Jury Proceedings YTAA 2018

Architecture schools thrive on conversations that are student to student, teacher to teacher, and studio versus reality. These conversations offer differing viewpoints for design discoveries to be made and design sensibilities to be formed, allowing students to flourish in an atmosphere that can bring these conversations into productive dialogue for architectural speculation, investigation, and experimentation. These conversations finalize themselves in graduation projects that require students to develop an explorative process into a subject of their choosing, take a clear intellectual position, and propose a specific design. Final graduation projects vary from other forms of architectural production like competitions or those of the professional world: there are no written regulations, there are no client requests. This special condition brings emphasis to originality and radicality, offering the opportunity to anticipate unforeseen innovations and future realities. All too often, architecture students are educated to produce highly original and cultivated design authorship. As a jury, we sought out graduation projects that showed independent, critical, and skilled thinking that responded to contemporary society's design challenges. We looked for projects that questioned the problem-solving cliché often found in architectural education and whose thinking had the potential to bring back a set of ethical and social values back to the core of the profession through future practice—acknowledging that architecture works with complex situations that require broad understanding and action. We were interested in projects that maintained strong convictions and expanded the architectural imagination.

Architecture is an inherently speculative; and therefore, inherently visionary. As a jury, we were not interested in selecting graduation projects that heralded back to a 1960s-visionary architecture—which seems the cliché today in architectural education if one wants to be politically and socially charged. Instead, each of the 40 short-listed projects presents a vision of how one would start to work for the future: the increasing dichotomy between urban and rural contexts, clearly designed spatial responses to a set of real-world concerns or issues, and the extended use of cross-disciplinary tools and devices.

The eight finalists operate with reuse, reinterpretation of the old, and the integration of new programs to develop design strategies for landscapes, infrastructures, urban rejuvenation, and buildings. The Ceramics–Design of a Factory project looks at a series of historical case studies of ceramic factories to propose an updated version of this specific building type, addressing the relationship between production sectors and rural contexts. This is connected to the project entitled the Fallen Monuments of Egerkingen, where the logistical landscape of industrial warehouses is monumentalized with the addition of housing and working spaces as "bases" and "crowns" to this everyday architecture. The May I Use the Front/Backdoor? adds new compact housing units to
densify a sprawled residential area in Ghent; while Rhizome designs a housing block system, replacing the existing one and adapting to the complex urban condition of an area of Addis Ababa. These two projects work with specific urban fabrics to optimize and improve the current built environment as the House, Kitchen, Garden and the Last Landscape, revitalize urban voids settling a series of poetic artifacts on a no man's land turned into new landscapes. At the landscape scale, Citadel of Tides builds a piece of waterfront infrastructure able to protect the lower lands of Oostende against floods, changing the meaning and purpose of the historic Atlantic Wall. Going back to the urban context, Confluence, creates new public space from an archaeological world, sited in between the old and the new city, uncovering ruins and preparing the foundations for the new buildings that will be raised on the riverside of London.

The four winning projects are complete and thorough works, each asking a set of architectural questions and inquiries. These projects have implicit and explicit socio-cultural relevance that is materialized according to each author’s personal arguments and understanding of architecture and its social environment.

The Perdido (Lost)—P.R.U.S. of Madrid, the Plan of Recovery of the existing Underground Spaces, recovers turns an obsolete medieval underground water infrastructure into public space through a net strategy, first with a thorough analysis of the existing conditions and then by designing a new network of public entrances. The Jury was impressed with how the project works simultaneously at different scales—the urban, the infrastructural, and the tectonic—in order to experiment with the existing and newly designed architectural system.

The Berlin and London projects look back at iconic buildings that were built by masters such as Schinkel and Soane. These projects offer an in-depth study to understand the original tectonic and programmatic approaches of these iconic buildings. The project for the Bauakademie in Berlin is not only a study on reconstruction but also explores how to negotiate future design decisions for a building long gone yet still very prominent in the mind. The Jury appreciated how the author developed a rhetorical project aimed at asking engaging questions related to a contentious rebuilding project, implicitly having a social and cultural relevance. Critically inspired by John Soane’s legendary “ruin-esque” Bank of England in London, the project explicitly engages the architectural dialectics of ruin and construction, interiority and exteriority, genuine publicity and institutional power, designing an entirely new building by transforming and extending the existing one. The Jury was startled by the originality of this project, an intellectual work interrelating typological ideas of the ruin and the bank with a conceptual understanding of money and commodity. The richly detailed drawings were complemented by a thoughtful piece of writing.
Deplorable Framework is a proposal for the holistic reinvention of the British countryside. It imagines a new approach to landscape by establishing a new relationship between human and nature within the institutional framework of the British National Parks. The Jury was attracted by the development of a post-Brexit reality and how the author strongly reimagines how to deal with this reality in relation to the landscape.

