

Proceedings of the 18th Annual International
Architectural Humanities Research Association
Conference

11-13 November 2021

REGION

AHRA 2021

LOUGHBOROUGH
ARCHITECTURE

School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering,
Loughborough University, UK

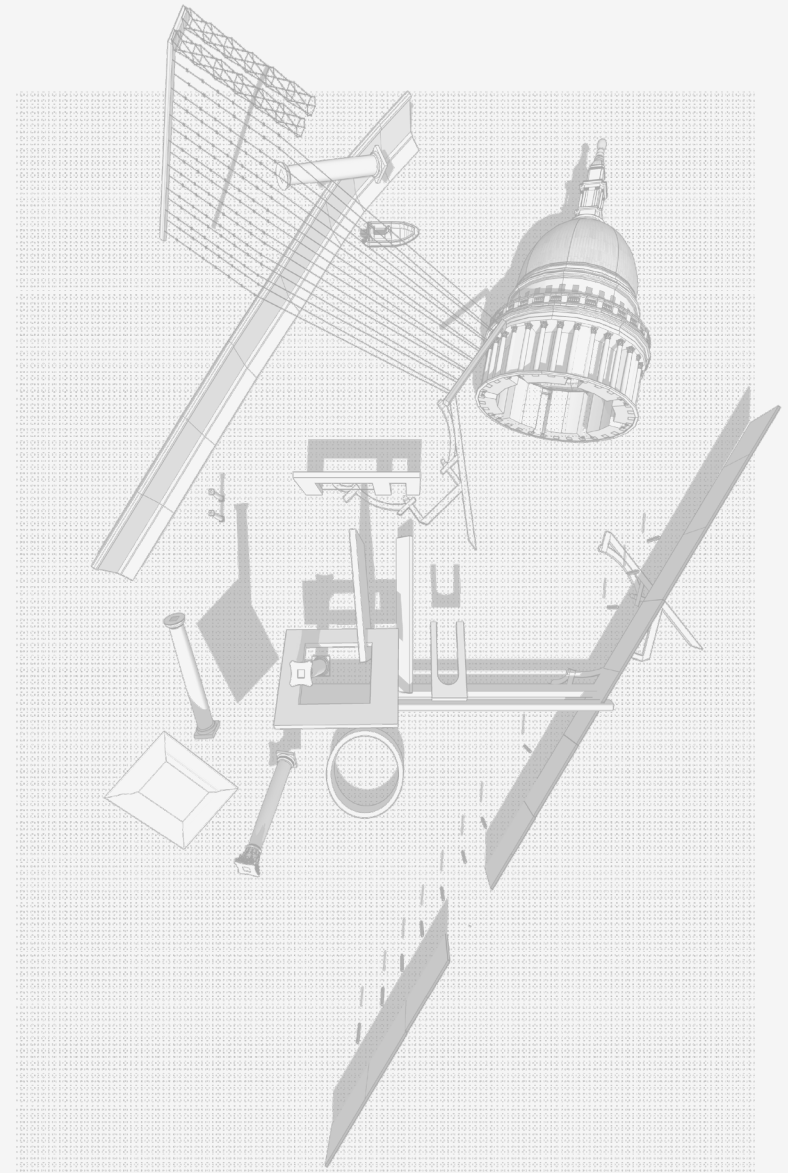
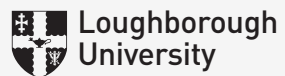
REGION

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Edited by:
Dr. Simon Richards, Dr. Cagri Sanliturk, Dr. Garyfalia Palaiologou and Dr. Rob Schmidt III

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FOREWORD

For much of architectural and urban history the 'region' signified a clear locus of social, ethical and aesthetic value. It was a 'place' – whether geographically real, theorized, or conjured into artistic and literary imagery – where 'authentic' regional culture was sustained and refreshed. Sometimes this was in opposition to the city: the rural idyll of the countryside. And sometimes this was in opposition to the expansionist West: the vernacular architecture of indigenous communities.

In part this was sustained by the clearer physical, cultural and geo-spatial boundaries of the past, but increases in mobility and digital culture dissolved these, giving birth to much more fluid notions of region beyond the earlier polemical formulations of centre-periphery, city-suburb, administration-colonies. Rapid jumps and ruptures stirred the issue: headlong urbanisation in industrialising nations, and equally rapid suburbanisation; the expansionist adventurism of empire and the inevitable retreats and contractions forced by post-colonial pressures; migrations caused by war, famine and environmental disaster; and, of course, the global Covid-19 pandemic that has forced people worldwide to lockdown and look again at the regions of their everyday experience.

The AHRA Region 2021 conference seeks to explore the many complex manifestations of region as a facet of architectural and urban culture. Beginning with four key themes of 'Crafted', 'Political', 'Networked' and 'Future' regions, the response from delegates opened this out into twelve fascinating sub-themes:

- Conflict
- Displacement
- Adaptation
- Heritage
- Testing Theory
- Craft and Home
- Historiographies
- Cartographies
- Industry and Infrastructure
- Suburbs, Ruralism and Regional Planning
- Leisure, Tourism and Commerce
- Archipelagos

Punctuated by keynote addresses from leading scholars and practitioners, as well as by interactive workshops, these themes form the organisational spine of the conference – an organisation that we hope to see broken down, creatively deranged and enriched over the course of the conference itself.

AHRA 2021 Conference Organising Team

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Keynote 1 - Craft / Participation _____15

Dana Buntrock, 'Ways Wealth Kills Craft: Observations from Tokyo's Bubble to Silicon Valley'

Rick Sommerfeld, 'Crafting the Regionally Prosaic'

Keynote 2 - Networks / Hinterlands _____16

Carolyn Steel, 'Sitopia: How Food Can Save the World'

Nikos Katsikis, 'From Hinterland to Hinterlobe'

Keynote 3 - Politics / Practice _____17

Abdoumalik Simone, 'The Technics of the Broken: Prefiguring Abolition'

Xu Tiantian, 'The Songyang Story'

Papers

ADAPTATION

Towards sustainable urban development: the application of Islamic principles and traditional knowledge to achieve a sustainable urban form _____22

Fahad Alghamdi

A new design framework for sustainability and wellbeing at the neighbourhood scale in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia _____23

Raff Alshehl, Dr Robert Schmidt III and Dr Matyas Gutai

A future-fit approach for energy transition with the indigenous Bedouin community in Sinai, Egypt _____25

Maha Basha and Steve Connelly

From XS to XL: transscalar approaches to material design _____26

Blaine Brownell

Chinese contemporary architectural experiments: from 'garden translation' to 'natural construction' _____27

Tao Chang, Qiuye Jin and Yuejia Xu

Tactical urbanism beyond the discussion: how urban labs has transformed citizens' urban mindset and places in Recife city	28
---	----

Larissa Garrido Bezerra de Melo

A constructed regionalism	29
---------------------------	----

Ishraq Khan

Implementation and transformation of built environment: the appropriation of Hassan Fathy's New Qurna village by the inhabitants	30
--	----

Matthäus Johann Nowak

Amazonic living in the State of Pará, Brazil: on the architecture inspired by ancestral cultures	31
--	----

Arthur Montenegro De Oliveira

Specific Non-Specific: regionalism and Open Building	32
--	----

Sarah Ra

Designing for Adaptability and Sustainability (DfAS) in regional architecture: lessons from residences in Northeast Brazil	33
--	----

Mila Santos, José Evandro Henriques, Robert Schmidt III and Fernando Moreira

Past traditionalism, present modernism, and the new Qatari regionalism: architectural vocabularies over time in Qatar	34
---	----

Heba Tannous, Mark David Major and Moza Al-Obaidan

Tectonics of cultural resistance: regional approaches in Iranian contemporary architecture (from 1960s to the present)	35
--	----

Kamiar Yazdani

Research on the tectonic culture status and sustainable development of residential buildings in Beijing Old City	36
--	----

Yifeng Zhang, Qiuye Jin and Yuejia Xu

ARCHIPELAGOS

On 'Region': alterity and regional encounters in a postcolonial archipelago	38
---	----

Amanda Achmadi

One border, two islands: examining the Aegean border disputes through Imbros and Lesbos	39
---	----

Sevcan Ercan

The Azorean archipelago: the invention of a political Region	40
--	----

Inês Vieira Rodrigues

Veneto region (North-Eastern Italy): ongoing metamorphosis	41
--	----

Paola Virgioli and Matteo Basso

CARTOGRAPHIES

Surface orientations: a critical approach to working with digital mapping in distant places	44
---	----

Nishat Awan

RE2mergent CON-text	45
---------------------	----

Peter Baldwin and Bryan Cantley

Infrastructuring process-relational space. Collective practices of socio-spatial change in 'rural' Portugal	46
---	----

Jamie-Scott Baxter

An illustrated Wessex Wayfinder	47
---------------------------------	----

Ed Frith

Hong Kong: city of compact, complex and co-existence	48
--	----

Philip Fung and Dan Zhu

Reversed regionality of gadgets and the Steinberg alethosphere	49
--	----

Don Kunze

Brasília network with modern museums in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro: a new cartography for a historical view	50
---	----

Leandro Leão

Situating flows: an Alpine discourse	51
--------------------------------------	----

Elena Longhin

Dividing and representing land: the grid in pre-Hispanic and colonial Mexico	52
--	----

Lola Lozano Lara

Hybrid Knowledge: Hybrid Mapping. A new methodology for socio-spatial research	53
--	----

Séverine Marguin, Jamie Scott Baxter, Vivien Sommer and Sophie Mélix

Towards a decolonial counter-cartography of the Border-Busters, Ireland, 1968-98	54
--	----

Sam Vardy and Paula McCloskey

CONFLICT

Decolonial future imaginaries: indigenous public art as repositories of memory, sites of storytelling and contemporary resurgence in Winnipeg, Manitoba	56
---	----

Honoure Black

Deterritorialization of stasis: mapping the urban activist imaginaries in the divided city of Famagusta, Cyprus	57
---	----

Esra Can

Parallel Regions: exploring the intermediate space between the design studio and the post-conflict city _____ 58

James Craig and Matthew Ozga-Lawn

Cordon Sanitaire _____ 59

Reenie Elliott and Karin Elliott

Mind the gap in the map: contains conflict and loss - ghost town Varosha _____ 60

Nilsu Erkul

Beyond the State: revolution in Arab region and city _____ 61

Dena Qaddumi

Performance of the in-between Region: an affective methodology to reflect on the exceptional bi-communal buffer zone village _____ 62

Cagri Sanliturk

De-territorializing bi-communal divisions in Nicosia _____ 63

George Themistokleous

CRAFT AND HOME

The impact of women's roles in changing home spaces in contemporary Azerbaijani homes in Iran _____ 66

Neda Abbasi Maleki and Cagri Sanliturk

Versions of Home: image, surface and simultaneous projection in housing design _____ 67

Hazel Cowie

Quilting In The Round: an analysis of the potential for the material identity of Ruth Clement Bond's and Rosa Marie Thomas' TVA quilts to envelop three-dimensionally carved furniture forms _____ 68

Felicia Dean

Authority and romance: queer world-making and the modernist home _____ 69

Sergio Preston

DISPLACEMENT

Material culture and decolonisation: post-partition Lahore _____ 72

Abid Mehwish and Ghias Pir

[Non]scalable volatile temporalities in the refugee camp: thinking the ethics of GCRF agile response through affective corporeality _____ 73

Aya Musmar

Between host and guest, sedimentations of border (in)hospitality _____ 74

Giuseppina Scavuzzo, Paola Limoncin and Anna Dordolin

HERITAGE

Cultural expression: an identity in search for continuity, Tera village, India _____ 76

Krishna Bhadra and Kamakshi Vaidya

Southwestern fantasy: the strange case of Pueblo Revival in Northern New Mexico _____ 77

Harrison Blackman

Regional cultural heritage and contemporary art museums: recontextualizing the British cultural landscape _____ 78

Kathryn Brown

Between the devil and the deep blue sea: the application of machine learning towards a new urban vernacular in Liverpool's UNESCO Maritime Mercantile City buffer zone _____ 79

Des Fagan

Urban sensory experience as Regional: the lost street musicians of Istiklal Street, Istanbul _____ 80

Asiye Nisa Kartal

Edinburgh's Edges: a critical reading of the New Waterfront and Architecture in Voids in a World Heritage City _____ 81

Alona Martinez Perez and Ana Miret Garcia

Reclaiming regional identity: in pursuit of spontaneity _____ 82

Sarah Ra

The architectural and urban heritage in Eritrea – an approach for conservation _____ 83

Medhanie Teklemariam

Origins and characteristics of workers' villages in China from a regional-architectural perspective _____ 84

Yiping Zhang, Yves Schoonjans, Gisèle Gantois and Yidan Liu

HISTORIOGRAPHIES

Regional politics, ideology, and architecture: Arie Sharon's Obafemi Awolowo University Campus, Ile-Ife, Nigeria _____ 86

Adekunle Adeyemo and Bayo Amole

The role of social institutions in shaping of Gorgan, Iran in the Qajar Period _____ 87

Ahmad Alaeddin and Saeid Cheraghali

The Foreman's Window: collecting, weaving and coding stories for the assembly line in Vale do Ave	88
<i>Fernando P. Ferreira</i>	
Regions of expertise	89
<i>Athanasios Geolas</i>	
Dynamic narrative, fixed regions: James Fergusson's history of world architecture	90
<i>Salma Kive</i>	
The Actual Architecture: Mimarlık and redefining region in Turkey, 1963-1972	91
<i>Burcu Köken</i>	
Oscillating between cosmos and hearth: The case of Geoffrey Bawa and his architecture	92
<i>Mengbi Li</i>	
New Brutalism in Western Australia: ethics in the regions	93
<i>Andrew Murray</i>	
The Region as Repository: regional histories told through homes in nineteenth-century Dutch village tales	94
<i>Anneloek Scholten</i>	
The case of Capri. Regional culture and modern architecture	95
<i>Klaus Tragbar</i>	
A 'true organ of Humanity': on the architecture and Victorian political theory of the region	96
<i>Matthew Wilson</i>	

INDUSTRY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructural peripheries in the city-region. Airport spatial influences	98
<i>Nuria Casals Pérez and Ferran Grau Valldosera</i>	
Architecture and urban planning vis-à-vis infrastructural Europeanism: The E-Road network and the trans-European petroleum landscape	99
<i>Marianna Charitonidou</i>	
Constantinos A. Doxiadis' concept of 'Ecumenopolis' vis-à-vis Eurafica: revisiting the masterplan for Festac Town and the role of transport infrastructure	100
<i>Marianna Charitonidou</i>	
Planned injustice: how settlement typology perpetuates infrastructural injustice in Mangolpuri	102
<i>Ramya Khare</i>	
Un-mapping regions of trauma: systematicity and ordinariness in South Wales Valleys' industrial disasters	103
<i>Dimitra Ntzani</i>	

Two mining areas: regional simultaneity of extraction and care	104
<i>Karin Reisinger</i>	
Titans of congestion: the regional community vs. the metropolis of imperialist enterprise	105
<i>Elliott Sturtevant</i>	
Locating transnational food supply: multinational refrigeration plants in the Middle and Lower Yangtze River Region, 1910s-1930s	106
<i>Zhengfeng Wang</i>	

LEISURE, TOURISM AND COMMERCE

Unboxing Plaza – intercepting the lost signals in time	108
<i>Zain Adil, Aarish Sardar and Rohma Khan</i>	
A regional modernity – the vernacular within Tyrolian modernity	109
<i>Lydia Constanze Krenz</i>	
The Mediterranean: a vernacular or a contemporary tradition? On tourism, reinvention and islands	110
<i>María Sebastián Sebastián</i>	
The Study on the Spatial Interface Form and Street Vitality of Traditional Chinese Pedestrian Commercial Streets	111
<i>Lianting Wang, Qiuye Jin and Yuejia Xu</i>	

SUBURBS, RURALISM AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Regions in evolution: whither regional planning or planning regional futures?	114
<i>John Harrison</i>	
Apollonion: prescribing Entopia on the hillside overlooking the sea	115
<i>Irini Perdikogianni</i>	
Suburban rurality: the role and implications in planning of the (sub)urbanisation pattern of rural Northern Ireland	116
<i>Cristian Silva</i>	
Beyond Radio City: Rockefeller Center and the remaking of the New York metropolitan region	117
<i>Joseph Watson</i>	

TESTING THEORY

- Reimagining Critical Regionalism in Bangladesh: regional Identity as expressed and resisted through contemporary architecture _____ 120
Humayra Alam and Dr Xiang Ren
- Contemporary African Philosophy as an idea for architectural mediation: a five point theoretical approach with examples from Ghana _____ 122
Allan Balaara
- Determinism and ethics of re-production of communities in the forms of an American town _____ 123
Andrea Canclini
- Four decades on three fronts: the unfinished projects of critical regionalism _____ 124
Stylianios Giamarelos
- The question concerning types: a review _____ 125
Davide Landi
- Sustainable Edification – questions of tectonic congruence, material genuineness, and adequate concepts of time and place _____ 126
Niels Nygaard and Nella Qvist
- Region and its influence on Norwegian architectural thought _____ 127
Marta Piórkowska
- Discovered regionality: I.M. Pei's symbolic architecture and landscape traditions _____ 128
Vincent Yuxin Qiu and Ufuk Ersoy
- Interrogating Critical Regionalism: how do architects today articulate the global and the regional? _____ 129
Ziqi Zheng, Robert Schmidt III and Simon Richards

REGION WORKSHOPS & STUDENT COMPETITION

- Workshop Session 1, 'Creating thriving and resilient towns: collaborating for change in regional centres' _____ 131
Matthew Jones and Orla Murphy
- Workshop Session 2, 'Uneven Growth / New Urban Peripheries' _____ 132
Alona Martinez Perez and Ana Miret Garcia
- Workshop Session 3, 'Practices of urban inclusion' _____ 133
Beatrice de Carli and Lucia Caistor-Arendar, in dialogue with Nishat Awan, Aya Musmar and Meike Schalk
- Student Design Competition, 'Re-imagining the Artefact' _____ 135

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

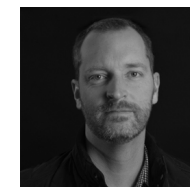
Keynote 1 - Craft / Participation



Dana Buntrock

'Ways Wealth Kills Craft: Observations from Tokyo's Bubble to Silicon Valley'

Dana Buntrock is a Professor of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley. In the 1980s in Japan, Buntrock began studying collaborative, interdisciplinary approaches to architectural practice. This led to two areas of focus: opportunities for innovative architectural practice due to advances in complementary areas of the AEC community (off-site fabrication, energy conservation) and on-going study of Japanese architectural practices. The author of two major books on Japanese architectural practice and hundreds of articles in journals and the trade press (some translated into Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Spanish), Buntrock was named an ACSA Distinguished Professor, as well as awarded the Tomoye Takahashi Endowed Chair in Japanese Studies at UC Berkeley and the Frederick Lindley Morgan Chair of Architectural Design at the University of Louisville. Buntrock also received a Post-doctoral Fellowship from National Science Foundation and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, a Fulbright Fellowship and an Abe Fellowship from the Social Sciences Research Council.



Rick Sommerfeld

'Crafting the Regionally Prosaic'

Erik "Rick" Sommerfeld is an Architect, Assistant Professor and the Director of ColoradoBuildingWorkshop, the design-build program at the University of Colorado Denver. Since founding Colorado Building Workshop in 2009 Rick has built twelve community projects, including 21 micro-cabins for the Colorado Outward Bounds School, and in collaboration with DesignBuildBLUFF at the University of Utah, five charitable homes and two cabins in Southern Utah. Rick's pedagogical vision for design-build is heavily focused on integrated project delivery. This requires students to work closely with the client, engineers, and consultants at the earliest stages of design, testing their ideas against contextual and programmatic constraints. He believes this enhances the practical application of architectural theory and promotes a blend of hands-on skills, authentic learning, and material exploration helping enrich student's architectural education.

Keynote 2 - Networks / Hinterlands



Carolyn Steel

'Sitopia: How Food Can Save the World'

Carolyn Steel is a leading thinker on food and cities. A London-based architect and academic, she wrote the award-winning *Hungry City: How Food Shapes Our Lives* (2008) and *Sitopia: How Food Can Save the World* (2020) and her concept of sitopia, or food-place, has gained worldwide recognition. Carolyn studied architecture at Cambridge University and has since taught at Cambridge, London Metropolitan, Wageningen and Slow Food Universities as well as at the London School of Economics, where she was inaugural studio director of the Cities Programme. Her Cambridge lecture series *Food and the City* (2002-12) was the first of its kind. A non-executive director of Kilburn Nightingale Architects, Trustee of the Oxford Symposium of Food and Cookery and Research Fellow at Aeres University, Carolyn writes and broadcasts regularly and is in international demand as a speaker. Her 2009 TEDGlobal talk has received more than one million views.



Nikos Katsikis

'From Hinterland to Hinterglobe'

Nikos Katsikis is an urbanist working at the intersection of urbanization theory, territorial design, and geospatial analysis. His research seeks to contribute to a geographical understanding of the socio-metabolic relations between cities and their "operational landscapes:" non-city landscapes of primary production, circulation and waste disposal that support urban life. He is an Assistant Professor at the Urbanism Department, TU Delft, and researcher at ETH-Zurich Future Cities Laboratory and Urban Theory Lab Chicago. He holds a Doctoral degree from Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD) where he was on the editorial board of the journal *New Geographies*, co-editor of *New Geographies 06: Grounding Metabolism*, and Instructor in Urban Planning and Design. He has also taught at the University of Luxembourg, the Royal College of Arts, and at the AA in London. Some of his work can be found on: www.TerraUrbis.com

Keynote 3 - Politics / Practice



Abdoulmaliq Simone

'The Technics of the Broken: Prefiguring Abolition'

Abdoulmaliq Simone is Senior Professorial Fellow at the Urban Institute, University of Sheffield and Visiting Professor of Urban Studies at the African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town. Key publications include, *For the City Yet to Come: Urban Change in Four African Cities*, Duke University Press, 2004, and *City Life from Jakarta to Dakar: Movements at the Crossroads*, Routledge, 2009, *Jakarta: Drawing the City Near*, University of Minnesota Press, 2014, *New Urban Worlds: Inhabiting Dissonant Times*, Polity (with Edgar Pieterse, Polity 2017), *Improvised Lives: Rhythms of Endurance for an Urban South* (Polity 2018), and *The Surrounds: Urban Life Within and Beyond Capture* (forthcoming, Duke University Press).



