5th Biennial ISPA Conference 2021

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the philosophy of architecture.

02.07
03.07
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05.07
2021

Monte Verità, Switzerland

Public
Space

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and the

Real
Ideal

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André Patrão (Architecture, Criticism, Theory and History Lab, EPFL)
Hans Teerds (Chair for the History and Theory of Urban Design, ETH Zurich)
Christoph Baumberger (Environmental Philosphy Group, ETH Zurich)

Collaborators

Philippe Buchs, Luca Can

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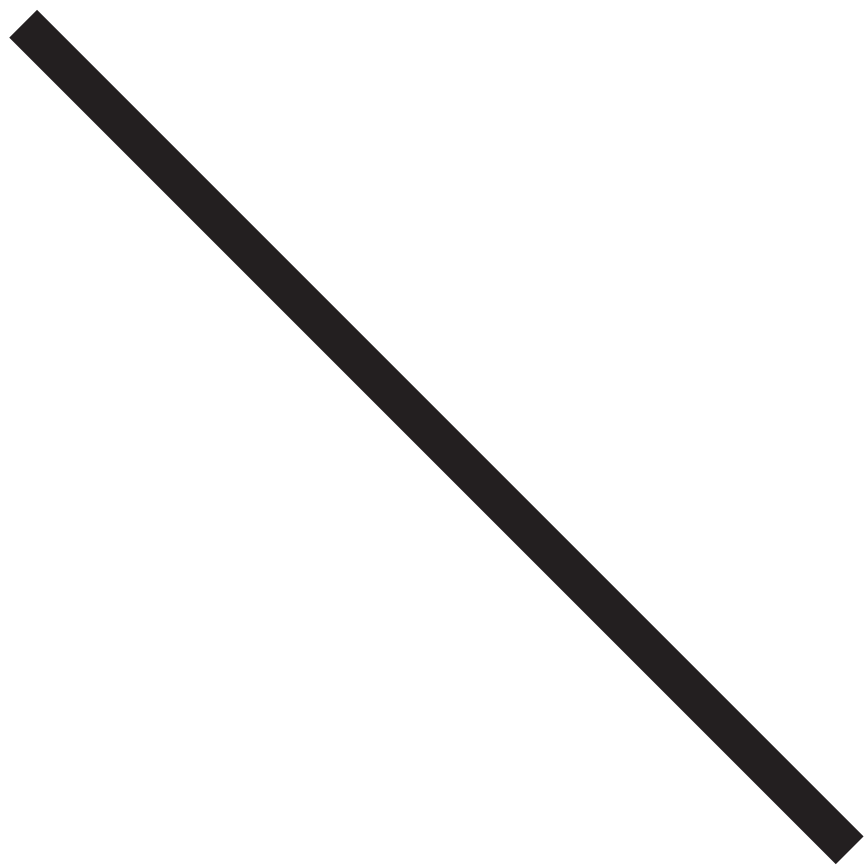Christophe Van Gerrewey, EPFL, CH

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Session C3.2
The right to housing?
The antinomies of social housing
between public and private

03.07.21
SOCIAL COOPERATIVE PRACTICES

15:45-17:15

Chair
Christoph Baumberger

<u>Sila Karatas</u>

Abstract

What is social housing, is it a right or a property? Is it guaranteed for all by welfare state or non-governmental organizations or a commodity in capitalist production and market relations? According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, housing is a human right for 'a standard for living.' Nowadays referred next to 'adequate housing,' 'the right to housing' refers to specific groups of society such as 'women, children, slum-dwellers, homeless, disabled, displaced, migrants, and indigenous' as denoted by the UN Habitat for human rights. Either defined in relation to 'the standard of living' by mass housing of the Fordist welfare state or to 'the quality of life' by 'the right to buy' discourse of the post-Fordist neoliberal state, 'the right to housing' represents the antinomy of social housing oscillating between public and private entity. It is a means of realizing the eidos of both collective and individual, therewithal of building the wall or the cave to shelter and to evict, or to imprison. Referred as an umbrella term for producing collective habitation for specific groups in need of adequate housing, social housing is inclusive of diverse terminology in terms of political, socio-economic and institutional tools as well as of procedural approaches in building design and construction typologies and of shareholders in production. These terms vary as affordable housing, public housing, self-help housing, core housing, cooperative housing, co-housing, low-income housing, low-cost housing, and so on. Informal housing or self- provisional housing also participate in this sub-terminology of social housing developed as informal responses to housing demand by the poor.

