

Special Issue

QUESTIONS 6 – International Workshop in Architecture and Urban Planning

The built Environment – between permanent and temporary

FOREWORD

The present volume includes papers presented at the 6-th International Workshop in Architecture and Urban Planning, organized by the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca. Preceding the diploma-project sessions of the Faculty and the related exhibition, the workshop was organized in Cluj-Napoca (Romania) on the 10th and 11th of July 2017 and was entitled “QUESTIONS – The built Environment – between permanent and temporary”.

In a time when the global community reorients to new goals passing through ecologic, economic and social changes, the construction is realized following the sustainability principles. From this point of view, an integrated and, after all, radical approach, imposes a critical view upon the life cycles of the artificial environment we are proposing.

The permanent construction is characterized through a long lifetime, exceeding the time in which it was done and responded to the needs and aspirations of the society which generated it. Preservation and reuse of this physical reality is a key concept which has to be approached holistically, especially through the message identified with the culture it represents, frequently difficult to be deciphered in the heterogeneous European society of today, in quick evolution.

Dynamic of renewal is evident and ask for serious answers. The temporary construction is/can be - an immediate response to this dynamic. It can be replaced as long as a new request appear and it is experimental formally and socially.

Our discussion raises issue of permanent versus temporary built environment, at different stages of the profession of architect or urban planner, from the territorial scale to that of settlements, buildings and furniture elements, details.

Responding to the Call for Papers, scholars and PhD students/candidates, professionals in architecture and architectural higher education contributed to a refreshed understanding of a dialectical pair – permanent and temporary - that has often been at the core of theoretical and practical discourses on the built environment.

The contributions were grouped according to three main topics:

1. Territory – spatial and cultural connections, distinct identities and delimitations – between permanent and temporary.
2. Human Settlements – cultural and civilization sites, dynamic and heterogeneous, or sites of ancient and deep traditions – between permanent and temporary.
3. Buildings – the world of communities and individuals, living in harmony or antagonism – between permanent and temporary.

4. Furniture – interiority and embodiment – between permanent and temporary.

During the workshop, students, teaching staff, researchers and other professional community members had the opportunity to attend contributions by invited professors, from universities involved in Erasmus programs with our Faculty: Fabien Palisse, Arch. du Patrimoine, Maître Assistant Associé, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Clermont-Ferrand, France; Patrick Thépot, Enseign. Arch., Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble, France; Raf De Saeger, Prof. PhD Eng.-Arch., Faculty of Architecture, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven campus Sint Lucas, Brussels/Ghent, Brussels, Belgium; Christian Hanus, Prof.PhD.Arch. Dean of Fakultat fur Bildung, Kunst und Architektu, Donau-Universitat Krems – Universitat fur Weiterbildung, Austria. Other contributors to the workshop came from Department of Architectural Engineering, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium, School of Architecture NTU Athena, Greece, UP/ Timisoara, UAUIM/Bucharest, UT/ Cluj-Napoca, UAD/Cluj-Napoca, UBB/Cluj-Napoca and individual architecture offices.

We are very grateful to Prof. PhD Eng. Vasile Topa, Rector of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca and to Prof. PhD. Eng. Cristina Campean, Head of the International Office of T.U. Cluj-Napoca, who encouraged and supported this workshop and to our Dean, Assoc. Prof.PhD Arch. Adrian Iancu.

The editors appreciate all authors' effort in their valuable contributions as well as the colleagues' help in reviewing the papers published in this book.

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Organiser and Editor,

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