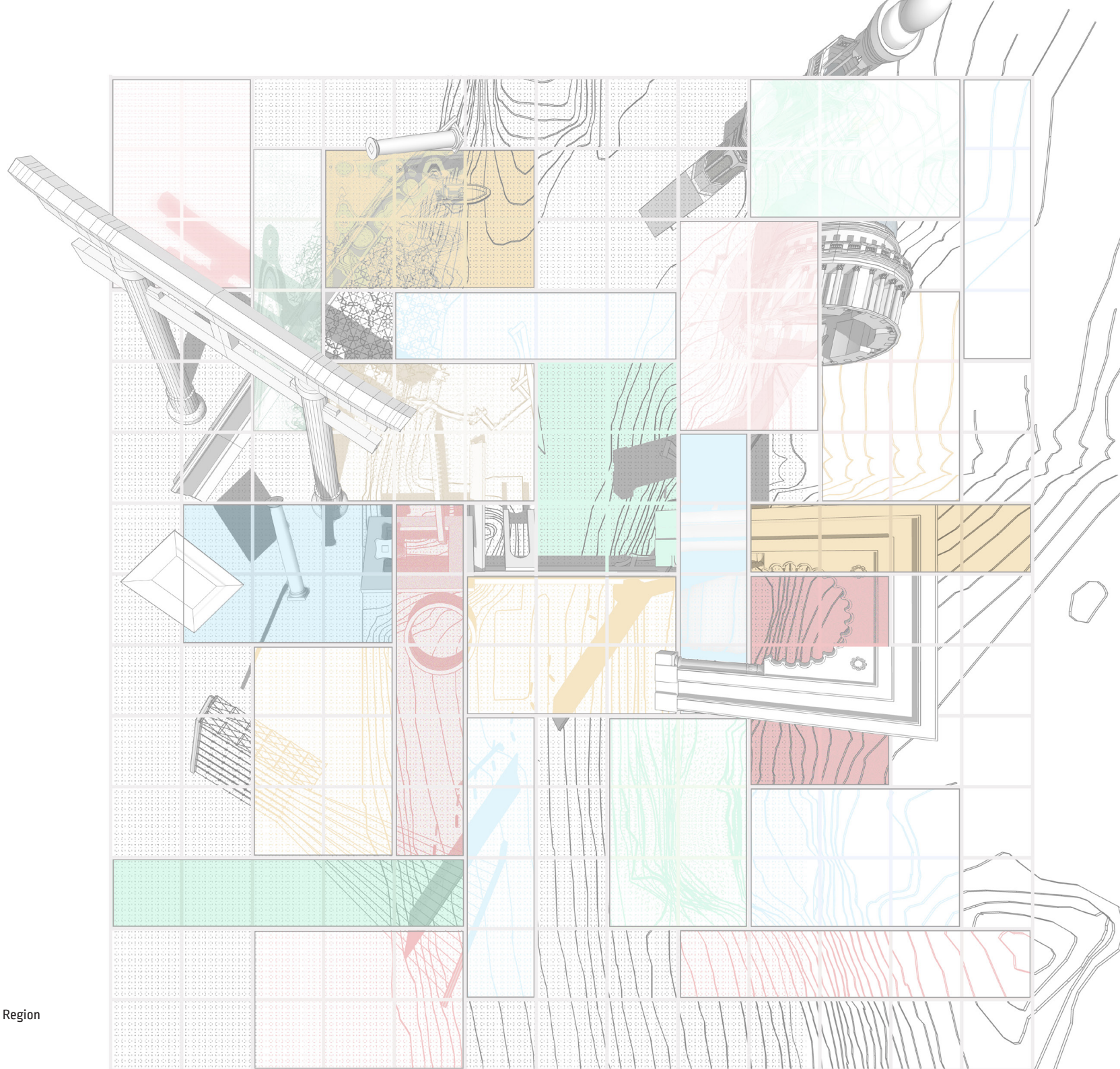
Xu Tiantian

'The Songyang Story'

Xu Tiantian is the founding principal of DnA_Design and Architecture. She has received numerous awards such as the WA China Architecture Award in 2006 and 2008, the Architectural League New York's Young Architects Award in 2008, the Design Vanguard Award in 2009 by *Architecture Record*, the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architect in 2019, and the 14th International Prize for Sustainable Architecture Gold Medal. In 2020, she was appointed an Honorary Fellow of American Institute of Architects. Xu Tiantian has engaged extensively in the rural revitalizing process in China. Her groundbreaking "Architectural Acupuncture" is a holistic approach to the social and economic revitalization of rural China and has been selected by UN Habitat as the case study of Inspiring Practice on Urban-Rural Linkages. Xu Tiantian received her masters in architecture and urban design from Harvard Graduate School of Design, and her baccalaureate in architecture from Tsinghua University in Beijing.

REGION THEMES

- Adaptation
- Archipelagos
- Cartographies
- Conflict
- Craft and Home
- Displacement
- Heritage
- Historiographies
- Industry and Infrastructure
- Leisure, Tourism and Commerce
- Suburbs, Ruralism and Regional Planning
- Testing Theory



REGION THEME:

ADAPTATION

Papers that explore how regional architecture, urban cultures and materials can be adapted and redeployed to address contemporary issues in architectural design and sustainability

Towards sustainable urban development: the application of Islamic principles and traditional knowledge to achieve a sustainable urban form

Fahad Alghamdi

Loughborough University, UK

Sustainable development has become a significant issue, particularly in times of global economic recession, increasing the cost of energy, transportation and living. There has also been a substantial increase in global issues related to environmental challenges such as carbon footprint, pollution and climate change, all of which require rapid interventions to avoid their negative implications. Therefore, sustainable development has become a mandatory process for many nations and must be internationally complied with, nationally required and locally anticipated.

In addition to the search for the concept of sustainability and sustainable development, this study intended to explore the international efforts related to urban sustainability indicators and their applicability worldwide. Although many of the sustainable urban strategies can be adopted in a general sense, the argument is still valid regarding whether the role of local people and cultural values has been taken into consideration while developing the international agenda and providing recommendations regarding sustainable development. The emphasis on issues related to urbanity and locality will be elaborated upon further in the search for sustainable development.

This study reviews the basic concepts and structure of the vernacular forms in general and traditional-Islamic cities in particular in order to discover the potential benefits and advantages of such forms in terms of sustainable development. The search is extended to include the underlying process, resulting in distinctive characteristics of vernacular forms and traditional-Islamic cities. It is essential to discuss the general concepts of Islamic tradition and Islamic law sources in order to understand their implications on the social and physical environment. A historical review showing various approaches and methodologies will be reviewed along with their origins and evolution. This research also focuses on the major planning principles and spatial structure in the Islamic-traditional cities and their vernacular forms.

The ultimate aim of the research is to observe the sustainable principles and strategies derived from social and religious concepts. It is a response to the international recommendations to integrate people's cultures and traditions into the sustainable development process. However, this study intended to elaborate on the social and planning principles and avoid as much as possible details regarding religious referencing due to the research scope and objectives.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, vernacular

Location: Al-'Ula, Saudi Arabia

A new design framework for sustainability and wellbeing at the neighbourhood scale in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Rafif Alshehl, Dr Robert Schmidt III and Dr Matyas Gutai

Loughborough University, UK

The sustainable development of urban settlements requires a 'balanced' interaction between sustainability's three pillars of environmental, social and economic aspects. Transformations of cultural and natural environmental systems often cause great stress within a society. Much of the disturbing environmental crises are the result of rapid economic growth and/or changes in technology in a particular place. Cultural transformations can create social as well as physical stress resulting in unhealthy and unsustainable environments as human adjustment to these changes is difficult and often incomplete, resulting in separation and other significant social problems. The impact these changes have on societies is often dependent on their stage of development and this has become increasingly challenging as the rate of technological cycles accelerate. Over the last half century, Saudi Arabia and in particular Riyadh has seen significant changes along these aspects in its urban environment.

Ekistics, which concerns the science of human settlements, theory was developed by Doxiadis in the late 1950s as a holistic framework for the study and planning of human settlements in response to global urbanization problems. The Ekistics model of Dynapolis recognizes that the city is a dynamic and not a static organism. At the same time, it responds to the processes of growth by identifying a city form and arrangement of activity areas (e.g. residential, industrial, etc.) which can grow in a way which maintains their integrity and avoids conflict, one activity against another. Dynapolis model was materialized in tens of projects by Doxiadis around the globe in the late 1950s and 1960s but none as memorable and complete as Islamabad. It is the project of Islamabad that immortalized the concept of Dynapolis for generations to come.

However, Dynapolis model, as learned from the literature, was repeatedly questioned due to its rigidity as a scheme and the authoritative aspect of the endlessly repeated communities. Despite Doxiadis claims for preserving the human scale and local cultural traits within his communities, the uniformity of the human sectors left little space to such interpretations. Despite his attempt to harmonize the master plan with the landscape and the existing city, the visual impact and vast scale of his grid made the plan alien to the surrounding landscape. In Riyadh, while the developed model addressed some cultural and climate conditions, it failed to understand several other environmental and traditional aspects of the city (e.g. passive design strategies are replaced by a high dependence on air conditioners that caused high use of energy). As a result, major cultural and climatic problems have occurred over the years. Subsequently,

significant literature favours the traditional planning of Riyadh over the current planning with regards to sustainability and wellbeing as it was built to suit the context's extreme weather condition and culture. The traditional built environment of Riyadh is a product of a long series of trial-and-error experiences reflecting the cultural and social values of its people. Therefore, it is the substance and local identity of the people, and a native response to the people's beliefs, traditions, and the local climate of the city.

This paper is concerned with the effects of the dramatic urban transformation by Doxiadis comparing it with the traditional urban planning of Saudi Arabia regarding sustainability and wellbeing. It identifies and analyses two distinct areas in Riyadh and discusses the cultural conflicts resulting from the use of imported planning principles and regulations. The King Abdullah Financial District is analysed as it is a new sustainable development that did not follow the Doxiadis strategy, rather it learned and mimicked the traditional planning principals of Saudi Arabia. The other case study is the Al-Murabba neighbourhood as a traditional example that responds well to the context. In light of this analysis and discussion, planning regulations were reviewed, and recommendations made for amendments.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, Ekistics, sustainability, wellbeing

Location: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

ADAPTATION

A future-fit approach for energy transition with the indigenous Bedouin community in Sinai, Egypt

Maha Basha and Steve Connelly

The University of Sheffield, UK

The current climatic challenges and the rise of greenhouse gases create an urgent need to use clean and sustainable energy sources. According to the latest International Energy Agency statistics, the residential sector is responsible for about 20% of total energy consumption and 10% of carbon emissions around the world, while in Egypt over homes are consuming 40% and are responsible for 15% of the energy. Though photovoltaic system is one of renewable energy retrofitting interventions to secure carbon free homes, the appropriate application mechanisms of this intervention is very challenging because there is a disconnection between energy practices, research and the housing industry. Thus, retrofitting homes based on users' practices is crucial, so that the energy necessities can be optimally met and hazardous environmental impact can be mitigated. This paper explores the impact of home energy practices and related arrangements within a specific cultural context in Egypt, through the assemblage of Practice Theory (PT) and Critical Realism theory (CR). The combined approach between PT and CR will focus on the context providing the conditions of practices and will allow finding causal forces beyond practices, by investigating three intersubjective arrangements mediating the enactment of practices. Those three arrangements (cultural discursive arrangements, material arrangements and socio-political) are the precondition elements to make any practice happen. A case study of Bedouin homes in the Sinai Peninsula is selected in order to highlight the important relationship between any potential technological intervention and socio-cultural aspects related to energy practices of one of indigenous community. By critiquing existing contextual practices in relation to their current energy consumption, various factors are identified as influencing, preventing or enabling for PV system uptake. This study aims to aid housing developers and decision-makers by developing a practice-based approach for appropriate renewable energy retrofit for homes in Sinai.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, indigenous, Bedouin, consumption, solar

Location: Sinai, Egypt

From XS to XL: transscalar approaches to material design

Blaine Brownell

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA

Concrete is the second most-consumed material on the planet after water. The world is running out of sand. Only a quarter of the Earth's original wilderness remains due to extensive human development. Polis, metropolis, megalopolis, eperopolis, ecumenopolis. Humanity has fundamentally reshaped the planet's surface via heavily processed, ecologically deleterious material systems. The Anthropocene epoch is here.

At the same time, these systems—and their users—are in trouble. The number of global natural disasters has increased tenfold since the 1960s, and the damage inflicted on human communities continues to escalate dramatically. A significant portion of the world's infrastructure is deteriorating, with no immediate plans for repair or replacement. We have surpassed the peak availability of many resources, and our technological ambition runs counter to the supply of non-renewable materials.

Scientists and planners point to geodesign—approaches to modifying land use and climatic behaviors on a planetary scale—as a means to address global warming and other environmental hazards. But many ecologically significant decisions occur at the material scale: the use of high-embodied energy Portland cement, the proliferation of petroleum-derived plastics, and the disruptive harvesting of resource-intensive minerals.

To achieve the significant changes necessary to curb the growing environmental stresses caused by building construction, we must have the ability to calculate the influence of small-scale material decisions on large-scale planning efforts and vice-versa. Existing tools typically focus on either material choices (e.g., life cycle assessment) or regional impacts (e.g., ecological footprint), but there are no developed methods to bridge the two. Such approaches should include not only quantitative but also qualitative means to improve environmental performance.

This talk will highlight disparities between different environmental impact evaluation methods and discuss next steps toward comprehensive transscalar and transsystemic assessments.

Keywords: sustainability, Anthropocene, concrete

Chinese contemporary architectural experiments: from 'garden translation' to 'natural construction'

Tao Chang, Qiuye Jin and Yuejia Xu

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"The method of garden" was proposed by Wang Shu at the UIA conference in 1999. As he received the Pritzker Prize in 2012, a large number of research and practical works on contemporary translation of Chinese traditional gardens appeared in Chinese architecture. Later, he put forward the concept of "construction with the natural way" as the selection criteria of the fourth China Architecture Media Awards in 2016 and Architecture China Award in 2020. We could not only regard it as a theoretical abstraction, but also realize that the research on the localization of Chinese architecture related to garden translation has completed the change from experiment to practice, from minority participation to universal consciousness. Chinese traditional garden design methods, such as "three elements of garden" proposed by Mr. Tong Jun, are more applied to contemporary architectural design.

In this past 20 years, the number of participants are large, the area of discussion are wide, the achievements are diverse including many high-quality works, but lack of overall study and theoretical summary. This topic will focus on the research and practice of the contemporary translation of Chinese traditional gardens, review its origin, development and evolution process, and fully show this historical process. By means of interviews, literature research and field investigation, this paper studies from three aspects of participants, events and works, points out the diversity of current situation, the causes of various theoretical directions, the existing problems and the overall development trend, and tries to summarize the deep and universal significance of traditional garden design for contemporary architectural design theory.

Keywords: adaptation, design, gardens, competitions

Location: China

Tactical urbanism beyond the discussion: how urban labs has transformed citizens' urban mindset and places in Recife city

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"We are, in short, in the midst of a huge crisis—ecological, social, and political—of planetary urbanization without, it seems, knowing or even marking it." (Harvey, 2014)

The Crisis of Planetary Urbanisms is an essay written by David Harvey from the catalog for Uneven Growth – Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities, exhibited in 2014 at MoMA. The exhibition intended to show urban design solutions for six big metropolises in the world. The contributions were from different labs, whose solutions adopted tactical urbanism methods to make social justice in the urban environment. Although this practice is faced with reasonable expectations by the labs and other professionals, professor Neil Brenner, who teaches Urban Theory at Harvard Graduate School of Design, presents a different perspective in his article "Would tactical urbanism be an alternative to neoliberal urbanism?". On this occasion, Brenner argues mainly on an opposing viewpoint regarding the Tactical Urbanism method, as do other experts from Urban Field. Some critics see a placebo effect and a naive optimism regarding raising tactical interventions when infrastructure problems exist, but the tactical urbanism discussion goes beyond it.

Despite sharing opinions on its effectiveness, Tactical Urbanism has grown in practical terms and debate along the XXI century. Therefore, this article aims to analyze this approach regarding its improvements in creating more sustainable urban environments and modifying citizens' mindsets. In emerging countries such as Brazil, urban labs have shown that independent of solving infrastructure problems, tactical urbanism has played a role in the collective urban conscience and the cities' sustainable capability. Thus, to prove the benefits that contemporary methods as tactical urbanism can bring to society, this study adopted a bibliographic review on tactical urbanism and a qualitative approach involving interviews with urban labs members in Recife City. These professionals used Tactical Urbanism to improve urban distribution, sustainability, and belonging in Recife, a cultural city in an emerging country.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, tactical urbanism

Location: Recife, Brazil

A constructed regionalism

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In 1985, the Aga Khan award for Architecture committee held a regional seminar in Dhaka, Bangladesh titled Regionalism in Architecture. It was the second in their Exploring Architecture in Islamic Cultures series and aimed to bring together subcontinental architects with others from abroad, into a conversation about a topic of great interest to the foundation, Regionalism. The seminar was the culmination of the foundation's interest in asking important questions for that particular time and place in architecture - Is there an Asian consciousness in architecture as opposed to Western logic, that may be used to problematize questions of identity? Within a largely 'rural' context, how can the architect critically engage with matters of policy and socio-economics? Does religion have a role to play in regionalism?

This paper proposes that the developing discourses on typologies and identities, both in practice and academia in Bangladesh in the 1980s and 90s, may be traced back to the discussions, questions and constructs raised in this significant event. Recognizing it as a critical point of departure, the research traces these developments and their limitations, to investigate both the evolution of Regionalist thought shaped by them and the critical role and agency of the institution in framing and popularizing these discourses. What were the tenets of this new regionalist school of thought and what were its formal expressions? How did it engage questions of post-colonial identity? How did it distinguish between a rural and urban understanding of context? Whilst including discussions on religious identity, can it be found wanting in questions of class, race and gender? How can these discourses be situated within the larger political and cultural context of the subcontinent and what critical exclusions, exceptions and deviations from this line of thinking could be found to problematize its trajectory?

Keywords: adaptation, design, identity, typology, agency, competitions

Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Implementation and transformation of built environment: the appropriation of Hassan Fathy's New Qurna village by the inhabitants

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The village of New Qurna on the west bank of the Nile near the modern city of Luxor came into being between 1945 and 1952 based on the design of Egyptian architect Hassan Fathy with the intention of providing a new home for the inhabitants of Al-Qurna. The Qurnawis had settled for centuries in colourful mud-brick houses among the ancient Egyptian tombs of the Theban Necropolis, which they had to leave because of manifold – most notably political, economic and cultural – reasons. At the time when the decision of resettlement was made, Fathy was already a well-known architect in Egypt, notably through his examination of locally available materials, traditional building techniques and construction methods appropriate for the materials involved. The fundamental entitlement of his designs was the transfer of these principles into an aesthetic, integral and humane architecture. Despite this approach, many inhabitants of Al-Qurna refused to leave their homes. The construction work was suspended in 1952 and Fathy's project never entirely realised. Since then, New Qurna was exposed to major building activity: the extension, modification and demolition – the transformation – of the buildings and structures changed the once coherent appearance in design concept, construction and materiality beyond recall. Although the representative buildings of New Qurna were frequently part of scientific research projects, the overall transformational process was never fully documented or reviewed. By using literature research, field work and documentation tools, the author tries to answer the following questions: Who were the actors in this process of appropriation and transformation and who was the driving force? Which economic, cultural, political, or personal causes led to this structural development and change? Which building techniques and materials were applied and why? And finally: which lessons can be learned?

Keywords: adaptation, humane, transformation

Location: New Qurna, Egypt

Amazonic living in the State of Pará, Brazil: on the architecture inspired by ancestral cultures

Arthur Montenegro De Oliveira

Civil construction is one of the ones that most produces waste in the world, so the search for more sustainable materials that are less harmful to the environment should be encouraged and disseminated in urban centers, resulting in places that are more consistent with their context and specificities. This article presents on an exploratory level the existence of some architectural productions in the state of Pará, Brazil, which emerged beyond the Eurocentric and American principles, navigating between the vernacular and the regional, subject to adaptations and being incorporated in the works of some architects, such as form of local, indigenous and natural materials valorization existing in the region. His projects are aligned with constructive inspirations of the ancestral cultures of the original peoples, bringing to light, living in an environment more consistent with the reality of the region. In this way, the work aimed to seek dialogue between his works and reflect the role of the architect in contemporary Amazonia and his contributions to the qualification of the architecture produced.

Keywords: adaptation, design, vernacular, Amazon, ancestral

Location: Pará, Brazil

Specific | Non-Specific: regionalism and Open Building

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Regionalism suggests a full expression of the unique qualities of a place. What makes a specific architectural response contextual? The concept of Open Building was postulated in the 1960s by Dutch architect John Habraken, with projects focused on housing in the Netherlands. The concept was simultaneously developed on the other side of the globe. Japanese architects and contractors in pursuit of developing efficient construction techniques to realize Metabolist projects began to develop Open Systems, which relied upon the repetition of the module to create replaceable parts. The open building approach was already becoming universal, but could it still be reflective of its individual place?

Habraken's approach sought to recognize the individual's role as an important component to the success of mass housing. Part of this balance depended on creating place, on the community and individual level. An emphasis was placed upon creating open systems which could be renovated to adjust to tenants over time. In post-war Japan, the need to rapidly construct large-scale infrastructure and housing drove the design of Metabolist projects. Emphasis was on the framework, with modules or parts that could be interchanged indefinitely. These projects were often not contextual, but instead provided radical concepts for forms and units.

As the concept of open building evolved, the approach and technology have enabled progress; architects are designing systems which are more likely to be individualized for replacement. One could argue that these projects have become even more universal; could these buildings exist anywhere? This paper will explore balancing the specificity of regional architecture and the non-specific nature of open building for the future. Through comparing examples of contemporary Dutch and Japanese open building strategies, the paper will evaluate how these architects have applied open building concepts in pursuit of a renewable connection to the evolving identity of their regions.

Keywords: adaptation, design, Open Building, Metabolism

Location: Netherlands, Japan

Designing for Adaptability and Sustainability (DfAS) in regional architecture: lessons from residences in Northeast Brazil

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The worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus in 2020 forced changes in the built environment resulting in social, economic, and environmental setbacks, especially in developing countries such as Brazil. Spaces in homes have been characterized as a stage for transformation during quarantine periods, but one of the main concerns is related to responding to local peculiarities. The evocation of Critical Regionalism (c.f. Frampton, 1983; Tzonis and Lefaivre, 1990) has been previously defined as crucial for the generation of auto reflexive visions considering global aspirations and context specificities. In this sense, this paper explores Designing for Adaptability and Sustainability (DfAS) in between bonds and tensions according to contemporary residential projects in the Brazilian Northeast, a unique region where the climate adequation to the sunny tropic is a mandatory guideline. To achieve the aim, the research conducted a case study investigation based on an analogy between Armando de Holanda's guidelines (2018) and Schmidt and Austin's (2016) analytical framework of building layers and design characteristics (CARs), along with semi-structured interviews and local visits to capture architects' mindsets and their considerations for the applied strategies and solutions. The findings reveal a connection between Holanda's and Schmidt III and Austin's approaches and their importance to guide safeguarding the future performance of residences in Northeast Brazil, mainly by the synergies of long-established building features, such as open plan, passive design techniques, and simple construction methods, which can serve more generally as a model worldwide.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, pandemic, liminal spaces

Location: Brazil

Past traditionalism, present modernism, and the new Qatari regionalism: architectural vocabularies over time in Qatar

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There have been three stages in the evolution of Qatari architecture over the last century, broadly consistent with development trends of the larger GCC Region: Pre-Oil era before 1950, Globalisation era from the 1950s/1960s until the early 21st century, and an emerging New Qatari Regionalism at the dawn of a Post-Oil era beginning a little over a decade ago (Salama & Wiedmann, 2013; Major & Tannous, 2020; Tannous, 2020). Minimum building heights and fenestration, local materials, time-honoured building methods, natural ventilation, and Islamic motifs in decorative details characterised traditional Qatari architecture during the first era. Modern architecture, imported materials, construction standardisation, and mechanised climate-control buildings marked the middle period (Jodidio, 2014). The era of rapid urbanisation and globalisation – and a new popular image of Doha as a city of skyscrapers – caused many people to question a perceived loss of traditional vocabularies in the language of Qatari architecture. The opening of a rehabilitated Souq Waqif and I.M. Pei's new Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in 2008 planted the first seeds for the emergence of a New Qatari Regionalism in architecture, beginning to blend the conveniences of modern life with contemporary re-interpretations of traditional architectural and urban vocabularies. Allies & Morrison's recently completed Msheireb Downtown Doha project has become the highest-profile example of the new Qatari Regionalism (Al-Thani, 2021). However, younger Qatari architects are already seeking to build on such examples by developing new architectural languages and prototypes that successfully link from the past via re-interpretation to the future. The brief history of Qatari architecture demonstrates that region and regionalism is not merely a place or simple replication, but an evolutionary process over time pregnant with the potential for architectural innovation.