However, all the above classifications related to form and content, assessable and evaluable not only to spatial and functional but also social and cultural criteria, do not figure out the critical core in social housing as a field of space production. Through a Platonic reading of space, social housing signifies a dialogue between form and content. Through a Marxist reading of space production, social housing reifies the eidos, thus is a commodity. Superposing both readings on a material ground, social housing dialectically denotes both public and private property due to provision, distribution, use and maintenance of resources and people on land through settlement and eviction processes reproducing itself anew. As long as the notion of dwelling is tied to the land dominated by production and market relations, housing embodies the notion of property as a field of policy, planning and design by searching for equilibrium between land value and population control. It is a 'right' neutralizing the tension between accumulation by dispossession and need for shelter as well as a 'commodity' fatting up housing industry, thus is a means of reconciliation and of restraint at the same time.

Social housing has occupied an urgent field of architecture and urbanism since the Industrial Revolution. It was a 'space of harmony' for 'emancipation' of the working class in tune with the Fordist everyday life, but rather is a 'conflict space' in the post-Fordist age intermingled with the search for forms and tools of common land and home ownership against the rise of poverty and shortage of resources in different geographies. At this specific moment, this paper aims at a critical analysis on the antinomies of social housing by digging Fordist and post-Fordist discourses and practices on social housing and by unravelling the networks between institutions and actors as well as environment and people in housing production. With reference to the praxis of social housing in the last century oscillating between settlement and eviction practices, it suggests a materialist and dialectic re-definition of 'public' and 'private' for social housing.

Biography

Graduated as architect and awarded master's degree with the thesis "Building Marshall Plan in Turkey: The Formation of Workers' Housing Question, 1946-1962" at the Middle East Technical University. Worked as assistant and lecturer in Turkey between 2012-2019; took part in architectural and urban design studios as tutor and reviewer, gave the course Case Studies in Social Housing and Community Planning.
Currently, she is a doctoral assistant at the Construction and Conservation Laboratory of EPFL. Her PhD research concerns postwar workers' housing programs performed by the Mediterranean countries participated in the Marshall Plan and analyses transnational discourses on and local models of social housing production in relation to postwar development and planning programs. This research is funded by the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship.

SESSIONS

03.07.21	AUDITORIUM	BALINT	ERANOS
09H15-10H45	Session A3: **UTOPIAS AND HETEROTOPIAS** Chair: André Patrao	Session B3: **IDENTITY AND APPROPRIATION** Chair: Hannah Knoop	Session C3: **SOCIAL COOPERATIVE PRACTICES** Chair: Christoph Baumberger
	A 3.1 Rick Fox Scripted space: Surveillance capitalism and the utopia of certainty	B 3.1 Riva Lava Public space and the collective ideal: The case of the «Thisseion Garden» at the foot of the Athenian Acropolis (online)	C 3.1 Franziska Kramer On which ground? Cooperative housing models under the influence of the land issue
	A 3.2 Aurosa Alison From ideal to real: The sens of utopia as the key to reading the city of urban space (online)	B 3.2 Nehe Korde Cultural narratives: a medium to generate design perspectives from activating the green line area in Liv, Ukraine (online)	C 3.2 Sila Karatas: The right to housing? The antinomies of social housing between public and private
	A 3.3 Paul Helfritzsch A space between rest and consumption: heterotopias and idealtopieas: Social outbursts as seen in cemeterys and digital spaces (online)	B 3.3 Laura Meulemans Commoning as a distinct publicness, the twentieth-century belt of Antwerpen as a case	C 3.3 Irina Davidovici Public space at home: From squatting theory to cooperative practice
10H45-11H00		COFFEE BREAK	
11H00-12H30	Session A4: **PUBLIC VS PRIVATE SPACE** Chair: Christoph Baumberger	Session B4: **JAKARTA, BOGOTA, AHMEDABAD** Chair: Tom Avermaete	Session C4: **ANCIENT GREECE AND BEYOND** Chair: Boriz Hamzeian
	A 4.1 Tom Spector Towards a theory of POPS (Privately Owned Public Space)	B 4.1 Cik Najah Md Alwi Nicole Porter Surveying the urban mundane: The unconventional everydayness in public spaces of Jakarta City (online)	C 4.1 José Vela Castillo The space of the middle: Again
	A 4.2 Alessandro Esposito Praxis and cities: from reified spaces to collective spaces	B 4.2 Maurico Baez Markets in Bogota	C 4.2 Lydia Xynogala Therapeia as public space in the greek Loutropolis
	A 4.3 Laura Gioeni From public space to public place (online)	B 4.3 Gaytri Easwaran Urban Public spaces: From universals to particulars: The case of Bhadra Plaza, Ahmedabad (online)	C 4.3 Eirini Peraki & Natalie Donat-Cattin The convergance of the positive: one, no one and one houndred thousand
12H30-14H00		LUNCH	
14H00-15H30		GUIDED VISIT TO THE MONTE VERITÀ GARDENS	
15H30-15H45		COFFEE BREAK	