

***Special Issue***

***QUESTIONS – 5<sup>th</sup> International Workshop in Architecture and Urban Planning***

**Buildings – Cities – Territory**

## **FOREWORD**

The present volume includes papers presented at the **Fifths International Workshop in Architecture and Urban Planning, organized by the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca**. Predating the diploma-project sessions of the Faculty and the related exhibition, the workshop was organized in Cluj-Napoca (Romania) on the **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2016** and was entitled “**QUESTIONS - Buildings – Cities – Territory**”.

Responding to the Call for Papers, scholars and PhD students/candidates, professionals in architecture and architectural higher education contributed to a refreshed understanding of the interrelationship between the three levels of design that mark the profession of architect and urban planner, the profession of teachers in higher education of architecture and urban planning, from building design to city scale and to the territory. These three scales were therefore the three main panels of the conference of this year and they generate the grounds for fruitful interdisciplinary studies and interesting professional debates.

The contributions were grouped according to three main topics:

### ***Buildings***

The architecture of the building – from the smallest to the largest dimension – but also specific to the time scales variations attached to them (short time approach overlapping the long time one) forces us to question the differences which characterizes a space.

### ***Cities***

The scale of the city offers a sedimented history of tastes and cultural forms, of social issues and their physical expression; the relationship between the built landscape and the social world is dialectical, each shaping the other. The architecture of the city has allowed us to become aware of the essential nature of the components of the architectural thought, and of the need to integrate, on long-term, not only its expression, but also the architectural thinking, with a critical eye.

### ***Territory***

The architecture of the territory raises issues of identity and connectivity. Expanding our physical connections across space, does not mean to standardize the territory, but the preservation of its cultural distinctiveness across time.

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: Patrick Thépot, Enseign. Arch., Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble and Raf De Saeger, Prof. PhD Eng.-Arch., Faculty of Architecture, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven campus Sint Lucas, Brussels/Ghent.

Other contributors to the workshop came from UAUIM Bucharest, UT/ Cluj-Napoca and individual architecture offices.

We are very grateful to Prof. PhD Eng. Vasile Țopa, Rector of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca and to Prof. PhD. Eng. Vasile Dădârlat, Head of the International Office of T.U. Cluj-Napoca, who encouraged and supported this workshop and to our Dean, 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.

We must mention the importance of material support constantly assured by our colleagues, Șerban Țigănaș, President of the Romanian Architect's Order and Assoc. Prof. PhD.Arch.Dana Opincariu. Thanks for the administrative and organizational skills to Lect. PhD Arch. Octav Olănescu, Assoc. Prof.PhD Arch. Paul Mutică, T.Assist. PhD.Arch. Andreea Moțu, T.Assist. PhDs Arch. Alice Oprică, T.Assist.PhD.Arch.Mihai Racu and for the important help in organizing the social events to Techn. Cristina Miclea.

Organiser and Editor,

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Cluj-Napoca, December 2016