Keywords: adaptation, design, heritage, globalisation, oil, souq

Location: Doha, Qatar

Tectonics of cultural resistance: regional approaches in Iranian contemporary architecture (from 1960s to the present)

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The insistent velocity of industrialization, urbanization, modern methods of construction and immediate demands of modern spaces rolls out a symptomatic escalating rate of change which represents itself as drastic contrariety and disseminated modern monopolization within contemporary architectural landscape of Iran. In an analogical sense, vernacular, traditional architecture, and regional differentiations hence vanished gradually into not taking significant roles as a form of cultural resistance. Aiming to respond to consequent cultural, meaning and identity crisis, several regional approaches are emerged in practice of architects from mid-1960's to present. In this context, the dichotomy of past/future or tradition/modernity and their continuously intense coexistence in manifestation of Iranian contemporary architecture therefore resulted a diverse, plural, eclectic, multiple, and tumultuous of ideas as its inherent attributes in the past decades.

This study aims to watch out the regional design tendencies as a form of cultural resistant to confront with the myths and realities of hegemonic, universal and any other standardizing structures opposing particularly to Iranian building culture. Through conducting a comparative method on selected group of architectural precedents expressing regional attitudes, this research first tries to classify regional design approaches in Iranian contemporary architecture. The selection of buildings is based on: (a) chronological order from mid-1960's while historical, traditional remarks began gradually to be considered as indispensable parts of Iranian architectural identity; (b) evidently reflecting an idea on conscious practice by which architects attempted to provide a productive conversation between dualities aforementioned and to resist the rupture of rapid transformations imposed by modernization on the Iranian architecture; (c) being crafted whereby they are appropriated modernism together with "place-specific" in which a sense of continuity is preserved between past values and future developments. In this regard, the tectonics have been eventually derived through these practices are discussed to describe diverse ontological distinctions emerging in Contemporary Architecture of Iran.

Keywords: adaptation, design, continuity, cultural resistance, tectonics

Location: Iran

Research on the tectonic culture status and sustainable development of residential buildings in Beijing Old City

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Residents in a specific region use local unique construction wisdom to create residential buildings. On the basis of ensuring practicality, they take the advantages of the place to make corresponding designs, and finally achieve the life scene in their minds. With the passage of time, a unique tectonic culture has gradually formed, it contains nostalgia and reflects the times of each period. With the rapid urbanization process in China, the textual information about the tectonic of traditional residential buildings has been lost, which is also happening in the contemporary era. This indicates that the historical tectonic information of contemporary architecture in this region will also be lost, just like now. In order to protect this source of the future, a full-time diachronic study to the tectonic culture is required. It is necessary to carefully trace all the information of tectonic culture that can be found, and sort out, describe, distinguish and retain them. This paper based on the Tectonic theory, takes the traditional residential buildings as the research object, in the old city of the Capital Functional Core Area in Beijing, with the help of HBIM, Sort out the tectonic text information of residential building in five aspects: building structure, detailing construction, material, decoration and space, And make a comparative analysis based on the background of the times. Summarize the characteristics in each era and the development trend of the Tectonic culture, and attempt to derive a set of principles for the sustainable development of the Tectonic culture in Beijing. This is favorable to the future residential renovation and reconstruction work, to improve the living environment while protecting the historical and cultural heritage of the region.

Keywords: adaptation, sustainability, tectonics

Location: Beijing, China

REGION THEME:

ARCHIPELAGOS

Papers that explore widely dispersed archipelagic territories and architectural identities

On 'Region': alterity and regional encounters in a postcolonial archipelago

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This paper examines the architectural traces of regional encounters in Indonesia, a vast archipelagic postcolonial nation with a diverse socio-cultural landscape. This paper argues that in such a sprawling geographical territory, designations of certain locations as 'regional' is a disciplining practice of socio-spatial imagining and framing of alterity undertaken and determined from a specific vantage point: the exemplary political centre of the postcolonial nation and its colonial past, the nation capital and the metropole. Operating through colonial history and subsequently the ensuing nation building era, such a framing of regional alterity perpetuates a set of binary classifications of otherness. These binary classifications impose an imbalance power relation between the metropole and the colony, the political centre and the periphery, between the urbanising capital and the 'rural' regional locations, between the globalising urban citizen and the indigenous/regional others, between consumers and resources. As the postcolonial nation imagines and shapes its modern identity through the shaping of its capital city and major urban centres, it requires the rest of the archipelago to demonstrate and sustain certain contrasting 'regional' characteristics which culturally, materially, environmentally and architecturally complement the nation's quest for a modern and globalising identity. The region is, as such, continuously interpreted, imagined, and framed from the vantage point of the metropole and subsequently the nation's political centre.

Two contrasting geographical sites and their architectural cultures will be examined in this paper to illuminate the aftermath of the disciplinary framing of regional alterity and the ensuing lived experience of sites and communities framed as regional in colonial and postcolonial Indonesia: Deli in East Sumatra as the agricultural frontier and the island of Bali as the cultural frontier. The paper will explore the differing treatments of the indigenous groups and their architectural culture in these locations, ranging from displacement to commodification. Furthermore, it will demonstrate how the two sites and communities equally experienced dramatic socio-spatial transformations as the outcomes of their designation as 'regional.'

Keywords: archipelagos, postcolonial, indigenous, displacement, commodification, alterity

Location: Indonesia

One border, two islands: examining the Aegean border disputes through Imbros and Lesbos

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This paper proposes to explore issues concerning political borders imposed within the island region of the Aegean, focusing particularly on two Aegean islands – Imbros and Lesbos – as comparative case studies. Today the Aegean Sea functions as an unconventional threshold, separating Europe from the non-western powers of the Near and Middle East. Strategic political and international crises are concentrated on this arm of the Mediterranean Sea, many of which are carefully crafted in order to initiate certain negotiations between various actors. Beyond the immediate economic functions of these negotiations, there is the potential of the Aegean to become a different kind of borderland for those who inhabit it: one premised on being the physical site of a regulatory valve used to manage the flow of ongoing global migration into Europe via Turkey. Indeed, how the development of perpetual migration alters the understanding of the Aegean as a borderland is a process in the making and can go in many different directions.

With that in mind, this paper claims that Imbros, as the westernmost landmass of Turkey, and Lesbos, as part of the easternmost groups of Greek islands, have been the key sites to examine the material, architectural and embodied ways in which the decisions concerning the borders of the EU – those which designated a series of Aegean islands as offshore borders of Turkey and Greece – shape not only the life on these islands but also challenge the idea of physical national borders as we know them. On the one hand, on a broader scale Lesbos and Imbros have blurred the notion of a hard boarder between the EU and non-EU powers. On the other hand, the borderland status of these islands has shaped their architecture, culture and landscape significantly during the last century.

Keywords: archipelagos, Aegean Sea, sea borders

Location: Imbros, Turkey; Lesbos, Greece

The Azorean archipelago: the invention of a political Region

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The Azores, an archipelago located nearly in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, is an Autonomous Region constituted by nine islands and the surrounding sea, whose legal constitution occurred in 1976, through the establishment of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic. The perception of the islands as an identity group, that apparently share common characteristics, is considered as constituting of a deliberate political construction and, for this reason, the Azores Region is understood as a relatively recent product of a fictional political imaginary brought by democracy. The contemporary rebounding procedures happening within the Region – with the emphasis on the proposal for the extension of the Portuguese Continental Shelf and the project for launching operations of mini satellites – comprise negotiations among different levels, with its geographically inscription being subject to several regulatory operations. These announcements relate to contingent future events which consolidate the perception of the existence of an identifiable territory, that is, a political Region. Hence, the Azores Region is interpreted as an active project which aims to make the territory calculable, furthermore the Region's concept is juridically, socially and territorially constructed, reflecting on borders and embodying manifestations on such ordering processes.

Accordingly, the Azores Region is drawn between regulatory frameworks and its political space – whose political boundaries and territorialities are generated by such ordering endeavour. This Region is a product of an ongoing negotiation among different scales of hierarchy, producing a territory in relational terms. Therefore, within this project of territorial control, the purpose of this paper is to explore how the ordering processes are regulated and institutionalised, that is, produced – simply put, to consider the policies and regulations behind the Azores Region agency.

Keywords: archipelagos, Atlantic Ocean, law, democracy, territorial reification

Location: Azores, Portugal

Veneto region (North-Eastern Italy): ongoing metamorphosis

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If “where” still matters, a redefinition of the meaning of the different contexts within a global scenario now seems to be absolutely necessary. In contemporary societies, indeed, it appears to be of paramount importance the identification of the different territorial specificities that emerge even in the background of an increasingly extensive and sprawling urbanization, in which globalized and “archaic” forms of life alternate. Such an understanding is challenging, since the environmental aspects intertwine with the economic and cultural ones in delineating territories that are eventually produced by a myriad of incremental transformations. The result is a landscape where complexity and apparent banality coincide. Analysing the factors that influence the ability of the Veneto region (North-Eastern Italy) to react to the ongoing metamorphosis is the purpose of the research work that is being carried out within the IR.IDE research infrastructure (IUAV University of Venice) and that this contribution presents. Specifically, this contribution discusses the initiatives that, in a correct relationship between project and context, have developed in the region over the last decades, giving birth to a polycentric territory that gravitated around its “historic center”, Venice. A series of problems emerge in the relationship between Venice (a city constantly subject to clichés that see it as immutable) and its region: indeed, the exodus from the “historic center” continues; tourism is on the rise, now characterized by dynamics of massification; accessibility issues stimulate the debate. In the background, the great changes in the regional system of cities and the construction of a large conurbation, a widespread city or an urbanized countryside, of which Venice seems to be less and less its center.

Keywords: archipelagos, historic core, polycentric, metamorphosis

Location: Venice, Italy

REGION THEME:

CARTOGRAPHIES

Papers that explore techniques for (re-)mapping and (re-)categorising spatial regions, whether built, imagined or virtual

Surface orientations: a critical approach to working with digital mapping in distant places

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How do we know regions that are at a distance from us? Especially those that are in conflict or are somehow out of bounds? The decisive answer across architecture, urban and geographic practices has been one of looking from afar through the calculative and remote sensed view of satellites and digital maps. Combined with an approach that sees the volume as a new means of control and extraction, it leads to a sense that we inhabit a world of totalities where the horizon beyond which things might remain uncertain or incalculable seems to have disappeared. As visual and spatial practices embrace these technologies, what critical questions emerge around the political potential of such methods? One important aspect can be discerned from Harun Farocki's insight on the challenge computer animation posed to film. He posited that in computer animation the relations between space and time that are usually made by the filmmaker through techniques of montage are now to be produced by the viewer (or the user) themselves as they navigate through and across platforms (Mende, 2019).

In this paper, I consider this question of navigation in relation to the horizonless worlds of digital mapping. Sara Ahmed (2006) writes that bodies and objects are affected by the orientations they take towards each other through sharing space, and that these orientations depend on certain tendencies and social norms. Ahmed is writing about queer lives but her insight is also applicable in relation to digitally produced worlds. I explore surface orientations as concept and methodology for approaching modelling and mapping platforms so that we do not reproduce their totalising effects, but instead involve a critical distancing from the regimes of visibility, embedded within digital platforms of mapping and modelling.

Keywords: cartographies, digital mapping, distance, conflict, orientation

RE2mergent CON-text

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The 21st Century city has already been described as a place of simultaneous experience. An invisible matrix of digital interactions permeates and penetrates the palimpsest of century's growth, development, demolition, and decay as these two realities compete to inform public and private narratives. The exponential expansion of social media has been facilitated and enabled by a rapidly developing technological infrastructure of emitters, receivers, and relays; changing not just the way we occupy our time but also the very fabric of our environment.

The desire for total coverage, for free roaming, for an instant data fix, for access to endless information is total. We are surrounded, gorged, and drowning in an endless sea of data and with it a new spatial condition emerges- Augmented Reality. From snap chat filters to "Pokémon Go", a growing number of (in)tangible, para-fictional, locations influence our daily lives. We are drawn, inexorably, into a superpositioning of the physical and digital. No longer confined, the media is becoming the medium; a pervasive soup through which sensory impressions are conveyed, the Medi(a)um is the MassAge.

In the age of social media, there needs to be a re-examination of the physical consequences of the dichotomy between reality and simulation. This paper presents a series of speculative architectural projects which explore the social, cultural, economic, and environmental consequences of this technologification of our environment.

Keywords: cartographies, augmented reality, social media, simultaneity

Infrastructuring process-relational space. Collective practices of socio-spatial change in 'rural' Portugal

Jamie-Scott Baxter

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Through multiple intersecting sociospatial processes, including ageing populations, outmigration, and lack of infrastructure, many peripheral rural regions are experiencing gradual social and ecological breakdown.

Against this background, this article develops the term infrastructuring resistance in the field of spatial planning in the context of Alentejo, in rural Portugal. The little-known but important term, infrastructuring implies a shift in emphasis from structure to process. To develop the term, I begin by introducing selected elements from Barad's concept of agential realism; second, I provide a short review of infrastructuring in other related fields; third, I describe how the empirical field was constructed and data collected ethnographically; fourth, I turn to the case of EPAM to discuss infrastructuring in resistance to social and environmental breakdown in collectivist modes of planning inscribing rural space in Portugal. I focus on two main aspects, first, the everyday material-discursive practices through which infrastructuring is performed and by which infrastructures materialise. I then examine how infrastructures transgress spatial boundaries as they topologically spread, enfolding with a wider ecology. Linked to this, I describe how infrastructuring troubles epistemic boundaries in knowledge practices and discuss how these interconnected aspects of infrastructuring contribute to the ongoing re[con]figuration of peripheral space. I conclude by considering the benefits of this approach and how infrastructuring resistance is applicable to other spaces, raising the question of whether it can provide an effective alternative to "planning for development".

Keywords: cartographies, rural, networks, process-relational space

Location: Portugal

An illustrated Wessex Wayfinder

Ed Frith

Arts University Bournemouth, UK

1. Person[al] Prelude

... opening shots - the three gs, dancing, geddes, guattari and greta ...

From Patrick Geddes, the grandfather of planning, ecology and the 'region'; via Guattari's Three Ecologies, the mental, the social, and environmental; to Greta Thunberg's performative embodiment (with placard).

2. Setting the Scene

... drone footage ... deep rolling hills cliff and sea dropping into 'underland' ...

The role of geology and geography sets the scene; understanding the earth crust and its mutability, from the clays to the rocks. Movement and weathering of sedimentary (Portland), metamorphic (Salcombe Manhattan Schist), and igneous (Dartmoor & Charnwood). This is the deep place, and time, weathered.

3. Bells

... child's dream sequence ...

The Carillion calls the Loogabaroogans to prayer, a historic shrine of worked, cast, resonant metal; a place that used to knit threads in to tubes. While Geddes's Edinburga, camera obscura on the Outlook Tower is used as a lens focusing the region, reflected and echoed through his tower.

4. Hardy Land

... long shot, wind whistling ... on egdon Heath

The wind across Egdon Heath etches its way into a re-found landscape, the Drax Estate caught for a moment in a wayfaring textured by surveyor Thomas Hardy. Moments defined in the swirling landscape of Wessex, arranged in new ways reviving a Trust, re-working struggles of land with social construction in the 'observed' valleys

5. Sylvia Civitas

... birds eye ... over tower ... and trees

Not a Broadacre city but a new ecological Civitas, at the head of the Stour it revolves around and falls away from Geddes's wiggling bee, Alfred's Wessex tower looking to the playing biogeography, geomorphology of this performative region.

Illustrated by film and project work of M.Arch students from the Arts University Bournemouth with support of Wynne Leung and Kirsten Tatum.

Keywords: cartographies, wayfinding, performance, ecology, psychogeography

Location: Wessex, England

Hong Kong: city of compact, complex and co-existence

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Hong Kong is a global city of the world that is distinguishable by its colonial historical-geographical conditions and its modern political, cultural, and economic changes. In this circumstance, the city's unique socio-spatial urban transformations have emerged at regional and global scales. In the paper, we discuss three distinct urban characters in Hong Kong and explain how contemporary architecture is effected by these extreme conditions. 1) Compact City: Hong Kong has 76% of the land usage attributed to nature and agriculture. High-density urban planning strategies lead to Hong Kong's special urban form, which generates unique architectural typologies like pencil towers or podiums. 2) Complex City: The urban density forces the city to compress a mix of functions in unity. Hong Kong's urban networks are enriched by unique urban life experiences through mixed-use architecture. 3) Co-existent City: Cultural regeneration is promoted through public urban space where tradition and modernity, East and West meet.

Three empirical cases, Acts Rednaxela Serviced Apartment, Kowloon Festival Walk, and Central Statue Square, were chosen to unfold the design challenges under extreme spatial conditions, present existing socio-spatial limits, and argue the importance of rethinking the public urban spatial potential of a global city that is compact, complex and co-existent.

Keywords: cartographies, politics, complexity, density

Location: Hong Kong, China

Reversed regionality of gadgets and the Steinberg alethosphere

Don Kunze

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Saul Steinberg's New Yorker cover, parodying the typical New Yorker's view of the world beyond Manhattan, involved a flip-flop theory: geographical regions are, really, globally continuous but locally discontinuous. Of course, we assert continuity of local through fiction and ideology (cf. New York's Big Apple). Not to see Steinberg's funny landscape is the norm that makes seeing it both funny and wise.

Yet, we confirm the Steinberg Effect when we observe clusters of people who apparently know each other, each paying attention to a cell-phone. The technology may be new, but the connection between "internal distancing" of locales and the over-proximity of global networks has been around a long time. Especially during the Pandemic, expectations of continuity have reversed. We zoom with colleagues in Singapore but check our phones on dates. In *The Other Side (l'enverse)* of Analysis, Jacques Lacan devised the terms "lathouse" (gadget) and "alethosphere" (global network). This was *l'enverse* in two senses. Like the reversal of expectations of local continuities and global discontinuities (the "Steinberg effect"), Lacan's discourses also reversed the expected. Intimate/particular exchanges were fragmentary, while widely dispersed separate instances were united in "tonal modalities," clustered into four principal forms (Master, University, Hysteric, Analysis).

What if Lacan's discourses explain the Steinberg Effect? What if our theories of Regionalism — inverted from normal expectations by our everyday experience — require a non-Euclidean conception? What if there is a "logic of the gadget" that automatically presumes what Lacan, in the same work, called "the alethosphere" — wave-form connectivity where, as we all experience, we "don't know what we know"? Where "we" convert to data fields, algorithms, and connectivities in a Late Capitalist "net of nets," where the No One in charge is true to its name: One and not One at the same time?

Keywords: cartographies, alethosphere, gadget theory, discontinuity, projective geometry, non-place

Brasília network with modern museums in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro: a new cartography for a historical view

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The second half of the 20th century in Brazil was the core of its modern national identity construction. This paper starts from two fundamental milestones of this process, which, at first sight, seem unrelated according to canonical Brazilian historiography: the inauguration (1960) of the new federal capital, Brasília, a modernist city planned from scratch; and the development of an art system along the axis formed by the two main metropolises, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, centered mainly on the brand-new museums of art and São Paulo Art Biennial. From the 1950s, these two historical events became fundamental points for the studies and practices in the fields of these country culture.

The purpose of this paper is to investigate the network from the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the consolidation of the Biennial and museums in the Southeast. This will be done mapping the agents that cross both spheres and cities.

It is possible to trace a new cartography of relationships between the two major landmarks: people who worked on them, exhibition roaming, and events done between the Ministry and the museums. Such networks were done between State and private cultural institutions. Based on Brasília after 1970, the Ministry was an engine for Brazilian culture inside and outside the country promoting artworks, collection and publications from these museums and Brazilian leading artists at that time.

This paper will draw the unprecedented network between Rio, São Paulo and Brasília, through cultural institutions and the State in the second half of the 20th century in Brazil.

Keywords: cartographies, museums, identity, art

Location: Brasilia, Brazil

Situating flows: an Alpine discourse

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The complexity of the Alpine region is now equivalent to the one of plain urban areas. The overlapping of different elements, activities, and issues concerning the alpine areas, together with the multiplication of the functional and symbolic meaning of the Alps, seems to require a multi-level governance response capable to address critical problems within the emerging environmental crisis. The question is however beyond ownership, and issues of power or jurisdiction, but rather around the recognition of the Alpine territory as encompassing territorial capital. By shifting urbanism focus into large 'operationalised landscapes', the contribution would explore the interplay of the multiplicity of processes of rationalization of the territory with the ongoing ecological transformation of the alpine area.

By shifting urbanism focus into large 'operationalised landscapes', through the lens of landscape as a 'way of seeing', working and reconstituting knowledge, the essay aims at empowering territorial research as a design tool proposing a series of cartographical analysis of the Alpine region in order to reframe its bio-political status and role, beyond borders and jurisdictions. Through the lens of landscape as a 'way of seeing', working and reconstituting knowledge, the essay argues for empowering territorial research as a design tool proposing a series of cartographical analysis of the Alpine region in order to reframe its bio-political status and role, beyond borders and jurisdictions. From cartographic operations of analysis and reconstruction of the alpine territory this work proposes three figures of space characterising the Alpine region. In the midst of the ongoing multiplicity of crises, the contribution argues for a widening need to describe the machinic territory as a way through which define future coexisting strategies to inhabit the territory. In doing so, transcending binaries of society/nature and urban/rural environments, and raising a series of questions stemming from the materiality of water in the frame of the current climate regime, the essay attempts to question the socio-ecological dynamics that the machinic condition of the mountain environment entails across the territory. While diverse forms of powers constitute the current conjuncture, it argues for an analysis which is constitutive of cities and their more-than-urban geographies, in order to address both the specificity of conflicts at the local scale and the larger web of political, economic and environmental processes in the broader one.

