by the massive yet gentle green pergola surrounding the cube and covering the whole plot. As an ecological machine engineered for the pleasure of the users, it shelters from the Mediterranean sun and boosts biodiversity while creating a powerful alternative collective space for Tirana. A visible tree nursery

occupies roughly one-third of the site, (symbolically) producing new green matter to be distributed to the pergola itself and to the rest of the city.

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