**Jury Members**

Salomon Frausto, Director of Studies at the Berlage, Delft (Chairman).

Martina Bauer, Architect, Senior Associate at Barkow Leibinger, Berlin.

Ana Betancour, Researcher, Professor and Rector at UMA School of Architecture, Umeå.

Matilde Cassani, Architect on the border between architecture, installation and event design, Milan.

Rainer Mahlamäki, Architect Founder of Lahdelma & Mahlamäki Architects, Helsinki.

Anna Ramos, director of Fundació Mies van der Rohe (Secretary).
4 Winning Projects

Neue Bau akademie Berlin - a club for the former & future architecture, Hendrik Brinkmann.
College of Architecture, Media and Design. Berlin University of the Arts, DE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/521

Perdido (Lost) - P.R.U.S. of Madrid, Julio Gotor Valcárcel.
Madrid School of Architecture, Polytechnic University of Madrid, ES
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/453

The Bank of England: a dialectical project, Loed Stolte
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology, NL
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/360

Deplorable Framework, Matthew Gregorowski
The Cass Faculty of Art Architecture & Design, London Metropolitan University, UK
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/500

8 Finalist Projects

May I use the front/backdoor?, Nele Bergmans
Faculty of Architecture, Catholic University of Leuven, BE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/386

The Citadel of Tides, Marie Moors
Faculty of Architecture and Arts, Hasselt University, DE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/353

Ceramics - Design of a factory, Sina Pauline Riedlinger, Franziska Käuferle
Faculty VI, Planning, Construction and Environment, Technical University of Berlin, DE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/567

Last Landscape, Simone Marchetti, Sofia Paoli, Beatrice Maria Rogantini Picco
School of Architecture Urban Planning and Construction Engineering, Polytechnic of Milan, IT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/490

House, Kitchen, Garden in Alcácer do Sal, Pedro Frade
Architecture Faculty of Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, PT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/709

The Fallen Monuments of Egerkingen, Eva Lanter
Department of Architecture, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, CH
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/608

Rhizome, Arianna Fornasiero, Paolo Turconi
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology, NL
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/362
Confluence, Joshua Penk
Undergraduate School, Architectural Association School of Architecture, UK
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/356

28 Shortlisted Projects

Água Espaida Urban Integration, Beatrice Gevi.
Polytechnic School. University of Genoa, IT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/657

Benevolent Scarring, Sean William Murphy
School of Architecture. University of Limerick, IE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/373

Between the Limit and the Trench, Margarita Zakynthinou-Xanthi, Elena Mylona, Zoe TZounidou.
School of Architecture. National Technical University of Athens, GR
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/605

Build to make a change, Francesca Vittorini.
Faculty of Engineering - Degree in Building Engineering-Architecture. Marche Polytechnic University Ancona, IT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/668

City of Fatigue, Joon Il Myeong.
Hanyang University School of Architecture. Hanyang University, Seoul KR
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/393

Civic Games, Maeve Curley.
School of Architecture. University of Limerick, IE
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/372

Crafting the disused, Frederice Koch.
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment. Delft University of Technology, NL
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/374

Forms of defence, Enrico Miglietta.
School of Architecture Urban Planning and Construction Engineering. Polytechnic of Milan, IT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/489

Hong Kong - New New Territories, Caterina Barbon, Matteo Vianello, Tommaso Petrosino.
Department of Architecture and Arts. IUAV University of Venice, IT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/528

Interstices of Urban Dualism in Maputo, João Pedro de Brito Oliveira.
Faculty of Architecture. University of Lisbon, PT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/468
Kifufu Integrative School, Michael Schwarz, Paul Gröfler. Architecture and Planning. Vienna University of Technology, AT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/641

Lasvit flagship store, Filip Galko. Faculty of Architecture. Czech Technical University, CZ
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/700

Manufaktur Schloss Welsberg, Stefan Prattes. Faculty of Architecture. Graz University of Technology, AT
http://ytaa.miesbcn.com/work/375

Barcelona, 27 April 2018

[Signatures]

Ana Betancour
Matilde Cassani
Anna Hamos (secretary)