Keywords: cartographies, operationalised, mechanized, territory, landscape, power, climate change

Location: Alps

Dividing and representing land: the grid in pre-Hispanic and colonial Mexico

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As an investigation into questions of proximity and property relations, the paper examines the intrinsic relevance of the grid as a device to designate spatial land rights and living arrangements in colonial Mexico. The analysis proposes a confrontation of graphical representations embodied in the traces of two different grid forms: the pre-Hispanic Mexica grid in ancient Tenochtitlan, and the Spanish grid superimposed upon it. We are able to understand this development through the historical mapping of the city in Mexico. The documents of urban representation investigated in this chapter – indigenous codices and maps of European tradition – expose land use and urban organisation over time, and show how they become devices to measure, quantify and order land and life through an orchestrating grid form.

Indigenous codices reveal limited measurements of physical distance, and yet, their pictography represents community ideologies of proximity in relation to land use, ownership and social hierarchies. More importantly, they communicate the tradition of alliance-making which underpins the gridded urban articulation of Tenochtitlan. In contrast to the European grid, the Mexica grid does not designate a mere subdivision of land reduced to a line printed on a map. Instead, the indigenous grid consists of clustered compounds following an orthogonal order, tracing their ancestry back to Teotihuacan in 200-500 CE. In Tenochtitlan, a complex infrastructure of canals and causeways articulated the subdivision. Yet, the representations produced with European conventions of cartography prioritised abstraction through physical and numerical measurement of the city, its buildings and its subjects. A quantifiable record of relationships intended to inform, shape and project the colonial rule of governance, promoting subdivision and re-distribution of land in European terms. Nonetheless, the resilience of the compound ideology was evident in the domestic traditions that the Nahuas continued to practice.

Keywords: cartographies, grid, codices, indigenous, proximity, compound

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Hybrid Knowledge: Hybrid Mapping. A new methodology for socio-spatial research

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Since the 1960s, societies have experienced dramatic transformations in their social and spatial order (Löw/Knoblach 2020). These comprehensive spatial rearrangements, which can be traced back to the intensification of transnational forms of economic activity, upheavals in global political geography, the development and spread of digital communication technologies, and the increased circulation of people and goods call in to question the very notion of 'region'. Regions, as contained spaces ordered by territorial(ising) spatial logics, it is argued, should no longer be studied only as delimited territories, insofar as they potentially function simultaneously as networked space and territorial space. However, in order to study regions in this way, new methodologies are required to empirically grasp this complex process of ongoing re-figuration. Against this background, our contribution presents a hybrid mapping methodology which we have developed to address this challenge.

In 2018, we founded the working group « Hybrid Mapping Methods » hosted at the SFB 1265 'Re-figuration of Spaces'. Our aim is to develop a new hybrid mapping methodology at the interface of social science and spatial design, drawing together analytical and projective modes and combining both visual and textual means of inquiry. The approach enables multi-perspective data collection of different types of data, joint analysis, and finally visualisation of research results. We consider hybridity along three dimensions: the integration of heterogeneous data types; the entanglement of different spatial figures and spatial understandings (e.g., territorial & networked); the interdisciplinary inspiration between architecture, planning, sociology, anthropology, and geography.

Our contribution will present a critical evaluation of the methodology as it is applied in the interdisciplinary research project « hybrid knowledge: hybrid space at BGBM ». The project empirically investigates the spatial constitution of a regionally located global order associated with the Botanical Garden and Botanic Museum, Berlin (BGBM).

Keywords: cartographies, territory, networks, hybrid mapping, relational space

Location: Berlin, Germany

Towards a decolonial counter-cartography of the Border-Busters, Ireland, 1968-98

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Our paper will explore the “Border Busters” phenomena in Ireland – collective self-organised resistant actions to the politico-spatial colonial border during the so called “Troubles” (1968-1998).

Throughout the Troubles, the British Government closed unapproved routes across the UK/Irish border by destroying bridges and roads, installing Dragon’s Teeth and erecting checkpoints and watchtowers (Leary, 2018). Cross-community activists (distinct from paramilitary activity/smuggling) challenged these policies during “days of action” – using divergent tactics and collective mobilization of local communities and activists from across Ireland & the UK.

As part of our ongoing spatial art practice-based research Eile (see McCloskey and Vardy 2019, 2020a and 2020b), we are developing a counter-cartography of the Border-Busters, and our aim for the paper at Regions (in the centenary of the partition of Ireland), is to set out the rationale and need for such a counter-cartography. In doing so, we hope to draw out some of the complex situated and historical dynamics of space, politics, culture and solidarity that reflect our work’s attempts to disrupt or destabilise fixed and engrained narratives of borders and border regions.

The cartography will critically draw into relation assemblages of hitherto under-researched ephemera, images, interviews and documentation. Counter-cartographies enable a reordering and re-articulation of knowledge and experiences of events – a process “that fundamentally questions the assumptions or biases of cartographic conventions, that challenges predominant power effects of mapping, or that engages in mapping in ways that upset power relations” (Harris and Hazen 2005, 115).

While acknowledging that border communities have, since the 1920s, lived with partition, we argue that deeper shared understandings of histories of partition, paying attention to lost, hidden or diminished narratives, are crucial, particularly in light of contemporary political turmoil. We ask how analysis of this historical moment from a specifically decolonial position might permit alternative histories of partition to emerge.

Keywords: cartographies, partition, geopolitics, borders

Location: Ireland

REGION THEME:

CONFLICT

Papers that explore the built environment impacts of regional conflict, colonialism and resistance

Decolonial future imaginaries: indigenous public art as repositories of memory, sites of storytelling and contemporary resurgence in Winnipeg, Manitoba

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"We call upon the federal government, In collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal organizations, and the arts community, to develop a reconciliation framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration". This is the 79th call to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, (2015); a call that is being answered in the region of Treaty One Territory, Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada, through an influx of urban public art. Funding from arts organizations have begun to designate public art commissions to Indigenous artists, giving space to (re)write and (re)map the urban landscape through creative placemaking. These contemporary works have begun to shift the narrative, contest settler colonial myths and to decolonize public space, illustrating that Winnipeg is very much an Indigenous city.

Using storytelling as a method of analysis, I will investigate sites and works of public art such as: The Forks, Air Canada Park and The Rapid Transit Line, and specifically the works Niimaamaa (2019), by Jaimie Isaac, K.C. Adams and Val Vint; Electrical Currents (2018), by Julie Nagam; O-ween du muh waun (We Were Told) by Rebecca Belmore and Osvaldo Yero; and Rooster Town Kettle and Fetching Water (2019), by Ian August. This system of inquiry works through a transformative lens where I will function in a space between the epistemology and ontology, of both Western and Indigenous worldviews, to see with two eyes, while recognizing each work as a repository of memory that unsettles and promotes Indigenous resurgence.

By acknowledging my position as a White female settler scholar, I conduct my research with a feminist lens, through a decolonial intersectional framework. Intersectionality acknowledges that: "All cultures have intersections or places where people cross paths...the places where people cross paths are often meeting places, spaces where different people engage with one another..." Sites of public art can provide tangible intersections in geographical areas, where people from different cultures and communities can gather, learn and engage. In less tangible, more theoretical ways, intersectionality provides an analytical framework that is flexible, fluid and involves a constant shifting of perspectives. This is a complex approach, but necessary as I (re)think colonial hierarchies through visual expressions of public art.

Keywords: conflict, contested, historiographies, public art, storytelling, memory, indigenous, reconciliation, postcolonial, feminism

Location: Winnipeg, Canada

Deterritorialization of stasis: mapping the urban activist imaginaries in the divided city of Famagusta, Cyprus

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The University of Sheffield, UK

The de-facto territorial division of Cyprus continue to violently dismantle the relations between cultures, communities, and ecologies across the island. The hegemonic structures that maintain the conditions of frozen conflict tend to become invisible under ethnocentric spatial narratives that are rooted in the colonial histories of the island. Focusing on Famagusta, a divided city on the eastern coast of the island, the study aims to interrogate the social and environmental/material enclosures of the city as well as the sense of normalcy that together form an urban stasis. Dikec (2013) contests the stillness that normalises everydayness of urban stasis by pointing out to the disruptiveness embedded within such condition, allowing emergence of alternative practices that challenge authoritarianism. The paper claims a critical position by focusing on such disruptive imaginaries generated by grassroots urban activism situated within the precarious conditions of Famagusta where the hegemonic practices retain urban stasis to take control of urban processes.

This paper, firstly, aims to investigate the colonial processes of territorialization in the island, particularly the conditions urban stasis in Famagusta city. Then, it turns towards the grassroots urban activism, as practices of deterritorialization (Deleuze and Guattari, 1972, 1980), that disrupt such hegemonical enclosures and division(s) through claiming agencies and creating new relations. Drawing from the on-the-ground engagements with urban activists, the paper studies localised stories to map the urban activists' spatial imaginaries that manifest across the divisions in the city. Tracing these stories on a map as urban imaginaries reveal an alternative image of the city that disrupts urban stasis.

Keywords: conflict, contested, deterritorialization, division, post-conflict, postcolonial, activism, mapping

Location: Famagusta, Cyprus

Parallel Regions: exploring the intermediate space between the design studio and the post-conflict city

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How can architectural tools be used to communicate the ongoing turbulence that permeates in post-conflict contexts? This paper discusses regionality as existing between two spaces - the first space is construed through the drawing out of the lingering ghosts of conflict in Northern Ireland, and concerns how modes of drawing can allow for their interpretation on the fabric of its cities and landscapes. The second space concerns the displaced context of the design studio, and the exaggeration of this displacement as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The design studio's distance from its sites of concern is often accepted as a benign characteristic of architectural drawing processes. This paper aims to show how regions that harbour difficult heritages can be framed usefully as an examination of this distance, and so aid both in the understanding of places marred by troubled pasts alongside the promotion of a developed understanding of the limits of normative drawing practices.

In order to substantiate this aim, the paper will look closely at a selection of student projects generated in response to an MArch architecture design studio brief situated in Belfast that ran at Newcastle University in 2019/20, titled: 'Objects from the Post-Conflict City'. The projects presented reveal a range of methods for examining this distance. One mode of working developed around installations that utilised questions of subjectivity and framing to help us understand the legacy of conflict within a site. Other practices involve archaeological and narrative techniques that conflate contemporary and ancient histories in the region. These highly material practices became disincorporated as a result of the evacuation of the studio spaces in March 2020. This doubled distancing, first of student to site, and then of student to their own working practices, forms the basis for the discussion.

Keywords: conflict, contested, design studio, drawing, heritage, ghosts

Location: Belfast, Northern Ireland

Cordon Sanitaire

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This paper investigates an observation post on the 'Peace Line' between the Falls and the Shankill Road areas [fig. 1]. It considers the monitoring of this social divide as a social division in itself, or 'cordon sanitaire'. Foucault's lead-in to panoptic theory explores the examination, normalising judgement, the army camp, and 'means of correct training' as mechanisms which establish disciplinary power in urban space in an era of mass urbanisation. In Foucault's account, 'means of correct training' rendered 'docile bodies' compliant. His discourse allows us to consider inspections at observation posts as 'micro-technologies of power'. Here, I reflect on how gendered space is constructed within these categories, identifying where it agitates and disturbs the panoptic model. Within Belfast's surveillance network, as within Foucault's discourses, I uncover hierarchical spaces and excluded femininities. How were these contested spaces affected by the establishment of invisible panoptic networks, coded cartographies, and surveillance operations? How did symbolic rituals of domination, resistance, spectacle and punishment construct gendered identities?

Observation posts operated as instruments of division, as components in a dispersed network, as mechanisms for coding space, and as rituals of control. In considering the effects of observation posts, postcolonial themes of liminality, hybridity, subalternity, identity, mimicry and language emerge. I will map these against key themes identified in the spatial biography of this observation post. I will identify the buffer zones, interfaces and in-between spaces constructed by the urban surveillance network surrounding the barracks. I will investigate how observation posts embodied colonial tools of surveillance, delineated boundaries, identified spaces of domination and resistance and constructed gendered territories. I will explore their role in 'othering' social spaces and in polarising fragmented identities. Through military records, oral histories, and films, I will reveal how these micro spaces were inhabited, in the exclaves and enclaves of the North Howard Street Barracks.

Keywords: conflict, contested, observation posts, militarised space, panopticism, postcolonial, othering, hybrid identities, gender, liminality, mapping

Location: Belfast, Northern Ireland

Mind the gap in the map: contains conflict and loss - ghost town Varosha

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In October 2020, with an initiative by the Turkish Cypriot government, two main streets of Varosha opened to the public. This strong political act has revealed how 46 years of ongoing conflict has affected the once-rising tourism centre and put Varosha back on the maps again. The paper looks at the conflict and loss that recent governmental actions triggered and how it affected the remembrance of this contested geography. Those will be done by a critical investigation of both physical and mental mapping of this contested geography through digital ethnography and archival research.

Varosha was once the rising tourism centre of the Mediterranean, with a modernist urban layout ahead of its time, which predates the confident dissemination of modern architecture in Cyprus. But memories of leisure and recreation were violently replaced by those of war and conflict that emerged during the 1974 division of the island. Since then, Varosha has been a bargaining chip in the Cyprus peace talks, left uninhabited and off the maps.

After 46 years with the opening of Democracy Avenue and John Kennedy Avenue, this ghostly urban remnant is open to the public for the first time. Displaying valuable itinerary to religious and cultural buildings, a thread of leisure spaces symbolizing the splendid days of the 70s. While those memories trapped in vacant buildings, Varosha is rapidly transforming into being an open-air museum of tragedy. At the expense of destroying previous residents values, people visiting the district as tourists are not just establishing new meanings to these empty shells of Varosha but also admiring the loss caused by the conflict. By contrast, this paper shows how crucial it is to manage this traumatic past and put Varosha back on the maps in a fair and just manner by addressing all values associated with this contested space as well as engaging with local communities that have long lived in conflict.

Keywords: conflict, contested, ghosts, memory

Location: Varosha, Cyprus

Beyond the State: revolution in Arab region and city

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During the Arab Spring, Arab cities became revolutionary centres, not only nationally, but regionally and globally. At astonishing pace, these cities and their iconic public spaces turned beacons of revolutionary practices. Particularly, the event generated a relationship between the city and the region—at the expense of the state—as a distinct site of research. However, this tendency soon waned as counterrevolution spread across the region and resulted in divergent national trajectories, from democracy to civil war. The regional and urban nature of the event turned into a 'state-of-play' for each state.

Prior to the Arab Spring, research on the region—using various terms such as Middle East and North Africa, Arab region, Arab world, or West Asia—was preoccupied with authoritarianism, religiosity, and development. Similarly, research on Arab cities oscillated between two broad paradigms: The first focused on the struggle between tradition and modernity in the Arab city and manifested in the distinction between the built environment of the medina and the modern city. In the second paradigm, Arab cities were primarily considered centres of violence and decline due to (neo)colonisation, dictatorship, and migration.

Using the city of Tunis, this presentation will show how revolution has disrupted conventional meanings of Arab region and city, necessitating innovative approaches for urban and architectural research. Given its transition to democracy, Tunisia is often touted as an exceptional case in the region. I argue that foregrounding Tunis in the study of revolution disturbs this exceptional status and instead suggests an exemplar one. A spatial and architectural reading of the city demonstrates that Tunis embodies polemics in its built environment that facilitate new meanings of Arab region and city. Rather than solely elevating the nation-state, revolution has reinforced the importance of region and city for future urban and architectural trajectories.

Keywords: conflict, contested, Arab Spring, revolution

Location: Tunis, Tunisia

Performance of the in-between Region: an affective methodology to reflect on the exceptional bi-communal buffer zone village

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'Pyla- Who hasn't heard of it? It is the only village in Cyprus, located inside the buffer zone, where the Greek and Turkish Cypriots live peacefully side by side' (UNFICYP 1995, p.7).

In February 1995, the UN published these lines in order to demonstrate the notion of a new balanced conflict-free regional pattern to the inhabitants of Cyprus (Turkish and Greek Cypriots and beyond), through which peace could be sustained. In this sense, these lines could be understood as part of the process of normalisation. An image schema of bi-communality is established as a result of this process. Following this, the UN performed this image schema in order to constitute a model and a set of assumptions about the reality of bi-communality, which were unconsciously engraved on to the minds of Pyla inhabitants and the entire Cyprus.

In this paper, I argue that the categorisation and normalisation processes of the UN mandate can be understood through the established image schemas in the village which circulate within the social body. Johnson (1987) introduced the idea of the image schema as a fundamental model for individuals' spatial experiences (1). At the same time, he emphasised the relationship between the establishment of the individuals' reality and power relations. As a result, bodily experiences are formed unconsciously by the consequences of power relations and its objects. Furthermore, this paper aims to consider the concept of 'regions' by Goffman as an affective methodology to explore how the normalised buffer zone village becomes part of a social architectural performance. Goffman (1990, p.66) defined region as 'any place that is bounded to some degree by barriers to perception'. By introducing Goffman's concepts of region and its performance, this paper aims to uncover the multiplicity of the performance of this in-between region and to critically reflect on the complexity and the contradicted notion of the performance of some of the regions within this bi-communal buffer zone village.

(1) Experience... is to be understood in a very rich, broad sense as including basic perceptual, motor-program, emotional, historical, social and linguistic dimensions. (Johnson 1987; p.xvi)

Keywords: conflict, contested, performance, politics

Location: Pyla, Cyprus

De-territorializing bi-communal divisions in Nicosia

George Themistokleous

para-sight, UK (<https://www.para-sight.org/>)

The Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Cyprus has recently placed an 11km razor fence along the Buffer zone in the district of Nicosia. Whilst the minister claims the purpose of installing the fence is to stop illegal migrants, it is really part of a number of deliberate attempts to make the buffer zone a hard border. This divisive strategy is apparent with the closing of the checkpoint crossings that started on Feb. 28, 2020. Ever since then an expanding range of 'pandemic' measures have reinforced the hard border, even though international flights have been ongoing. In *A Thousand Plateaus*, Deleuze and Guattari explain how the State apparatus 'proceeds by a One-Two, distributes binary distinctions, and forms a milieu of interiority. It is a double articulation that makes the State apparatus into a stratum' (2010, 3). In terms of space itself Deleuze and Guattari use chess and Go to articulate how the state territorializes, and becomes de-territorialized by counter-forces. According to the authors 'chess pieces are coded; they have an internal nature and intrinsic properties from which their movements, situations, and confrontations derive' (2010, 4). On the other hand, Go pieces are 'pellets, disks, simple arithmetic units, and have only an anonymous, collective, or third-person function' (2010, 5). Hence grassroots movements, such as WsDame, that have protested the State's divisive strategies by meeting at different parts of the border wall reveal how these communal subjectivities that are de-centred or pushed to the regions, can mobilize, spring-up and deterritorialize. In a similar way as to Go where 'it is a question of arraying oneself in an open space, of holding space, of maintaining the possibility of springing up at any point: the movement is not from one point to another, but becomes perpetual, without aim or destination, without departure or arrival' (2010, 5).

Keywords: conflict, contested, deterritorialization, borders, pandemic, grassroots, buffer zone

Location: Nicosia, Cyprus

REGION THEME:

CRAFT & HOME

Papers that explore regional values and craft vernaculars in the context of the home and interior design

The impact of women's roles in changing home spaces in contemporary Azerbaijani homes in Iran

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The variations in the role of gender are one of the significant consequences of social and economic structural changes in society after the Iranian constitutional revolution (The second half of the 19th century) [1]. The traditional roles were considered breadwinner and present outdoors for men and home-made roles for women; have undergone many changes during this period [2]. Today's woman has played perhaps her most prolific role in modern architecture, as an idea-maker and effective person of twentieth-century production houses [3].

Of course, the role of women has changed far more than the men, so advance the role of gender has become synonymous with changing the type of activities and duties of women in society. One of the most significant factors in changing women's roles in housework was the training given to women after the 19th century. During this training, European-American concepts of home space and home design became part of the life of the Iranian people [4]. In these circumstances, women's education and working with men outside the home, and men's working at home with their wives, and transforming women's fashion dress have changed the family's structure [5].

This paper aims to recognize the changes in the role of women in society and their impact on the home spaces alteration in the current modern life in Azerbaijan, Iran. Furthermore, by recognizing the evolution of the role of women in the context of Iran, this paper will critique the disciplinary regional power which normalizes the values, and accordingly, it will introduce the impact of the disciplinary power in architecture typologies of everyday life - home users. Finally, through the use of ethnographic and anthropologic research methods the paper aims to open up discussion on the embedded meaning of normalized regional values in the architecture and their dialectic confrontation with globalization.

Keywords: home, gender, power

Location: Azerbaijan, Iran

Versions of Home: image, surface and simultaneous projection in housing design

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When presented with images relating to contemporary housing developments – the marketing renders, the photographs, or the graphics applied to site hoarding - we are offered multiple, simultaneous versions of these projects. I would argue that each of these sets of images have equal ontological rights to each other – the hoarding images that represent 'lifestyle' form a social and cultural understanding of a development and its intended audience in a way that exists simultaneously to the images of the completed building, or the renders of its proposed form.

This paper will explore the relationship between the images that are generated in the support of speculative housing design and its marketing, and the surfaces to which they respond and are projected from. This will respond broadly to the theme of 'Crafted Regions' and will discuss the way in which three surfaces relating to housing development – hoarding, facade and screen – project images that simultaneously and cumulatively suggest an idea of the home that relates to heritage and vernacular in terms of material and form.

The paper ties up some of the themes of my PhD research, which takes a material culture approach to understanding the physical and digital surfaces that inform the design of housing. I consider these to be 'effective surfaces' as coined by Stephen Walker (2018), which project values and ideas onto the areas that they enclose. Following Baxi & Martin, we understand that the images these surfaces project and the values they reproduce become self-referential, and with Massumi, that these can only have affect after the 'apparatuses of actualization' are engaged. Much of the work is informed by Baudrillard and notions of social status and objects, and by Colomina on the idea of media as the site where architecture is encountered.

Keywords: home, heritage, material, media, marketing

Quilting In The Round: an analysis of the potential for the material identity of Ruth Clement Bond's and Rosa Marie Thomas' TVA quilts to envelop three-dimensionally carved furniture forms

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"Quilting In The Round" investigates the material identity of Ruth Clement Bond's and Rosa Marie Thomas' TVA quilts and the potential for merging the quilt stories into carved furniture forms. The following research explores material identity based on the roles of fabric characteristics, composition, structure, texture, pattern, relief, construction and the quilts' stories of vernacular, culture, site, space, and place. The quilts Bond designed and Thomas' hand-crafted were for the spouses of Tennessee Valley Authority Black male laborers and were part of a "home beautification" project (Museum of Arts and Design, 2017). The designs further developed into an initiative that empowered the entrepreneurial spirit of Black women to use craft as a method of creating a sense of place and home (Museum of Arts and Design, 2017).

Knowledge procured from the material identity study of the quilt works develops understanding beyond the visual surface and preconceptions of materials. The narrative of the object is linked to the material identity that informs the form and beholder. Bond and Thomas compose visual documentaries with their arrangement of art and design elements and principles. The sensibility of the design and making process is associated with the socio-cultural experiences. Researching the materiality of the quilts reveals the embedded identities within the objects.

The material identity discovered by the research informs strategies for connecting the two-dimensional quilt compositions to carved furniture reliefs. A viewer's proximity to the furniture and the sequence of engagement with the form challenges how to visually communicate the story into a three-dimensional design. The narrative organization requires an understanding of how the beholder sees and physically interacts with the functional form. Digital 3D modeling, digital material rendering, and existing research of how people experience furniture afford the study a transference of the material identity from a two-dimensional to three-dimensional canvas.

Keywords: craft, materiality, furniture, carving, quilts, narrative, digital

Location: Tennessee, USA

Authority and romance: queer world-making and the modernist home

Sergio Preston

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The 1920s and 30s saw frequent travel between international networks of queer communities, from burgeoning gay liberation in Weimar Berlin, to Gertrude Stein's Parisian salons, to LGBT enclaves around New York City, to those neighborhoods which would earn San Francisco a reputation as the "gay capital of the world." Queer people lived in and traveled between these regions of resistance, "this network or 'family' [let them] be at home in any city in the world" (Betsky 1997).

More than a way of experiencing the world, these networks provided conditions for new ways of producing the world. Modern architecture offered means for some queer artists to materialize—for the first time—the specific parameters of their own lives. In alliance with Modernist aesthetics, these homes were ways to not only spatialize new domestic, familial realities, but also to reimagine a world within which they were included.

This paper compares two queer families of artists in relation to their homes, offering examples from what Alberto Sartoris identified as the two primary lineages of Modernism: European, 'authoritative' architecture, on the one hand, and the 'paradigmatic Romantic' architecture of the US on the other. In the first case, I analyze the mixed gender three-way relationship at the center of the Pool Group—a loose constellation of interwar artists—in relation to Villa Kenwin, their Sartoris (et al) designed Swiss home. In the second, I study a homosexual male trio who designed, built, and (briefly) occupied Hangover House in Laguna Beach, California.

The central focus of this comparison is how the adoption of Modernist architecture was a means for these queer families to construct homes suited to their non-heteronormative domestic needs, and an analysis of the regionally inflected opportunities afforded by Modernism within a larger project of 'queer world-making' (Berlant & Warner 1998).

Keywords: home, gender, queer, LGBT, modern art

Location: Lake Geneva, Switzerland; Laguna Beach, California, USA

REGION THEME:

DISPLACEMENT

Papers that explore the temporary and permanent architectures of displaced and resettled populations

Material culture and decolonisation: post-partition Lahore

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The partition of India led to 12 million people being displaced and about half a million losing their lives. The event of the creation of Pakistan led to mass migrations that were not only across the borders but also intra-city. Lahore was predominantly populated with Hindus and Sikhs before partition and post-partition not only the two mentioned left, but along with their belongings also took their skills, which resulted in the lack of skilled workers and craftspeople all over the city. This led to predominantly colonial-era crafts becoming an integral part of colonial homes, particularly in cantonments. With the need in Lahore for skilled people from all across the newly born country, many rural-urban migrations took place in search of better livelihoods and opportunities which resulted in the cross-over of material culture. After the trauma of conflict and colonial supremacy, the people of Lahore built their homes and appropriated their occupied spaces according to their own identity and sense of familiarity. This research explores the notion of decolonization of home through objects. The paper will focus on personal archives and the range of objects that are associated with migration. The detailed investigation of the decolonization of objects from the collection will be of a pair of rattan chairs, silver glass, and a cutlery set. The research brings forth a decolonized version of and highlights the process of setting up an archive that is beyond a cabinet of curiosity to provide an example of how re-interpretation of material culture can play a part in decolonizing our homes. Examples include restoration of abandoned objects through adaptive re-use and archiving. The research also aims to document the historical narrative associated with the decoloniality of the objects, processes with which they are restored, and reinterpretation of archives and curation.

Keywords: displacement, partition, material culture, narrative, archive, postcolonial, home

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

[Non]scalable volatile temporalities in the refugee camp: thinking the ethics of GCRF agile response through affective corporeality

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This paper aims at providing an epistemological account on non-scalability as a value necessary for an ethical mode of emergency response in refugee camps' settings. It accounts for the religious, cultural, and environmental values existing within the materiality of the volatile temporalities in the refugee camp, it also critiques the colonialist inheritance existing within "scale-ability" as a value that is assumed, promised and measured by Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF). While forged through collaborations between UK-based universities, and south-based universities/ entities, these "partnerships" recall from the past colonial hierarchies that continue to shape the political economies of these collaborations in our contemporary world. Eventually, the GCRF obsession with up-scaling research impact making it fit-able for a regional scale contributes to producing forms of governmentalities, meta-infrastructures and spatialities that disguise the ontological and epistemological qualities existing with volatile temporalities in the refugee camp.

This paper builds on my experience as a south-based female co-I on a GCRF-agile research project taking place in Za'atari refugee camp; it utilises scale as a correlational matter that works across ontological and epistemological registers. Accordingly, I ground my critique of the GCRF agile response in the corporeality of my affective experience while being part of the research team. Mainly through reflecting on a chronic "migraine" that had/has companioned me through the time of our research design and implementation. As I parallel the history of intense migraine episodes with the continuous attempts to up-scale our research interventions, I argue for slow, attentive and careful ethics of response that accounts for the materiality of volatile temporalities in Za'atari refugee camp. In conclusion, this paper contests the assumed amenability of GCRF research interventions to "scalability"; it offers a non-scalable approach that considers the intimate entanglements that are constructed transversally across religion, culture, and environment.

Keywords: displacement, nonscalability, affect, corporeality, ethics, refugee camps

Location: Za'atari, Syria

Between host and guest, sedimentations of border (in) hospitality

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Università di Trieste, Italy

The region of our University, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, on the border between Italy and Slovenia, is an Austrian region until 1918 when becomes Italian. After World War II part of these Italian territories passes to Yugoslavia. The city of Gorizia is cut in two by barbed wire. Neighbourhoods arise to accommodate exiles leaving the territories become Yugoslav and military barracks for the many soldiers guarding the Iron Curtain.

In the 1990s, the region hosts refugees fleeing the conflict in the ex-Yugoslavia. Today it is crossed by migrants heading for northern Europe via the Balkan route.

These flows of temporary inhabitants and people in transit have marked the region with a range of hospitable/inhospitable architectures: Vienna Secession villas and guesthouses for Austrian holidaymakers, social housing for post-war refugees, military barracks now converted into migrant identification centres and other places not purpose-built: makeshift places used as first refuge for post-war exiles are now illegally occupied by migrants who prefer to stay in precarious accommodation than in institutional facilities (Altin, 2020).

All places for temporary collective life showing what makes architecture inhospitable (Fassin, 2016), what makes housing a label of marginalisation (Zetter, 1991), how identity features can connote architecture making it homely and how, on the contrary, can mark exclusion. Gorizia and Slovenian counterpart, Nova Goriza, have together been nominated European Capital of Culture 2025: an opportunity to reflect also on Architectural Culture, in which displacement, mobile identities and border hospitality have stratified in an emblematic sedimentation, substratum of a potential cross-border region.

Keywords: displacement, (in)hospitality, mobile identities, cross-border

Location: Gorizia, Italy

REGION THEME:

HERITAGE

Papers that explore the incorporation and invention of regional architecture and culture as heritage assets

Cultural expression: an identity in search for continuity, Tera village, India

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In Architectural expressions of Kutch, India a regional emphasis is blend of lifestyle, climate, materials, skills, traditions, culture. Built un-built spaces present a narrative of Kutch which is authentic and original in its attribute to place-making. This paper envisages a research that aims at reviving the communities practicing handicrafts of Tera Village, Kutch, Gujarat, India. This 500 years old village has been declared "heritage village" by the State Government of India because of factors which blends together and enhances the beauty of village. Being heritage asset it is still unexplored.

In order to enhance social influence of creativity, creating an interdisciplinary approach for experimentation and innovation is necessary. This can be accomplished via reviving defunct art settlements as they showcase a cultural connect with setting. The Kutch earthquake of 2001 has forced many people to migrate because globalization, trade competition, industrialization, and modernization have decreased handicrafts as a source of income.

The idea is to create global meeting platform for local handicraft communities, art lovers from all the creative personas, tourists to interact, learn and express creativity. Exploring participative building process by strengthening community support in traditional built methods to preserve regionalism. Thus, vernacular Architecture not only becomes an important medium to develop art and design, but also livelihood system and economy. The proper facilities will enhance quality of life, improve economic condition and will help artisans to connect to world and gain identity. It will add on Tourism of Tera which will enhance heritage value of the village.

Although Art, Culture with Artists forms significant role in shaping society, quality of space can enhance the user and visitor's experience. This paper presents one such research-based proposal that shows how such subjects can be handled with respect to the socio-cultural connotations, with the aid of funding from government organizations and NGOs.

Keywords: heritage, village, live museum

Location: Tera Village, Gujarat, India

Southwestern fantasy: the strange case of Pueblo Revival in Northern New Mexico

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A particular aura and status is often ascribed to Northern New Mexico, one of the longest continuously inhabited regions of the United States. The city of Santa Fe was founded in 1607 by Spanish colonists, making it the second oldest municipality in the country. The Taos Pueblo 115 km miles north has been around even longer—its adobe dwellings may have been first constructed in 1000 CE and continuously remodeled in the centuries since. Go further back, and the Ancestral Pueblo (formerly known as Anasazi) peoples operated major great houses in such places as Chaco Canyon from 850 CE and abandoned in 1250 CE, the ruins of which remain in situ.

Today, a visitor to Northern New Mexico will encounter numerous examples of "Pueblo Revival" architecture that give the tourist the distinct impression that the region's vernacular architectural language has remained static for millennia.

But that's the thing. The "Pueblo Revival" building language is less than a hundred years old, and it was largely the result of one man's initiative: local architect John Gaw Meem (1894-1983), who solidified a modern take on ancient indigenous building forms. This process, mirroring Bertram Goodhue's contemporary influence on Southern California regarding Mission Revival architecture, produces an effect akin to what landscape designer Wade Graham characterized as the "romantic city" in his 2016 book *Dream Cities*. In New Mexico, the Pueblo Revival form, propped up by local municipal building codes, concretizes a nostalgic fantasy about the Southwest through what are essentially Venturian sheds decorated with imitation adobe.

In this paper, I'll use a narrative nonfiction approach to parse the strange history of this architectural motif, one that lends a Disney-esque façade to the region, but a style that many visitors and locals nevertheless appreciate.

Keywords: heritage, Pueblo Revival, indigeneity, vernacular, nostalgia, journalism

Location: Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

Regional cultural heritage and contemporary art museums: recontextualizing the British cultural landscape

Kathryn Brown

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National Lottery Funding has had a transformative impact on the landscape for contemporary art in Britain since the 1990s and has been a catalyst for regional development. Specifically, this source of funding has led to the opening of new institutions and the commissioning of innovative architecture including, for example, The Baltic (Newcastle), Firstsite (Colchester), Turner Contemporary (Margate), and Nottingham Contemporary. The use of lottery funding to support such projects has, however, attracted criticism on the grounds that Arts Councils seem to enrich an arts sector that disproportionately serves more affluent members of society. While scholars have debated the role of contemporary art institutions in programmes of regional regeneration, this paper focuses more specifically on the relationship between these flagship institutions and the concept of regional heritage. The analysis is motivated by three primary questions: In light of the fact most regional museums of contemporary art in Britain are non-collecting institutions, are such institutions primarily transitory exhibitions spaces that fail to impact on the region's long-term cultural identity? If the field of contemporary art is driven by the London-based dealer and auction house apparatus, does the creation of regional exhibition spaces simply reinforce an existing economic and cultural imbalance between London and the regions? Finally, as regional museums are increasingly integrated into national art networks such as Plus Tate, does this result in cultural homogenization that fails to respond to the needs and interests of different local audiences? These questions are investigated by examining the exhibition practices and activities of British contemporary art museums and contrasting them with selected European examples.

Keywords: heritage, contemporary art, lottery funding, museums, networks

Location: England

Between the devil and the deep blue sea: the application of machine learning towards a new urban vernacular in Liverpool's UNESCO Maritime Mercantile City buffer zone

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Our technological evolution to the post-digital age has resulted in an unprecedented challenge to the identity and authorship of the architect within the design process. Improvements in computer processing power have provided alternate means of instantly decoding complex design problems through generative algorithms that imitate the evolutionary processes of nature. Machine learning has further exacerbated this slow creep into the designer's remit through the computing power of big dataset analysis and processing. This paper explores the impact that machine learning may have on architectural and urban design disciplines, illustrated by experimentation on the transposition of urban forms generated from a dataset of existing images, delivering a new urban vernacular.

The work is located inside the under threat Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City UNESCO World Heritage Buffer Zone and proposes a hypothetical 'new' urban form within the zone, generated from a dataset of existing images of Liverpool through machine learning processes. This speculative 'new' buffer zone is proposed to mediate between the stakeholders of community, UNESCO and business between priorities of world heritage site heritage preservation, liveability and economic fitness by generating forms uniquely derived only from existing data and patterns of the City.

The study analyses the human-centred issues that this methodology introduces, identifying obvious limitations and exploring future applications. The paper concludes by speculating on the impact that machine learning processes may have on the intellectual property rights and authorship of the architect. It outlines a strategy to proactively position the discipline outside the conflict between a protracted time intensive iterative human-centred design and the rapid onset of automated processing represented by machine learning processes.

Keywords: heritage, mercantile, maritime, machine learning, hinterland

Location: Liverpool, England

Urban sensory experience as Regional: the lost street musicians of Istiklal Street, Istanbul

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Istiklal Street is a site associated with most of the most critical cases for history, tangible and intangible heritage, cultural memory, social and community life in Istanbul. It has physically reshaped after the 2000s due to the rapid construction, renovation, restoration projects, and new urban policies. The Street's socio-cultural nature and spatial morphologies have got new faces. The multi-layered, regional sensory compositions of the area changed dramatically.

Although we are immersed in different sensory experiences that are integral parts of urban places' regional identity, the Street has been examined chiefly by visual terms. Even though the auditory, olfactory, haptic dimensions began to be transformed one by one, there has been a neglect of the multi-dimension sensory experiences of the Street in the literature. In the context of this study, we have mainly talked about the auditory dimensions of the area.

The starting point of the study is based on the loss of the music band 'Kara Güneş' (Black Sun) mixed traditional Anatolian folk songs with diverse instruments. While this band left the Street, new music from Syrian refugees living in Istanbul started to be frequently heard. This study asserts that the musicians' position was vital while socio-cultural and physical compositions changed. The street musicians are the colourful and perhaps unruly components of Istiklal Street; they create its regional, hybrid auditory constitution.

The findings disclosed the sound elements of Istiklal Street are responsible for the area's regional, and fragile distinctive sensory uniqueness in Istanbul. Istiklal Street's regional auditory features eroded and modified unavoidably. The ineffectiveness of common sense has resulted in important controversies. The challenge was based on the sudden and top-down decisions, wrong-driven implementations and bodily experiences of the area. The study's outputs have been productive in the context of urban heritage, ethnographies of the urban places.

Keywords: heritage, auditory, experiential, intangible, performance

Location: Istanbul, Turkey

Edinburgh's Edges: a critical reading of the New Waterfront and Architecture in Voids in a World Heritage City

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Stefano Boeri writes: "Today 60% of the European urban population live outside the limits of the city that was built and consolidated by the end of the second-half of the last century". As Patrick Geddes explained of this territory between Edinburgh and Glasgow as a mix of poor-quality architecture, in the outskirts of the city with gated communities The city hidden behind privilege, and the periphery is the storm of the areas in the cities and regions, areas that explode with re-use of hinterland.

Edinburgh is a World Heritage site; The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh are one of the most beautiful cityscapes in the world. The unique character of the city comes from the striking contrast between the medieval Old Town and the Georgian New Town.

In this paper we speculate about the new and current architecture of Edinburgh's present from the Waterfront to the rebuilding of the 1970's St James Centre into what now is called St James Quarter. We use the concept of the region to articulate three architectural qualities, continuity (Moneo), memory and permanence (Rossi). In his book *21 Works* Rafael Moneo explains that when we intervene in a new context in the city we need to learn from the past, but our project has also got to add to the city of the future, a concept he refers as "continuity". Taking Rossi's masterpiece *The Architecture of the City* and the backdrop of Neoliberal Urbanism (Christopher Marcinkoski) we look at these qualities to explain the region and critically like Rossi did question the neoliberal models appearing in the city, mentioned at the end of his book. He states that the city-region that Jean Gottman refers to will be the next biggest question in the European city.

Keywords: heritage, waterfront, memory, continuity

Location: Edinburgh, Scotland

Reclaiming regional identity: in pursuit of spontaneity

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Contemporary Architect Hwang Doo-jin was asked, "What can the world community learn from Korean Architecture?" He responded, "Nature is not something that you can work on; it's something you should work with." Perhaps Korea is re-learning this, but the roots of this philosophy have been embedded in Korean culture for centuries. Rapid development in the post-war era led to a detour towards large-scale western urbanization strategies that minimized residents' connections with nature. Large urban highway systems and dense apartment blocks replaced the traditional neighborhoods. But recent shifts in redevelopment and a return to Korean aesthetic principles have led to a rededication to restoring this regional identity. Beginning in the 1990s with projects such as Cheonggyecheon Stream, sites were reclaimed as natural public amenities for residents.

The importance of craft and the process of making underlay Korean aesthetic principles and their close relationship with the environment. Shamanism and Buddhism traditionally established this embrace of nature, and we see many architectural manifestations, particularly in mountain temples and vernacular hanok houses. Traditional mountain temples were not drawn, but were often designed and built on site, integrating natural features to maximize the buildings' performance with passive strategies. The Korean term Mak refers to something unrefined, hastily made, or spontaneous. It emphasizes the act of creation, and fondness of the unexpected. The imperfections that are associated with the process of making by hand are fully embraced. In contemporary Korean architecture, we see a return to these ideals; a focus on Korean aesthetics and harmony with nature reveal a renewed approach to the duality of identity and sustainable design. This paper will highlight the ways in which contemporary Korean architects incorporate spontaneity in their work, through a comparison of contemporary projects, in order to distill current approaches to shaping Korea's contemporary regional identity.

Keywords: heritage, craft, nature, identity

Location: Korea

The architectural and urban heritage in Eritrea – an approach for conservation

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Eritrea is situated in a strategic location of the Horn of Africa. Asmara is a capital city located in the centre of the country on a highland plateau. The city was founded on a site where four ancient villages are settled. Its modern development began in 1889 with its occupation by Italy. The city became experimental laboratory for the application of modern architecture and urban planning ideas in accordance with its geographical, cultural and local contexts. The city possesses one of the largest concentration of modernist architecture in the world. Asmara is an outstanding example of the interchange of cultural influences brought about by the encounter with modernity in an African context and bears exceptional testimony to the combination of modern urban planning and modernist architecture in Africa region.

In many African cities and other regions, 20th century architectural heritages have been massively destroyed and swept away from the historic urban landscape under the pretext of modernization, economic growth and searching for new identity. Whereas Eritrea's approach to conserve Asmara's colonial era architecture represents a profoundly different attitude towards modern heritage conservation and its interpretation and treatment compared to many other post-independence urban environments. This continued conservation effort also resulted the inscription of Asmara: A Modernist City of Africa on the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List.

The aim of the paper is to offer an overview of Asmara's urban conservation effort to safeguard its modernist architecture, though the methodology applied in its regional, cultural and historical context is very specific. The approach that is being pursued in Asmara urban conservation process is based on the lessons learned in the region and could be adopted as the best practices of 20th century urban heritage conservation in Africa region or elsewhere in the world.

Keywords: heritage, ancient villages, conservation, independence

Location: Asmara, Eritrea

Origins and characteristics of workers' villages in China from a regional-architectural perspective

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A workers' village is a housing district linked to a factory or factories but positioned in a city. They were mainly built for workers in state-owned enterprises and were originally constructed by the Chinese government under the assistance and guidance of the Soviet Union from China's First Five-Year Plan (1953-1957). From the Reform and Opening Up in 1978, China went into the market economic system, which caused most of the once-glorious heavy industries to be eclipsed and demolished. Like other rustbelts in the world, workers' villages in post-industrial China gradually decayed and local residents' identity changes a lot. As recent everyday architectural heritage, workers' villages are an indispensable part of modern history which witnessed the political, economic, social, and cultural socialism origins and transitions in China.

This paper will firstly investigate the ideological and material origins of workers' villages. Massive workers' villages were constructed around the country in few years, however, in different regions, they show a diverse planning pattern and architectural style. Were they complying with similar soviet standards, or did they have different ideological principles? This paper, therefore, tries to demonstrate the characteristics of each and compare them in several regions. In a word, this article will try to answer three questions: 1) what a workers' village is, 2) why workers' villages appeared vastly and fast in China. In other words, who needed them and how they contributed to newborn China, 3) what the architectural and planning characteristics of workers' villages located in different regions are and what caused the differences.

Keywords: heritage, industrial, workers' villages

Location: China

REGION THEME:

HISTORIOGRAPHIES

Papers that explore the history of architectural and urban regions, and pioneer new regional historiographical approaches

Regional politics, ideology, and architecture: Arie Sharon's Obafemi Awolowo University Campus, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Adekunle Adeyemo and Bayo Amole

Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

This paper considers the architecture commissioned by the Western Region of Nigeria for the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University) in the 1960s not just as utilitarian but also as a symbolic creation with socio-cultural, political, ideological, and discursive dimensions. Poststructuralist and Postcolonial theories provide the major analytical inspiration for the study. The study analyses the tensions leading to the establishment of the institution as a 'regional university' against the Colonial Federal government commissioned multinational Ashby Commission's recommendation and the resulting architecture as their reflection. Socio-culturally, the region was not ethnic but political, yet the diverse ethnicities united in projecting a common path for their future, accepting to establish a university. The competition among the three regions of the Nigerian federation which the region sought to win through her development plan and the decision to align with Israel for the university reveal the political dimensions. The university was also seen as part of the progressive ideology of the region because education was a key component. The architecturally discursive dimension introduced by enlisting the aid of Israel with the Bauhaus-trained Israeli architect, Arie Sharon, to lead the planning and design team is multifaceted. The siting in Ile-Ife to take advantage of the town's attractive slightly undulated wooded countryside and an architecture blending the avant-garde modernist architecture of the time with the natural landscape evidence this. The architecture, not a 'regional' one, was globally relevant with climate and cultural references now utilized to further a regional cause. The architecture's 'arriere-garde' position, more direct dialectical relation with nature, and reliance on the tactile beyond the visual make it fit into Kenneth Frampton's Critical Regionalism. Thus, the university engages regional thought not only in its establishment but also in its campus architecture, which although predates the emergence of the term, depicts Critical Regionalism.

Keywords: historiographies, identity, politics, postcolonial, universities

Location: Ile Ife, Nigeria

The role of social institutions in shaping of Gorgan, Iran in the Qajar Period

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Architecture has an influential and permanent impact on the social ground, for it has germinated from social mechanisms [1]. Social mechanisms are means to exercise power and Hierarchy in temporal, cultural, social, and geographical consistencies [2]. Understanding an architecture is closely related to understanding the consistency it is built upon. If inconsistencies occur, it is either considered as a characteristic or it will be "corrected" [3]. Most of the manifestations of "inconsistencies" occur in the "city"; in which the direction of the shaping forces has always been controversial. It is believed that the sustainability of a city and its infrastructure is closely related to the distribution of power among its builders [4].

This study aims to examine the relationship of powers in the formation of the city of Gorgan in the Qajar period. This city is placed at a crossroads and is sustained by its social and natural resources. It also suffered from plagues and natural forces, populated by immigrants and locals, and tamed by the Qajar government and foreign curiosity.

This study utilizes the phenomenological analysis of urban architecture as a social event. Influential historical events are selected and observed for the impact of three factors which are social institutions, authorities, and finally the common folk. This study defines the social machinations and mechanisms of each factor and their position in the social, geographical, and temporal context. Then their effect on each other and the formation of the city is examined. This study uses biographies and newspapers, travelogues, endowments, and decrees. Their accuracy is assumed, and the genealogical refinement of events is ignored.

Through these documents, we find that regardless of the exterior powers, the influence of social institutions as the main force behind shaping and "correcting" the city makes its formation a stable process in line with the citizens and, consequently, the nature of the region and keeps it resilient and stable through events and time.

Keywords: historiographies, phenomenology, travelogue, biography

Location: Gorgan, Iran

The Foreman's Window: collecting, weaving and coding stories for the assembly line in Vale do Ave

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The history of crises within the textile industries of the Vale do Ave region in Portugal is cyclical (Alves 1999), one remembered through nostalgic and paradoxical stories. This paper asks how the poetic gaze of the textile maker – a figure usually associated with the arts of storytelling – might inform architecture when approaching and reimagining textile factories under critical processes of industrial transformation in Vale do Ave. To do so, it focuses on Coelima – a textile factory founded in 1922 in the region, undergoing gradual change and socio-spatial dismantlement since a deep economic crisis in 1991. 'Inside' and 'around' Coelima's cosmos, the paper explores how textile practices might offer modes for the architect to find and 'transcribe' (Havik, 2015) stories related to spatial and power relations between the factory, the assembly line and its users, the author and reader.

The practices of finding and transcribing stories 'inside' Coelima's assembly line are explored through site-specific events as acts of re-performing the factory's archive, weaving and coding. Building upon an intimate conversation with four women, former textile workers of Coelima, the paper analyses two contrasting discourses on surveillance operated by human and automated means within the assembly line. Moreover, it investigates the weaving capacities of hiding coded meanings (Kruger, 2001; Albers, 1959), particularly the workers' subjective references to surveillance, through the design of a woven artefact that recreates the 'Foreman's Window'. The artefact is discussed as a spatial set to be decoded haptically by multiple publics and to be performed through a fictional micro-story that wishes to debate speculative scenarios for the future of Coelima's assembly line. Finally, the paper questions how transcribing stories might become a vital architectural methodology for the architect and Others to question their ethical stance when reimagining a story-based 'polyvocal' (Llewellyn, 2003) design brief for Coelima's assembly line and other factories in Vale do Ave.

Keywords: historiographies, textiles, weaving, collecting, storytelling, object-based

Location: Vale do Ave, Portugal

Regions of expertise

Athanasίου Geolas

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This paper interrogates what it means for expertise to have regions. Most scholarly accounts do not consider the conceptual overlap and even incommensurability between phrases like "regional expertise" (referring to a place) and "area of expertise" (referring to a topic) even when the difference between them may be critical. The literature focused on the emergence of professionals in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, for instance, spans sociology and anthropology, social history and the history of science, and architectural history, to name only a few. Unfortunately, architectural history has remained far too reliant on sociological explanations, and in the process overlooked contributions and critical theoretical challenges from the history of science and, in particular, the anthropology of medicine. In this paper I bring this literature together with my dissertation research to take the professional architect and the professional home economist as they emerged in Central New York State c.1916 as a case study for a detailed look at two professions in co-extensive regions. Scholars have largely overlooked the comparison between architecture and home economics, a fact which unsurprisingly points to some of the mechanisms of control and enclosure at work in defining the boundaries of their disciplines. Too-easily equated with knowledge, expertise may be better understood as an enactment of professional authority. By resituating historical artifacts taken from institutional records, object-based archives, and professional papers held within Cornell University's Rare & Manuscript Collections and the Cornell Fashion + Textile Collection, I will present how these professionals defined and publicly justified their expertise. This paper dramatizes and dissects these self-presentations to reveal the relationships, geographies, and political infrastructures through which these professionals were able to legitimate and defend their claim to a region of expertise.

Keywords: historiographies, expertise, home economics, object-based, archives

Dynamic narrative, fixed regions: James Fergusson's history of world architecture

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Since Foucault's famous discussion of the order of things, a narrow trend of art historians has criticized the seemingly objective structure of art/architectural surveys, challenging different postulates and implications of the fixed styles within regions. Postcolonial critics, in particular, have underlined some mechanisms through which the "other" has been defined, ranked, and excluded. An important yet little scrutinized example could be found in James Fergusson's work, arguably, the first history of architecture that systematically incorporated different traditions around the world within the history of Western architecture. Considering the structure of the survey (rather than its content) as his primary contribution, Fergusson developed his narrative through three distinct versions published in 1849, 1855, and 1865. Throughout these three versions, he explored different methods of grouping, exclusion, and distortion in order to create a coherent structure. From the first book's chronological arrangement, he moved to a combination of geographical and religious classifications in the second, and eventually, in the third book, he established a core Eurocentric narrative. Using digital tools, this paper discusses the gradual formation of this narrative and its implications.

Despite many differences in methods and materials, this approach remains popular in today's survey of architecture. While the main narrative is typically composed of a linear chronicle of monuments of a self-contained, progressive Western architecture, various Non-Western traditions are either grouped together in a separate volume or sandwiched in the intervals of Western styles. For example, Islamic Architecture (7th- 20th c.) often appears as one chapter, between Gothic (12th -14th c.) and Renaissance (15th-16th c.), implying both stillness and pastness. Contrasted to the mainstream, non-Western traditions become marginal, a-historical, primitive, deviated or derivative. Understanding Fergusson's strategies of classification provides a better grasp of the contemporary practice.

Keywords: historiographies, eurocentrism, classification, surveys, digital humanities, postcolonial

The Actual Architecture: Mimarlık and redefining region in Turkey, 1963-1972

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In 1970, the Turkish architectural journal *Mimarlık* published a survey called "Our Architecture in 1970," which consisted of transcriptions of two panels and written answers from various scholars and architects. The survey editor Bülent Özer pointed out that the main idea was to understand how architects formulate a particular architectural problem and assess their environment to meet the requirements of that problem. Although the survey revealed a multiplicity of architectural approaches that tackled urban, social, and economic issues and included notable projects that responded to acute problems as housing, in a different article written in 1971, Özer claimed that Turkey was still suffering a disconnection between parameters of design and form. Instead of searching for a stylistic appropriation between the two poles of regionalism and universalism, Özer offered a third way, a cultural and formal synthesis, based on what he called *aktüelite*, or actuality. His approach of actual architecture sought compatibility between the actual needs of a particular society and the actual possibilities they have. In the case of Turkey, this translated into a specific urban development policy defined by the Five Year Development Plan, which was installed first in 1960 to encourage planned growth and welfare. The professional regulatory body, the Chamber of Architects, and its in-house publication *Mimarlık* were forefronts of promoting the Five-Year Development Plan in the architecture community, and Özer's redefinition of regional architecture was instrumental in this process.

This paper critically examines the concept of regional by unpacking Özer's definition based on his book *An Essay on Regionalism, Universalism, and our Contemporary Architecture* (1964). It studies the term in relation to welfare state politics by locating *Mimarlık* and the first two Five-Year Development Plans at its center, and it traces how the regional approach transformed and mediated between architectural design and urban policymaking.

Keywords: historiographies, journalism, actuality

Location: Turkey

Oscillating between cosmos and hearth: The case of Geoffrey Bawa and his architecture

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Geoffrey Bawa was a renowned architect, yet the way he had of allocating space within the three houses of his design to which he was prominently attached is largely overlooked. This essay suggests that his methodology gives rise to a dichotomy, which finds its physical expression in the spatial configuration, the circulation scheme, the demarcation of interior from exterior and the entire visual experience. A review of the personal and professional formation of this architect reveals an interesting oscillation in focus between home and abroad, between local and international and between inside and outside society. Synthesizing the particular angle highlighted by this paper in both Bawa's background and his approach to architecture, we may find an alternate view in the longstanding debate about whether Bawa was a representative of international culture or regional culture. A fresh approach to these analyses may point to a different way of resolving the dilemma between internationalism and nationalism.

Keywords: historiographies, nationalism, hearth, cosmos, identity

Location: Sri Lanka

New Brutalism in Western Australia: ethics in the regions

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In 1956 three young graduates took over as editors of *The Architect*, the long running journal of the Western Australian chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects. John White, John Duncan and Alexander (Lex) Hill had just returned from London where they had spent the past few years working and living together, immersed in the architecture culture of postwar Britain. An opportunity to edit the widely read chapter journal upon their return was seized upon, and immediately set to work using the organ to advance their vision for modern architectural culture in Perth. In their second issue, published in June 1956, the three editors wrote an editorial-cum-manifesto piece in which they outlined a series of issues facing the profession and the working ideological mechanism which might be used to tackle them – The New Brutalism. Clearly drawing upon the work of Theo Crosby and the Smithsons' recently published writing, the piece was a clarion call for change in the local building industry, demanding a more realistic and direct engagement with industry and technological advances. For White, Duncan, and Hill, the new brutalist movement which they had encountered while living and working in London offered an ideology and an ethic which could be transposed into the far edges of the Commonwealth. It provided a conceptual framework that would assist them in the navigation of practice back home and it proposed a way to advance the apparently stagnating local profession. This paper then looks at how this specific regional application of an ideology played out far away from the tight knit community in London from which it originated. In particular it examines the dialogue that this regional manifesto sets up with its 'central' counterpart as constructed by the Smithsons' and Theo Crosby, and how this peripheral translation can both extend and challenge the current understanding of the movement.

Keywords: historiographies, brutalism, ethics, commonwealth

Location: Perth, Australia

The Region as Repository: regional histories told through homes in nineteenth-century Dutch village tales

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Literary manifestations of regionalism became increasingly popular throughout Europe and North America in the nineteenth century, partly as a result of urbanisation and rapid industrialisation. Many works of regional fiction portray a rural communities that represents a pre-industrial and even premodern society, which has held on to values and customs that have disappeared elsewhere. In the Netherlands, the narrative surrounding regional fiction in prefaces, marketing and book reviews often highlights this: the rural region—and the regional tale—is repeatedly posited as a site of remembrance or rootedness in tradition, at a time when urban spaces are changing rapidly. Both 'the region' and 'regional literature' are, thus, framed as repositories for storing disappearing cultural norms, customs and dialects.

As part of this 'archival impulse', regional village tales often have a strong architectural interest. Many works feature detailed descriptions of local homes, buildings and architectural styles that are depicted as remnants of the past, and as representations of past and present regional identity. The (political) history of the region, as well as present-day values and traditions, are often portrayed partly through descriptions of buildings and home interiors.

This paper, firstly, reflects on the debate surrounding Dutch regional fiction in the nineteenth-century, thereby demonstrating how the village tale is framed as a repository of disappearing tradition. Secondly, it analyses how this 'storage function' relates to descriptions of architecture in three case studies. This paper thereby offers a reflection on what nineteenth-century regional fiction reveals about architectural cultures, and what buildings in Dutch village tales reveal about regional customs and histories.

Keywords: historiographies, literary history, village tales

Location: Netherlands

The case of Capri. Regional culture and modern architecture

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From the very beginning, Italy was a classic destination on the Mediterranean on the Grand Tour. Under the influence of Romantic ideas, from around 1800 onwards, the previously little-noticed, vernacular manifestations of this culture also attracted the attention of travellers. The island of Capri in particular developed into a myth and a popular destination for European, especially British, French and German artists and intellectuals, at the latest since the discovery of the Blue Grotto by August Kopisch and Ernst Fries in 1826 and the description by Ferdinand Gregorovius published in 1856. The important role of Capri is also due to the fact that Capri is an island and visitors – rightly? – could assume that vernacular traditions continued to exist there untouched by modern life, or, as Filippo Tommaso Marinetti put it, that Capri lay "fuori tempo spazio". Karl Friedrich Schinkel and Friedrich Weinbrenner were among the first to be impressed by Capri's vernacular architecture. Around 1900 Joseph Maria Olbrich and Josef Hoffmann saw in it a way to re-new architecture. The publicist Edwin Cerio, mayor of Capri, was intensely committed to the preservation of vernacular culture. For Italian architects such as Giuseppe Capponi, Raffaello Fagnoni or Plinio Marconi, the confrontation with the vernacular formed part of their search for a national archi-tecture, for romanità and italianità, and Le Corbusier found his promenade architecturale again in the Villa Tragara, built according to local models. Bernhard Rudofsky, in turn, designed villas and hotels with Luigi Cosenza and Gio Ponti, whose spatial qualities directly reflected their vernacular models, and the German-Hungarian Virgil Borbíró-Bierbauer wrote about the discussion of the vernacular in his journal Térés Forma.

The lecture presents the characteristics of Capri's vernacular culture and asks about its contribution to 20th century modern architecture.

Keywords: historiographies, Grand Tour, vernacular, modernism

Location: Capri, Italy

A 'true organ of Humanity': on the architecture and Victorian political theory of the region

Matthew Wilson

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With his pioneering developments in Victorian sociology, surveys, and heritage conservation, the work of Patrick Geddes is upheld as a model of regionalist thinking (Kitchen 1975, 25). His broad-reaching efforts thus appear unique – perhaps enigmatic – to students of architecture, planning, sociology, and landscape urbanism (Mairet 1957; Meller 1990; Scott and Bromley 2013; Abrams 1968, 101–53; Waldheim 2006, 39; Welter 2002, 1–2). As one might expect, Geddes' lifework has been carefully staged in a selective manner. But the ideas of his predecessors are rarely given due treatment. Geddes and his circle, for instance, made ample references to the 'French School' of regionalism founded by the Positivist philosopher Auguste Comte (Branford and Geddes 1919, 1917; Branford and Abercrombie 1926; Abercrombie 1959, 9–130; Mumford 1940, 351). Arguably, the broader movement of British Positivism was the impetus to many of Geddes' activities. The movement came together under Richard Congreve. This former Oxford don and ex-Anglican minister tutored Geddes beginning in the 1870s. Geddes described the intellectual impact of Congreve on him as a 'revelation'. Congreve, in turn, regarded Geddes as 'my prospect' – the leader of a Scottish Positivist Society (OUBL-CP, MSS.Eng.lett.c.186 ff. 98–146; OUBL-CP, MSS.Eng.lett.e.57 ff. 136–9).

For Congreve and his circle, Positivism was not simply a method for classifying scientific facts. It was a complete system of life. Geddes' colleague, the Scottish sociologist Victor Branford, explained that Positivists were distinct in their aims. Unlike true sociologists, the work of social scientists, for instance, remained 'unilluminated by reference to the constructive and directive formulae of the main founders of sociology ... they put to sea without a compass', explained Branford (1914, 373).

Over the past few decades, Scholars have begun to show that Congreve's controversial efforts to popularise Comte's sociology and godless Religion of Humanity linked to his aspirations to realise a global utopia. He believed that the spread of this creed would lead to the devolution of all empires. And in their place would emerge five hundred autonomous city-states or republics (Harrison 1965, 1967; Claeys 2010, 2018; Wright 1986; Wilson 2015, 2018; Pickering 2009, 571). Along this vein, the aim of this paper is to reveal how the Comtean Positivist political theory of civic duty towards regional devolution, as developed by the likes of Congreve and Geddes, intertwined with the architectural interventions, public education, and studies of social formations. It will therefore focus on the moral meanings of the spatial arrangements of Positivist architecture and social formations as the means to bond the city-region into a cohesive unit.

Keywords: historiographies, political theory, anti-imperialism, Victorian

REGION THEME:

INDUSTRY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Papers that explore the architectural, planning and human consequences of a diverse range of regional industries and infrastructure projects

Infrastructural peripheries in the city-region. Airport spatial influences

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The decline of Fordist urbanity that coincides with the failed industrial metropolitanism of the seventies had promoted a regional reformism to observe and manage the role and reality of regional peripheries. Today there are large areas that could be considered both reminiscent of the countryside or as a dissemination of urban settlements. These spaces have a strong territorial diversity of types of regional scales (i.e. historic cities, new cities, suburbs, agricultural areas, natural systems or infrastructures) and constitute the essence of the city-region. Qualities such as territorial isotropy, functional hybridity and polycentrism, define the territorial organisation of these regional fragments.

Within this reality, infrastructures have become integrated capital in the city-region, as they are necessary elements for global competition based on connectivity and regional performance. Airport infrastructures, understood as transport hubs that create great flows, are consolidating themselves into tertiary programmatic poles of great influence on the regional socio-economic map and territorial organisation.

Supported by the observation of international airport case studies and their adjacent territorial fragments (e.g. infrastructure size and management, programmatic layout of the built and un-built territory, and local and global connectivity), the investigation studies the role of the airport infrastructure as a trigger of particular peripheral territorial realities and as a key regional component to address a strategic and contextual localism that can influence the region performance and its ecological impact.

Keywords: industry, infrastructure, airlines, airports

Architecture and urban planning vis-à-vis infrastructural Europeanism: The E-Road network and the trans-European petroleumscape

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The paper examines the role of architects and urban planners in shaping connections between European land-based mobility, cities and landscapes. It will investigate the development of spaces aiming to link automobility to the everyday experience of European citizens in different countries, adjusting their interventions to local sensibilities. For over half a century, politicians have promoted transportation and transnational mobility for commodities and individuals by planning and funding the E-road network. This attempt to link the different European nations and overcome their separate plans has reshaped the urban landscape and the territory at large. The Declaration on the Construction of Main International Traffic Arteries in 1950 sketched a system that would connect Europe from Scandinavia to Sicily. The construction of a highway system for Europe was already anticipated in 1968. The paper demonstrates how urban planning and architecture play a key role in implementing new types of mobilities promoting environmental sustainability. At the centre of the paper lie the imaginaries produced by architects and urban planners, and their vision for highways in different national contexts and for their connexions to planned new towns. Taking into account that the EU and its nations aim to overcome regimes of petroleum-based mobility and associated architectures, the paper explains how the land-based transportation of both individuals and commodities in the E-Road network functions as an actor of planetary urbanization, investigating three kinds of nodes within the E-Road network: the nodes encountered on the E-Roads, those to be found at the gates to cities, and the new structures aiming to imitate the urban dimension but proposing a novel articulation of pedestrian and automobile circulation. It aims to relate the expression of the three nodes-typologies in various national contexts - characterised by different European urban planning methods - to overarching approaches in the design of mobility. The paper is developed around two layers: a layer concerning the comparison of the conception of highways within different national contexts, including the comparison of designs for the German Autobahn, the Italian autostrada, the French autoroutes à péage etc., and a layer discussing the designs and spatial imaginaries of the E-Road network. Analysing these layers will allow a better understanding of the tensions between national visions and trans-European urbanization, combining the local with the trans-European dimension, and contributing to a new understanding of the history of Europeanization.

Keywords: industry, infrastructure, transport, automobility, oil, sustainability, new towns, Europeanism

Location: Europe

Constantinos A. Doxiadis' concept of 'Ecumenopolis' vis-à-vis Eurafrica: revisiting the masterplan for Festac Town and the role of transport infrastructure

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This paper focuses on Doxiadis Associates' masterplan for Festac Town, a federal housing estate located along the Lagos-Badagry Expressway in Lagos State, Nigeria, paying special attention to the infrastructure along the Lagos-Badagry Highway. This project, which exemplifies the late modernist concerns for urban development in the Global South and should be understood within the context of modernisation that followed Nigeria's independence, concerned the design of a town aiming at hosting the visitors of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture in Lagos in 1977. It was assigned in 1974 by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Doxiadis Associates and was conceptualised as "a model residential community with all the necessary functions and facilities to serve a permanent population" after the end of the aforementioned festival. This masterplan was based on the theory of ekistics developed by Greek city planner Constantinos A. Doxiadis, and included the construction of significant infrastructure installations.

The scope of the paper is twofold: to investigate the connections between Doxiadis's understanding of the role of infrastructure in this project and his conception of 'Ecumenopolis', and to relate Doxiadis's vision for 'Ecumenopolis' to the idea of Eurafrica, referring to the political project that emerged in the 1920s based on the idea that Europe's future survival was bound up with Europe's successful merger with Africa. Doxiadis's concept of 'Ecumenopolis' departed from the hypothesis that the urbanisation, the growth of population, and the development of means of transport and human networks would lead to a fusion of the urban areas and megalopolises forming a single continuous planet-wide city. Doxiadis's "Towards Ecumenopolis" (1961) treated infrastructure as a skeleton of a body covering the entire globe and resulting from the balance between settlements, production and nature. Doxiadis claimed that Africa was the largest and most suitable area to welcome inbound capitals and investments. The Africa Transport Plan was intended to provide the basic layout of his 'Ecumenopolis'. The paper examines a set of maps displaying settlements, routes, airways and human corridors that Doxiadis Associates produced to explore the potentials of the concept of 'Ecumenopolis', relating the latter to Eurafrica.

Doxiadis's "Towards Ecumenopolis" (1961), a confidential report that focused on how to devise a "different approach" to the City of the Future, treated infrastructure as a skeleton of a body covering the entire globe and resulting from the balance between settlements, production and nature. In his second report on 'Ecumenopolis', Doxiadis claimed that Africa was the largest and most suitable area to welcome inbound capitals and investments. The Africa Transport Plan was

intended to provide the basic layout of his 'Ecumenopolis'. The paper examines a set of maps displaying settlements, routes, airways and human corridors that Doxiadis Associates produced to explore the potentials of the concept of 'Ecumenopolis', relating the latter to Eurafrica. One can read in the issue of May 1977 of Ebony: "For 29 days, black people from everywhere – from Africa, Europe, African-America, South America, Canada, and the islands of the seas – testified to the haunting presence of blackness in the world". As Denis Ekpo remarks, in "Culture and Modernity Since FESTAC 77", in 1977, thanks to FESTAC, "Lagos had become the Mecca of African collective cultural and artistic self-retrieval and self-accreditation". The objective of the paper is to examine closely the cultural-historic complexity of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, the so-called FESTAC '77, during which thousands of artists, writers, musicians, activists and scholars from Africa and the Black diaspora assembled in Lagos and to relate it to Doxiadis's ideas.

Keywords: industry, infrastructure, Eurafrica, expressway, Ekistics, ecumenopolis, independence, festival

Location: Festac, Lagos, Nigeria

Planned injustice: how settlement typology perpetuates infrastructural injustice in Mangolpuri

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Mangolpuri, predominantly a resettlement colony in the northwest Delhi, was set up in 1977 when over 20,000 families were relocated 30 km from the centre of the city. Today, the city has grown to include Mangolpuri; a highly dense, fully built-up residential location providing affordable housing and rental options to over 300,000. Other than the "planned" blocks of Mangolpuri categorized as JJ Resettlement Colony, the constituency has one Urban Village (Mangol pur Kalan), one Unauthorized Colony (Mangolpur Khurd) and 9 Jhuggi-Jhopri Clusters (JJs).

Since 2013, the Mangolpuri constituency also included municipal ward 53N-Rohini-E, which includes Rohini Sector 2, 3 & part of Sector-4. Rohini it was developed by DDA as sub-city project in the 1980s to provide a composite society for all income groups and falls under the category of "Planned Colonies." Thus, out of the 8 settlements delineated in the Delhi Economic Survey 2008-09, AC-12 Mangolpuri contains 5.

The research undertakes a comparative assessment of government infrastructure in AC-12 Mangolpuri in the five different categories of settlement: Jhuggi-Jhopri Clusters (JJs), JJ Resettlement Colonies, Urban Villages, Unauthorized Colonies and Planned Colonies.

Although housing inequity in these five cases can be (as it often is) studied via the glaring differences in the sizes of plots, this research views habitation as not only the act of dwelling but also the implicit promise of infrastructure that each category of habitation entails.

Positing that the difference in these "categories" reflects in not just in the mode of production (resulting in categorization as a different settlement typology) but also in the public infrastructure that each settlement has, the research studies segregation with respect to the availability of urban commons (housing, open areas, parks, CCTV cameras) and networked infrastructure (electricity, water, streets, transport) and examines the role of infrastructure in the socio-spatial production of "neighbourhood."

Keywords: infrastructure, new towns, spatial justice, urban commons

Location: Mangolpuri, India

Un-mapping regions of trauma: systematicity and ordinariness in South Wales Valleys' industrial disasters

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In *Unclaimed Experience: Trauma, Narrative and History*, Cathy Caruth defines as traumatic our encounter, not with life-threatening events but, with those that primarily cause a break in our perception of time (1996). She then explains that the experience and memory of traumatic events, while unavoidably visceral, are always in a fleeting state, leaving connections with their time and place of occurrence fragile and obscure. So, while traumas irreversibly scar the affected bodies, through collective memories and narratives they seek for new places, times and bodies to invade.

The paper uses as starting point the first globally televised industrial accident and community trauma, the Aberfan 1966 disaster, to then look at the systematicity and ordinariness that characterises the South Wales Valleys' colliery disasters. The South Wales Valleys, widely known as "The Valleys" is a region drastically transformed by the iron and coal industries but also heavily scarred by consecutive industrial disasters since the second half of the 18th century. Echoing Lauren Berlant's thoughts on crisis of ordinariness (2011) the paper looks at the density of industrial localities and the frequency of time-ruptures, to un-map the Valleys' as a region of exceptional disasters and industrial accidents.

Albion, Abercan, Cymmer, Ferndale & Blaenllechaum Maerdy, Parc Slip, Senghenydd, Aberfan etc: the Valleys' registry of industrial heritage is revisited to capture the trauma's movement across space and time. The paper speaks of the unexceptional precarity and constant vulnerability that define the Valleys industrial communities, and of the repetitive displacement of traumatic experiences that renders their mappings ephemeral if not illusive (Berlant 2011). The paper ultimately suggests that regions of trauma are better defined/mapped, not by their dislocated "Ground Zeros" and their transient boundaries, but by their unbearable frequencies and persistent densities.

Keywords: industry, mining, heritage, disaster, trauma, memory

Location: Aberfan, Wales

Two mining areas: regional simultaneity of extraction and care

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Mining and extraction have recently become hot topics in the arts and architecture. I have been working with two mining towns and regions: Malmberget in Sápmi/Northern Sweden since 2016; and Erzberg in Styria/the Austrian Alps since 2018. Literally translated, both names mean 'ore mountain'. The towns are central to traditional mining areas of iron ore, with finite resources. Yet, they lack future visions beyond extraction. Malmberget will disappear in the coming decades; because of the enlargement of the underground cavities, the ground has become unstable. Complementary to the practices of extraction, various cultural practices of care support the community. Erzberg, likewise, is a shrinking community with the state's highest average age. Similar cultural activities are reviving the region, which faces economic pressure and an urgent need to find new visions.

My interest is to develop feminist perspectives in reaction to these spaces being dominated, above all historically, by male heroic narratives and capitalist interests. These hegemonies have become manifest in architectures and regional planning. In particular, historical developments show these tendencies if we ask who the building and planning were undertaken for, and who made the decisions. One way of making these relations visible is to follow the activities of kvinnoklubben (women's club) of Malmberget, which have been in existence since 1900. Material flows, as well as learnings from feminist new materialisms, show that the regional visions are not (and have never been) dominant for mining areas. They have always had to solve a 'greater' interest. With my empirical studies and participatory observations in the local spatial practices of care, I aim to map and outline these regions as being characterised by excess and contradiction, in which extraction and care do not operate coequally but rather share a space and architectures for daily practices and future visions.

Keywords: industry, mining, feminism, new materialism, care

Location: Malmberget, Sweden; Erzberg, Austria

Titans of congestion: the regional community vs. the metropolis of imperialist enterprise

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While developing designs for "Titan City" in collaboration with illustrator Hugh Ferriss, architect Harvey Wiley Corbett collected photographs of New York City streets. Among them are views of crowds in Times Square, as well as scenes of commuters jostling outside Park Row Terminal. For Corbett, the latter's depiction of bodies wading into traffic and crowding public thoroughfares represented half of the city's infamous "congestion problem." Freight, compounded by the city's unique urban geography and jumbled railway lines, comprised the other.

By the early twentieth century, traversing the New York City and its waterways had become an arduous affair, for people and freight alike. So much so that the city's preeminence as the "Gateway to the New World" largely hinged on reformers' ability to redistribute traffic, of all kinds, along the lower tip of Manhattan's congested waterfront and narrow streets. This disease, as cultural critic Lewis Mumford would later call it, could only be remedied by so-called improvements. These included those proposed by the Regional Planning Association of America. But the Gilded Age's private interests had their own designs on regional—and even trans-Atlantic and Pan-American—integration, pitting regionalisms, variously conceived, against one another.

Centered on Corbett's designs and the construction of industrialist Irving T. Bush's shipping and warehousing complex in Brooklyn, as well as their later collaboration on the Bush Tower in Manhattan and Bush House in London, this paper rereads the designs of city planners and the architectures of capital as logistical media meant to arrange people and property into time and space, opening opportunities for some to profit from regional transformations. "To profit by both the disease and the remedy is one of the masterstrokes of imperialist enterprise," Mumford wrote. Who or what then did regionalism serve?

Keywords: industry, infrastructure, City Beautiful, traffic, congestion, warehousing, waterfront

Location: New York, USA

Locating transnational food supply: multinational refrigeration plants in the Middle and Lower Yangtze River Region, 1910s-1930s

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With its maturation at the end of the 19th century, mechanical refrigeration realised accurate temperature cooling, thus enabling the implementation of universal standards on food production, preservation, and consumption, regardless of the local climate. First established in China in the treaty port cities after the Yangtze River opened to foreign trade, cold storage provided the crucial infrastructure for the multinationals embracing agricultural extractivism. The introduction of this up-to-date technological apparatus by the factories made possible by western investment soon empowered Chinese enterprises to modernise themselves in the face of the environmental totality imposed by imperialist capitalist expansion.

A sign of modernity for the mastery of nature, the giant structures of the refrigeration plants, notably in Hankow, Nanking, and Shanghai, mesmerised architectural professionals and urban spectators. The intensifying commodification of food altered regional farming and public's consumption. When the nationalists expressed concerns about the social impact of the growth of exports at the cost of the malnutrition and poverty of the overall Chinese population, some argued for its benefits in balancing trade deficits. Meanwhile, in the industrialised West, the cheap imports fulfilled the increasing demands brought by urbanisation, although the squeezed domestic suppliers advocated protectionism and stirred up consumer anxiety by associating the sanitation and safety of food with its provenance.

Challenging the conventional concept of place and time, the booming refrigeration-related industry offered a source of sustainability and longevity that government and society could not resist when experiencing supply unpredictability between the 1910s and 1930s. However, the highly profitable business was essentially speculative, which generated an atmosphere of distrust. Addressing the architectural and infrastructural impacts of mass food production, this paper examines the techno-power controlling the supply chain and interrogates who had the rights to regional resources in the global economy from the moral-political aspects.

Keywords: industry, infrastructure, refrigeration, distribution, food, supply chain

Location: Yangtze River, China

REGION THEME:

LEISURE, TOURISM & COMMERCE

Papers that explore the commercialization of regions for leisure and tourism, and commercial architectural typologies as repositories of regional value

Unboxing Plaza – intercepting the lost signals in time

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“Unboxing Plaza” is a working title of the multi-disciplinary workshop based on a virtual excursion aiming to time travel a cultural site - the Plaza Cinema (built-in, 1920s) in Lahore, Pakistan. The workshop will engage interested students and professionals from diverse disciplines such as architecture, media, fashion, visual communication design and visual arts to examine together how cultural production, politics, personal and communal histories fuse together in shaping a thought landscape in which some artefacts strive and others thrive.

One of Lahore’s oldest and best-loved picture houses, being half-demolished recently, apparently in the way of commercial progress. This doesn’t sit well with the common people as well as the conservationists. By unboxing the story of Plaza cinema as a focal point the workshop will deconstruct the nexus of development in Lahore, aiming to rekindle the radicalism of the historical city that has witnessed various cultural, social and political epochs. Using the past as the key to the future, the workshop will encourage participants to develop meaning/making of the retrospective culture(s) that we lost/killed/smoked while the city was undergoing major cosmetic uplifts.

“The Unboxed Lab” - is a unique research consortium founded by academics from Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan that creates, promotes and highlights a discourse on the interstices between architecture, communication, textiles, fashion, art and design. This is a collaborative venture between Razia Hassan School of Architecture (RHSA) and Mariam Dawood School of Visual Arts & Design (MDSVAD). This proposal has been conceived by Assistant Professor Arch. Zain Adil of RHSA along with Associate Professor Aarish Sardar and Associate Professor Rohma Khan from MDSVAD, engaging their students and other interesting academics / creative practitioners to present the analysis of the above-mentioned workshop as a research-based visual essay.

Keywords: leisure, cinema, craft, fashion, urban ecology, communal history

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

A regional modernity – the vernacular within Tyrolian modernity

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In Tyrol a special form of modernity emerged during the interwar period. On the one hand it aimed to connect with the international modern movement, on the other hand it draws on the rich regional building tradition. New building tasks such as cable cars and hotels, which were demanded by the emerging mass tourism, led to new design solutions in Tyrol. Pitched roofs, wooden facades and structures, brick plinths and other vernacular elements explicitly embed these modern buildings in the Tyrolean region.

Tyrol is defined by its alpine character. To this day many valleys are inadequately connected. Therefore, traditions have survived much longer than in large cities. The assumption that the special topography of Tyrol is directly related to the development of a regional architectural language, is obvious. Other cultural assets such as traditional costumes and dialects also provide clues.

Topography does not only exert this indirect influence on Tyrolean modernity, but also a direct one: Building in Tyrol has always meant dealing with the topography; different altitudes and accessibility, sometimes extreme weather conditions and the danger posed by mudflows and avalanches have had and continue to have a direct influence on the formal, constructive, and functional design of buildings. This confrontation with the regional conditions represents a central point of view in the architects’ work then and now.

After architectural historiography primarily focused on the avant-garde for a long time, in recent years the traditional modernity has also moved into the spotlight in many places. This has also led to a reassessment of modernity as a whole.

The article aims to frame Tyrolean modernity, which is situated between tradition and avant-garde, to elaborate its regional specificity and thus to contribute to the international discourse on the broad spectrum of modernity.

Keywords: leisure, tourism, vernacular, topography, costume, dialect

Location: Tyrol, Austria

The Mediterranean: a vernacular or a contemporary tradition? On tourism, reinvention and islands

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In 1964, Bernard Rudofsky opened its Architecture Without Architects with a photograph of a dwelling on the Mediterranean coastline and the statement that “vernacular architecture does not go through fashion cycles. It is nearly immutable, indeed, unimprovable, since it serves its purpose to perfection”. Nevertheless, mass tourism had just come on the scene forcing new purposes in the area.

It was not the first time for the paradigm of the vernacular Mediterranean architecture to being reused. Modern Movement architects had already made an appropriation of its forms. Islands such as Ibiza played a prominent role, understood as isolated regions where tradition had been preserved out from modernity.

Architect and co-founder of the GATCPAC, Germán Rodríguez Arias (1902-1987) encouraged the rest of the members of the group –which included prominent figures such as Josep Lluís Sert– to travel to an island “that doesn’t need architectural renewal” (A.C. Documentos de Actividad Contemporánea, 1932, n.6). Thus, projects flourished following the simple geometry they have seen there, until the Spanish Civil War put a sad end to it.

After a long exile in Chile escaping from Franco’s dictatorship, Rodríguez Arias settled back on the island in the 1950’s. Ibiza was being discovered by tourists though its lack of infrastructures, so he was soon engaged in the design of hotels and bungalows. It allowed him to put into practice his previous ideas on hotel architecture while trying to keep the connection with tradition.

This case illustrates the shift from the idealisation of vernacular architecture under the prism of modernity to the reuse of forms for a new function: leisure. The three features affected on the process –shape, size and colour– have proved to be exportable to other tourist territories, forcing a new notion of the Mediterranean region.

Keywords: leisure, tourism, Mediterranean, vernacular, modernism, islands

Location: Ibiza, Spain

The Study on the Spatial Interface Form and Street Vitality of Traditional Chinese Pedestrian Commercial Streets

Lianting Wang, Qiuye Jin and Yuejia Xu

Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture, China

This article takes Beijing’s typical traditional commercial pedestrian streets, Dashilar and Xianyukou as the research objects. The two streets are located on the west and east sides of Qianmen Street in Beijing. Both streets officially began to renovate in 2003, and the length of the two streets is less than 300m. But Dashilar Street is more dynamic than Xianyukou Street. In order to clarify the reasons for the difference in vitality between the two streets, this paper takes the interface form of street space as the research perspective, studies the interface form of Dashilar street and Xianyukou street and carries out quantitative processing, compares and analyzes the differences and reasons in the interface form of the two streets, and then analyzes the influence of the interface form of the two streets on vitality. Finally, it analyzes the relationship between the difference of interface form of the two streets and the vitality of the streets.

Keywords: leisure, commerce, street typology, interface form

Location: Beijing, China

REGION THEME:

SUBURBS, RURALISM & REGIONAL PLANNING

Papers that explore suburban and rural settlement patterns, typologies and escapes

Regions in evolution: whither regional planning or planning regional futures?

John Harrison

Loughborough University, UK

Since Regional Studies was founded in 1967, planning and planners have been central to understanding regions. In the first ever issue of the journal the opening four papers all had “regional plan” or “regional planning” in their title. Yet as Regional Studies celebrated its 50th anniversary planning is facing powerful challenges – professionally, intellectually, practically – in ways arguably not seen before. Recent developments and trends are raising fundamental questions about the ‘p’ word in academic and policy circles. We can point to how planning is no longer solely the domain of professional planners but has been opened to a diverse group of actors who are involved in place-making and place-shaping. We can observe how the study of place has traditionally had a disciplinary home in space and place disciplines (Geography, Planning, and the like) but this link is being steadily eroded as research increasingly takes place via interdisciplinary research institutes comprising architects, designer, computer scientists and so on. We can point to the advent of real-time modelling, and the challenges this poses for the type of long-term perspective that planning has traditionally afforded in a world where immediacy and short-termism are the watchwords. We can recognise how the link between ‘region’ and ‘planning’ has been decoupled as alternative regional (and other spatial) imaginaries have emerged.

Rather than defend or try to reclaim that which has been lost with the decline of institutionalised forms of regional planning, our motivations centre on forging new ways of planning regional futures. For us, this is about recovering the very essence, purpose and values of planning. It is about bringing these to bear on the wicked problems affecting regional futures. It is to say that regional planning was of its time, but that time is not now. It is to claim that much of what we associate with this era – the all-encompassing geographically fixed grand regional plan, uniform approaches, formally institutionalised regional planning, regional planners as kingmakers – is best remembered as a relic of an age which is passing or has already passed. Instead, we argue that rediscovering the essence of planning is key to planning regional futures. More specifically, we argue that many traditional regional planning skills are no longer unique to planning (there being no reason why some of the individual skills cannot be done – indeed are already being done – by actors other than planners) but the ability to understand all these skills simultaneously and deploy them when required in regions is a unique planning skill.

Keywords: planning, rural, regional studies

Apollonion: prescribing Entopia on the hillside overlooking the sea

Irini Perdikogianni

Loughborough University, UK

This paper is about exploring the degree to which the design and functioning of the private seaside leisure settlement of Apollonion on the east coast near Athens, Greece are largely a reflection of the Ekistician prescribed concept of Entopia as would be materialised within a region bearing a distinctive topography that would enable and reinforce creating a local community and culture. Although Entopia originated from the Greek “in-place”, it was first conceived as being a placelessness ideal metropolis organised upon the principle of the human need for freedom, co-existence and sheltering, waiting to be built. Thus, it had been clearly distinguished from imaginary utopian models and was prescribed as a complex but structured system of different localities, fine-tuned according to its inhabitants’ need for social encounters, exchange of cultural values and accessibility to services. Entopia contained global and local into a single unity and it were the linkages between them that safeguarded its inhabitants’ happiness, security and satisfaction mirroring the Aristotelian ideal that pervaded Ekistician urbanism. On a par, Apollonion was designed as an organised system of different neighbourhoods interconnected through a network of pedestrian streets that promoted social encounters between residents. This network was spatially separated from motorways as them being a reminder of stressful urban life with the aid of a meticulous design that took advantage of the sloping site. Hence, a segregated community was planned to be formed, being cut-off from the traffic and surroundings, gaining satisfaction from being in touch with nature and from enjoying the sea views that the hillside location and its spatial pattern afforded. In this paper, the conjecture is that the physical spatial organisation of the settlement is thought to be one of the factors that lend to its local identity and culture. A case study approach is adopted to explore the spatial and social organization of the resort analyzing building typologies used, spatial patterns developed, and residents’ lived experience on streets aiming at interrogating among others the formation and development of the sense of community and belongingness if any. Hence, this paper unveils the pragmatic dimensions of this “practicable reality” and as those crafted the sense of a place, the distinctiveness of the region.

Keywords: suburb, rural, entopia, Ekistics, leisure, seaside

Location: Apollonion, Greece

Suburban rurality: the role and implications in planning of the (sub)urbanisation pattern of rural Northern Ireland

Cristian Silva

Queen's University Belfast, UK

Suburbanisation of the countryside - or what is proposed as suburban rurality - is an increasingly consolidated pattern of urban development in Northern Ireland. Here, 40% of the population lives in the countryside and almost 70% of planning applications for new homes between 2015 and 2018 were approved in greenfield areas. This rural population is strongly tied to workplaces located in nearby urban zones - such as Belfast - and rely mostly on private cars for transportation. This partly explains why Belfast ranks among the UK cities with the highest rates of traffic congestion.

This phenomenon - however - has been little analysed. Different from traditional suburbs, post-suburbs or satellite towns, suburban rurality describes a widespread constellation of individual homes connected by roads and intermingled with farming spaces. It is morphologically disguised as "rural" while it may have become solidly "suburban". If there is a single assumption in the structure of Northern Ireland's rural space, it is the geographical scale of the consolidated linkage of work and residence. This is now something that has overpassed the city extending the urban over almost the entire region.

Considering that suburban rurality has unexplored environmental, social and economic impacts, this paper aims to define this settlement pattern, unpack its morphological configuration, analyse its spatial, environmental and functional components, and identify its contribution to the understanding of the "urban" and the "rural". It will also discuss the implications of suburban rurality at political, economic and environmental levels.

Suburban rurality emerges as the outcome of less controlled processes in planning and a liberal approach to rural and regional land management. It is also assumed that if more comprehensive regional policies are not in place, suburban rurality can severely compromise the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the whole NI regional space.

Keywords: planning, suburb, congestion, morphology

Location: Northern Ireland

Beyond Radio City: Rockefeller Center and the remaking of the New York metropolitan region

Joseph Watson

Kansas State University, USA

Rockefeller Center is one of the most prominent urban interventions of the twentieth century. Beginning with Sigfried Giedion's analysis in "Space, Time and Architecture" (1941), the extensive literature on the project has treated it, almost universally, as an isolated enclave, disengaged programmatically, formally, and spatially from its urban surroundings. This paper argues to the contrary that Rockefeller Center was more integrated into the existing city fabric than it would appear, and that, moreover, it was conceived from an early stage to catalyze a dramatic transformation of the New York metropolitan region. This argument plays out in two registers. First, the project was a partial realization of earlier schemes by two of the Center's lead architects, Harvey Wiley Corbett and Raymond M. Hood, to re-imagine Manhattan as "one vast office," in Hood's words, with all non-commercial activities relegated indiscriminately to the suburbs. These schemes, in dialogue with other contributions to discourse like the 1929 "Regional Plan of New York," form part of the necessary backdrop against which to reconsider Rockefeller Center. Second, beginning in the early 1930s, management realized that the venture's financial viability was at stake if it could not attract "a continuous flow of the right kind of people" from throughout "the whole Metropolitan area," as Nelson Rockefeller bluntly put it. Their proposed solutions included a new subway through Midtown Manhattan and a rail terminal that would have encouraged the rapid suburbanization of still rural parts of neighboring New Jersey with profound social and environmental consequences. Though unrealized, these infrastructure projects challenge Rockefeller Center's received position in architectural and urban histories. To conjure a sufficient number of white, wealthy commuters into being, and in the service of corporate profitability, the Center's architects and managers sought to remap the social, economic, ethnic, and ecological contours of an entire region.

Keywords: suburb, commuter belt, infrastructure, race, ethnicity

Location: New York, USA

REGION THEME:

TESTING THEORY

Papers that explore the value, limits and future potentials of various types of regionalist architectural and urban theory

Reimagining Critical Regionalism in Bangladesh: regional Identity as expressed and resisted through contemporary architecture

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As a progressing field with slowly developing conceptual framings, contemporary architecture in Bangladesh has advanced into a state of universality. The resulting rendition of the internationally idealized built environment is sought to be reimagined within the scopes of contextual tradition and tangibility at regional scale. As termed by Tzonis and Lefaivre, Critical Regionalism seeks to identify the idea of region within the locality, and this is supported by Kenneth Frampton's version of resistance in regionalism as expressed through a contemporary vernacularization in architecture. This paper builds upon the above thoughts and expands to the realization of architecture of resistance in peripheral geographies.

As an independent country, formed in the 1970s, Bangladesh has often sought after its own interpretation of identity-rooted architecture between the struggle of conforming to the global idea and keeping its sentimentalist local rendition intact. Initially flourishing as consisting of unique architectural examples, gradually giving into the modernized version and eventually entering into the state of recognizing contextual importance through public awareness, Bangladesh has seen the emergence of Critical Regionalism within its own unique territorial characteristics in recent times. The pioneer of architecture in newly independent Bangladesh, Architect Muzharul Islam attempted to implement Frampton's six points in keeping with the local tradition. Many architects have gradually indulged themselves in trying to contextualize the built environment with a combined expression of the 'contemporary' and the 'cultural'. These architectural developments within Bangladesh align with the framework of Critical Regionalism, in an attempt to recognize regional distinctiveness through a unified whole. In order to explore the continuing invention and re-invention of traditional architecture in Bangladesh, contemporary cases will be approached in terms of their synchronization with the critical points of Frampton's architecture of resistance as measured within the tactile environment.

The paper brings forth the constructed specimens of individualism within the scopes of peripheral geographies with limited resources like Bangladesh, to explore the possibilities of diving into a system of Critical Regionalism. As a progressing field with slowly developing conceptual framings, contemporary architecture in Bangladesh has advanced into a state of universality. The resulting rendition of the internationally idealized built environment is sought to be reimagined within the scopes of contextual tradition and tangibility at regional scale. As termed by Tzonis and Lefaivre, Critical Regionalism seeks to identify the idea of region within

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Keywords: theory, critical regionalism, identity, vernacular, periphery, resistance

Location: Bangladesh

Contemporary African Philosophy as an idea for architectural mediation: a five point theoretical approach with examples from Ghana

Allan Balaara

Bowling Green State University, USA

African history, culture, and architecture is considered a triple heritage because of indigenous, Western and Islamic influences. The world of transnational practices further complicates this great diversity. Thus, mediating between the local and global which heralds' postcolonial architectural narratives of the past century, remains a concern in the present century especially because of the growing impact of globalisation. For example, the Cultural Policy of Ghana (CPG), 2004, admonishes that, architectural, planning and design work should account for indigenous ideas and aesthetics within the context of modern technology and contemporary practices. This interest reflects the position of Contemporary African Philosophy (CAP) on Africans postcolonial developmental agenda. This paper introduces CAP into architectural discourse for the first time in any known study with the objective to situate design approaches which explore the in-betweens of the local and the global. Because indigenous African society and its practices are complex on the level of the interstitial and the literal, the paper posits that both visual and tactile appropriation are complimentary and relevant in architectural mediation. A five-point approach to mediation that includes the folkloric, ideological, experiential, anthropological, developmental and the performative, is discussed in terms of CAP and provides new ways for rethinking the history and theory on British West African Modernism (1940s-1970s).

Keywords: theory, African philosophy, mediation, postcolonial

Location: Ghana, Africa

Determinism and ethics of re-production of communities in the forms of an American town

Andrea Canclini

Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Modern architectural historiography begins to distinguish between the activities of comment and criticism conceptualizing this transition starting from Walter Benjamin (1928). If at the beginning this distinction is seen as a return in the disciplinary utopia in search of meaning, later on Foucault (1966, 1971) describes the moment of transition from classicism to modernity: in its first phase, language is used as a perennial repetition, in the second, language is also used for self-criticism, considering itself as an object of possible investigation. In Foucauldian terms is in the appearance of the critique that the historical impossibility of narrating something original resides, so that the only possibility is to use language always in relation to something else, appearing as one of the procedures of control of the discourse itself.

During postmodernism in the United States, many new towns were built according to a use of language whose precepts were based on the nostalgic utopia of the American small town of the 1930s, in allusive reference to its social and communitarian contents. That archetypal models and the myth of an ideal past leave no way for a modern language, feeling at ease in confirming of the symbolic dominance of a nostalgic memory as both an operational role and aesthetic function.

In this regression, contextualism and historicism are mainly the theoretical basis of a stylistic rhetorical pluralism passed off as freedom and proposed as a reaction to the modern conception of language as an incomplete and inadequate form of representation of reality, in the certainty, on the contrary, that a stable and unique design language leads to an ethical form of representation that includes social and communitarian results as fatalistic outcomes.

This paper aims to demonstrate how the will to revive the typical *Gemeinschaft's* socio-spatial relations, in critical opposition to the *Gesellschaft* ones as described by Tönnies (1887), is both social and aesthetic: it relies on the deterministic capacity of these American urban fantasies to also allow and define the social relations and the forms of its community.

Keywords: theory, New Urbanism, postmodernism, philosophy, criticism, nostalgia, new towns

Location: USA

Four decades on three fronts: the unfinished projects of critical regionalism

Stylianos Giamarelos

The Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, UK

Critical regionalism is usually associated with place-specific architectures that resist the flattening onslaught of globalisation. But the world was certainly different, when the term 'critical regionalism' was first introduced in 1981, exactly four decades ago. At the start of this second, tumultuous decade of the 21st century, the complex realities of the world seem to call for rethinking this approach.

This paper revisits the discourses of critical regionalism as they were themselves further developed within the process of late 20th-century globalisation. This was also when the globalising process itself became the object of fierce debates, culminating in the anti-globalisation movement that started to rise at the turn of the millennium. But even that was the tip of an iceberg that gradually developed in the decades that preceded it. From the 1980s already, the global picture was more complex than its schematic representations by the three main authors of critical regionalism (Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefaivre, and Kenneth Frampton).

Revisiting critical regionalism as part of this broader historical framework, I will show how even critical regionalism ended up inadvertently promoting what it was fighting against. To do so, I will skim through four decades to revisit three worlds, three returns, three globalisations, three colonisations and three challenges of critical regionalism for the 2020s. In the process, I will also explain why this sort of thinking in triads is appropriate for this discussion. I will conclude wondering if it is still possible to attempt a historically informed update of critical regionalism as an unfinished project for the 21st century on three fronts: theory, history and historiography.

Keywords: theory, critical regionalism, globalisation

The question concerning types: a review

Davide Landi

UWE Bristol, UK

A characteristic of the 21st century for architecture as a discipline and profession is dealing with contemporary challenges such as a failure of traditional economic models, an urban and architectural density, technological literacy, migration phenomena, and pandemics. Whilst these challenges describe an emerging regime; they are not entirely new from a historical perspective. Over time, architecture has attempted to solve these challenges by critically hosting other fields to inform evolving architectural types. Therein lies the central aspect of a genuine architectural type. Despite its identifiable inventor, a type possesses such a degree of universality and anonymity that can be used by architecture in general. However, this capacity of hosting has got lost with the advent of a deterministic approach to architecture. The deterministic and regulatory culture, for instance, has imposed controlled forms, standards and functions to accommodate endless cycles of architectural production and consumption. Today, therefore, an engagement with architectural types does not so much offer a dialectic for design much less a means of critical resistance. In it, a theoretical contribution to architecture through a typological analysis has been abandoned.

From the 1835 architectural type's ground-breaking definition by A. C. Quatremère de Quincy to the contemporary discourse, this paper explores the constitution of architectural types, and pinpoints the contradictions and deficiencies in their crisis. By welcoming a robust review of past and present typological debates, this paper touches upon aspects of classification unself-conscious variables, re-composition of a city's fragments in a new context, and theories about typological design tested through constructions. Consequently, the analysis will introduce a turning point approach to architectural types that is concerned with universality again. This will allow the approach to reveal architectural types with their own renewed latent critical position equally regarding history and contemporaneity, stalemates and changes, the global and the regional.

Keywords: theory, typology

Sustainable Edification – questions of tectonic congruence, material genuineness, and adequate concepts of time and place

Niels Nygaard and Nella Qvist

Aarhus School of Architecture, Denmark

In 2020, AAA established a design-build studio as an 'edificatory project', focusing on agricultural buildings in rural Jutland. Essential to the curriculum is theoretical and practical approaches to regionalism, craftsmanship and construction, thus addressing the theme of AHRA 2021, in practice.

Since mid-19th century, a norm in architectural discourse has been a demand for authenticity, for honest material use, and preference for earnest, articulated structure. This norm seems to be compatible with sustainable building: things are what they seem; their beauty is in their purpose and appearance, hence no surplus resources required. Furthermore, locally retrieved materials, and their application, have been refined through centuries making them specifically apt for a certain locality.

Still a prevalent norm, practiced ideals of earnest construction are rare: even buildings celebrated for regional authenticity, historical awareness and material sensibility are often far from this ideal. Furthermore, built environments under conservation district plans, display incongruence between their historically and regionally 'correct' appearance, and their globally retrieved, industrially produced and standardized materials and technology.

If historical, spatial rootedness, material and cultural regionality are mere appearance, incongruent with local material, constructional tradition, what could contemporarily adequate concepts of time and place be? Could these concepts induce more sustainable building? Attempting to answer these questions, we assert a lateral concept of history, and a material regionalism. The former alludes to what T.S. Eliot called "historical sense" and to ideas of e.g. Owen Jones and Nietzsche. Material regionalism alludes to the place-specificity of weather, geology and materials, while techniques, tools, structural and spatial principles can be imported from anywhere.

Our project uses materials harvested on site, and application is consistent with regional, natural conditions, while details and building geometry are inspired by a range of regions and traditions.

Keywords: theory, tectonics, material, lateral history

Location: Jutland, Denmark

Region and its influence on Norwegian architectural thought

Marta Piórkowska

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Harwell Hamilton Harris, while describing the regional architecture, implied that "there is something special about the architecture of a particular locality, something that occurs nowhere else". This factor was the region and its specific characteristic which has a strong influence on architectural thought. The word region contains its specific atmosphere, climate, materials, and mythologies, which are different for almost every geographic location.

Norway and its complex architectural thought that goes back to the issues of phenomenology and genius loci are the best examples to illustrate the spectacular phenomenon of regional architecture. As Harris stated "a region promotes ideas. A region accepts ideas. Imagination and intelligence are necessary for both" it is important to examine the specificities of the region and its values to discover its unique potential to influence the architectural thought. In Norway, the most important factors which have a significant impact on the architecture are the unique, romantic landscape, mysterious atmosphere, sophisticated culture, and mythology. They are the starting points for the local architects to create unique architectural forms in a sculpted, Norwegian landscape.

The author, using the interpretative-historical method, will show how the region and its features (landscape, local climatic conditions, beliefs, and mythology) influenced Norwegian architectural thought and form. The starting point for the author's analyses will be Christian Norberg-Schulz's theories which concerned the issues of the phenomenology and the idea of the genius loci. The Author will analyse their influence on the architecture and show how specific features of the region are responsible for the unusual architecture emerging in Norway.

Keywords: theory, landscape, phenomenology, genius loci

Location: Norway

Discovered regionality: I.M. Pei's symbolic architecture and landscape traditions

Vincent Yuxin Qiu and Ufuk Ersoy

Clemson University, USA

This essay compares I.M. Pei's (1917-2019) two contemporaneous projects in two distinct regions: The Beijing Fragrant Hill Hotel (1982) and the Pyramids of the Louvre (1993). Digging into Paul Ricoeur's symbol theory behind critical regionalism, the essay traces the two projects' distinct architectural languages (mimetic vs. autonomy), technological strategies (on-site vs. pre-fabricate), and different relations with the surroundings (unifying vs. contrasting).

The Beijing Fragrant Hill Hotel intentionally distanced from Imperial Beijing's loaded histories to explore Chinese vernacular landscapes thematically. The building created an architectural language for modern China that codified anonymous traditional garden practices. Technological and economic constraints transformed into a unique regional expression exemplified by the glass atrium. The building's plan, elevation, and section embody the "cosmic axiality" that synchronizes with the topography. Coincides with Feng Shui principles, the building is a device that inscribes the dwelling wisdom to seek correspondences with the natural order as occasioned in the spatial-temporal circumstances.

The Pyramids of the Louvre immerse within the historical site, yet taking an abstract form that renounces any direct association with it. The up-to-date technology and material ensured the large underground volumes and supposedly transparent glass pyramids, both of which, nonetheless, made the building oscillate between presence and absence. Such a situation triggers renewals to the historicized semantic meanings of the surrounding architectural languages. The building echoes the French garden Tuileries and the entire city's fabric with its abstract geometry, which reiterates the irreducible spirit of the regional urban landscapes: the pursuit of transcendental infinity from the finite human condition.

Built upon Jeff Maples' theory of place, the essay argues that although the two projects correlate to two different landscape traditions in distinct ways, they both show that architectural regionality is not given styles but discovered from the experiences granted by place yet previously remain unexpressed.

Keywords: theory, place, feng shui, abstraction, landscape

Location: Beijing, China; Paris, France

Interrogating Critical Regionalism: how do architects today articulate the global and the regional?

Ziqi Zheng, Robert Schmidt III and Simon Richards

Loughborough University, UK

The development of a globalised architecture since 1928 (CIAM) has never stopped enhancing the growth of architecture and benefit to the construction industry. At the time, it was regarded as avant-garde, international or universal architecture, which performed on the world stage. On the one hand, it contained aesthetic and technical elements, and universal features that strengthen the ability to create and spread an international design language globally. On the other hand, it betrayed the unique identity of regional characteristics, especially when playing the role of 'icon'.

However, as an opposite resistance, the discussion of region and regional architectural design perform in a tensional relationship with the global strength. Critical regionalism – first coined as a term in 1981 in Tzonis and Lefaivre's 'The Grid and the Pathway' – aims to revive the dormant regional characteristics and critically make a balance between the global and regional in architectural design. The core of critical regionalism is dissected and interpreted by the authors through three interrelated strategies: tectonics, defamiliarization and sense of place, which will be operationalised as an analytical lens to examine contemporary architectural design.

This paper will use this analytical lens to explore how contemporary architects who work closely with the theme of region respond to regional architecture in a globalised context. Subsequently, we examine five built architectural works designed by the interviewed architects which scrutinises how ideas on global and regional practices translate into a 'critical regionalist architecture'. One of the major conclusions is that critical regionalism is a radical and 'out-of-date' concept. Though it could balance itself in an appropriate direction through its 'criticalness', the theoretical core is subject to its era. Moreover, tectonics is a more concrete consideration; whereas, defamiliarization and sense of place act as vague accessories of tectonics making the practice of critical regionalism 'fuzzy'.

Keywords: theory, critical regionalism, tectonics, defamiliarization, place

Workshop Session 1:

Creating thriving and resilient towns: collaborating for change in regional centres

Matthew Jones¹ and Orla Murphy²

¹Centre for Towns Research, Birmingham School of Architecture and Design; ²Centre for Irish Towns, University College Dublin

This is a time of change for towns. The political lens has shifted to smaller settlements and new understandings of living, working and leisure offer the opportunity to radically rethink what our towns are for and how they can be reimagined with local people at their heart. How can we as designers take a greater role in shaping the future of small communities? Can we lead the way in creating thriving and resilient small towns?

Conceived as a virtual 'town hall', we invite participants to explore the potential and challenges in sustaining, nurturing and reimagining towns and smaller communities in the UK, Ireland and beyond. Through a playful and collaborative series of online tasks, the workshop will explore several themes:

- What are the tangible and intangible qualities of towns? What do they look and feel like?
- What are the challenges and opportunities they are facing?
- What is their potential as a focus of sustainable regional ecosystems?
- What is already being done, and what future collaborations could we build?

Key task

Attendees can view a Miro board at https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_l7FI-ss=/ where a pre-workshop task will be hosted to set the scene for the session. You are asked to gift to the workshop an image of a place or an artifact you have created that reveals something hidden or overlooked, draws attention to a certain aspect of a town or smaller community, triggers memories for you about a town you have lived in or visited, or make an aspect more tangible or memorable. This will form the starting point for the workshop.

Workshop Session 2:

Uneven Growth / New Urban Peripheries

Alona Martinez Perez¹ and Ana Miret Garcia²¹Leicester School of Architecture, De Montfort University; ²Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of Edinburgh

We invite participants for a Pecha Kucha style roundtable discussion around New Urban Peripheries. The aim of the session is to discuss the defining qualities of contemporary urban peripheries across specific geographical regions.

We live in an era of massive and rapid urbanization. Around the world, the spatial peripheries of cities have expanded dramatically during the first two decades of the XXI century. Beyond the non-central location, what are the defining characteristics of contemporary growth in the peripheries of cities? Whereas some of the qualities of urban peripheries are dependency, dispersion, fragmentation, insularity, isolation, poor connections and access to infrastructures and facilities, in some places the tendency of post-suburbanization is subverting the classical de-densification associated to suburbanization into a process that involves densification, complexification and diversification (Charmes & Keil 2015). The new technologies have enabled a politics of places able to integrate formerly peripheral locations within central global networks (Sassen 2004). Contemporary forms of urban growth are diversifying in morphology, socioeconomic and demographic profile, and the boundaries between central city cores and their peripheries are increasingly breaking down.

We welcome contributions aiming to explore new theoretical or methodological approaches to better capture the dynamics and characteristics of contemporary urban peripheries in different parts of the world, including forms of governance, policy, planning and/or daily life experiences within the urban periphery.

Key task

Please reflect on the following questions and post your thoughts on the relevant Workshop section of the conference Miro board:

- What are the defining socio/cultural dynamics, morphologies and ways of life of contemporary urban peripheries?
- Which methods could be used to represent, map and define these new peripheral territories?
- Which kind of new interventions could be proposed for improving the conditions of these new urban environments?

Workshop Session 3:

Practices of urban inclusion

Beatrice de Carli¹ and Lucia Caistor-Arendar²¹School of Art, Architecture and Design, London Metropolitan University; ²Civic Designer, Researcher, Consultant and ASF-UK

in dialogue with:

Nishat Awan, Aya Musmar, Meike Schalk and the AHRA 2021 conference delegates

The workshop will facilitate a reflection on what a focus on migration and movement might mean for architectural and urban planning education in Europe.

This event emerges from two pan-European projects titled DESINC – Designing Inclusion (desinc.org) and DESINC Live – Designing and learning in the context of migration (desinclive.eu). Since 2016, these projects have brought together a broad range of higher education institutions and civil society organisations across four European countries to design and test an experimental transregional and transdisciplinary course titled, Practices of Urban Inclusion.

Practices of Urban Inclusion asks how we can plan, build and put into practice cities that promote inclusion. The course centres on the lived experiences of migration and movement as key perspectives to understand how urban spaces can produce or challenge exclusion. In doing so, it explores how urban planning, architecture and spatial practice can contribute to making cities of care and conviviality, where more people feel welcome in more spaces.

The workshop will include a brief presentation of this experimental course, its underpinning ethos, and its main activities—focusing on key ethical, intellectual and practical challenges emerged during its recently concluded first iteration. This will be followed by a dialogue with three invited respondents who will share their thoughts from teaching and researching similar topics and settings, and will open up further points for discussion with the conference delegates.

Key task

In preparation for the event, registered participants will receive in advance an extended prospectus of the course and a set of questions to instigate reflection and dialogue. Please check the Workshop section of the conference MIRO board for the prospectus and questions. By the end of the workshop, we will aim to suggest pointers for future architectural and urban planning pedagogy that sees mobility as a key element of city-making.

Re-imagining the Artefact

The 2021 AHRA conference will question what 'region' and 'regional' mean for architectural cultures past and present, and will speculate on the different forms and formulations they might take in the future.

In addition to the academic debate, the conference put forward a student design competition for provocative and speculative design proposals that re-imagine a regional artefact into an architectural proposition. We invited undergraduate and postgraduate students to analyse their regional identity and its complexities. Students had the opportunity to consider any regional artefact that may relate to their understanding of 'region'. We encouraged critical, creative and reflective readings and translations, while accepting the notion of 'artefact' in the broadest sense: man-made or natural... an object, setting, memory, dream, story, poem, drawing, conflict or border. Students were asked that their responses should address four key questions:

1. How do you critically define the meaning of 'region'?
2. How is that definition/perspective embodied in a regional artefact?
3. How can you deconstruct, translate and re-imagine this regional artefact into a spatial environment?
4. What new purpose will your reconstructed artefact serve?

Jury

Dr. Aya Jazaiery

LU-Arc, School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering, Loughborough University, UK

Prof. Marsha Meskimmon

LU-Arc, School of Geography and Environment, Loughborough University, UK

Prof. Phillip Lindley

LU-Arc, School of Design and Creative Arts, Loughborough University, UK

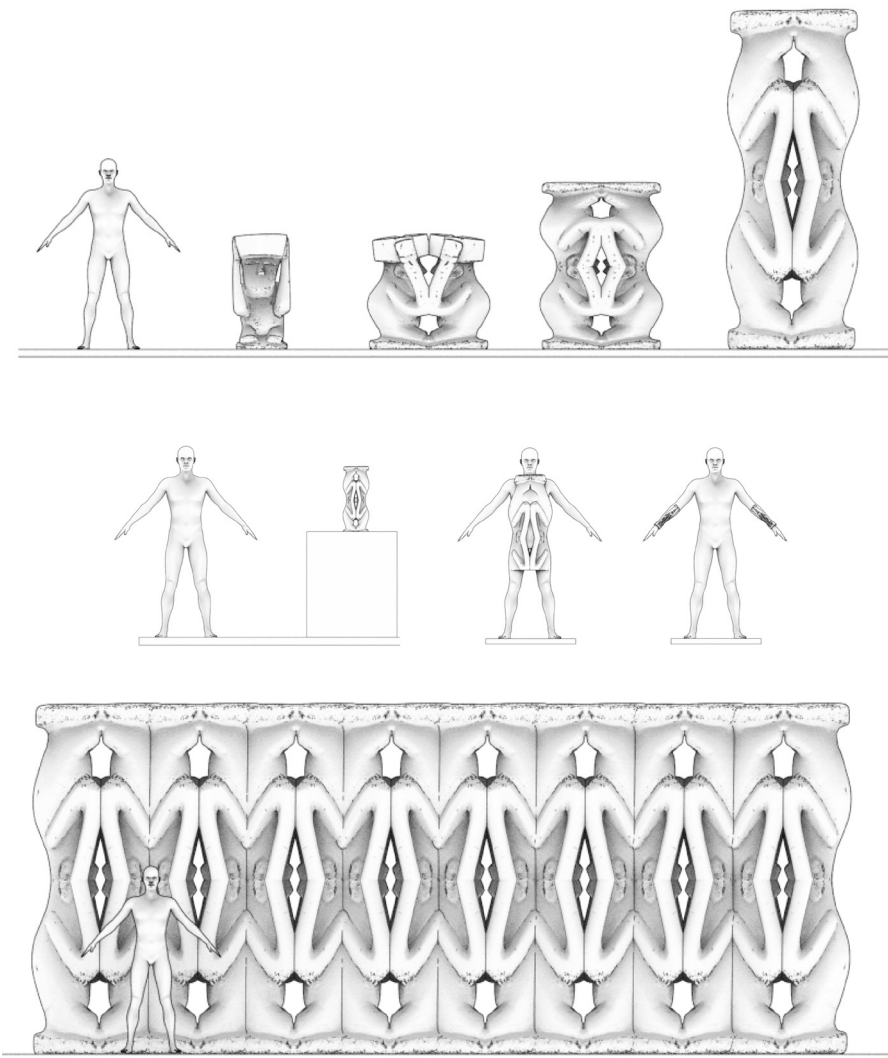
Dr. Efi Spentzou

LU-Arc, School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering, Loughborough University, UK

Prizes

- 1st place: £500
- 2nd place: £250
- 3rd place: £100

The results and the winners will also be exhibited through social media and the REGION - AHRA 2021 website.



Re-imagining Rio's Lost Heritage, Will Garner

**Proceedings of the 18th Annual International Architectural Humanities Research
Association Conference**

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