

BUILT PEDAGOGY

If we follow the dictates of reality a responsible pedagogy will respect The Old Commerce building as part of a more complex historical process in which people can only legate their effort bound to a phisical material like the columns. In our time the sirens in architecture don't sing but show us captivating images dispossessed of materiality.

The Old Commerce building must be the link in this temporal dialogue with the new Faculty of architecture in a similar way to the italian cronicles by Stendhal which he first bought and, transcribing them, he transformed into a masterpiece like Vanina Vanini about which Giuseppe Tomaso di Lampedusa said "it is necessary to write that way".

The pedagogy begins with the coexistence between two periods of time from where we can learn the crafts of two buildings separated more than a century giving us a rather complete idea of the complexities of architecture and making us think: It is necessary to build that way.



ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

The building will have to encourage an excellent academic environment. The way it is supposed to do so is by creating a subtle atmosphere with the quality of the spaces, the details, the material ... The atmosphere is bound to the reflection of light on the material and to the relationship with open outer spaces. These yards give a new attribute to the upper levels historically reserved to the ground floor. Throughout the miracle of the fertile earth the transparencies obtain from nature that component of the romantic consciousness that so many times inspire the rational mind.



DESIGN STUDIO

The Faculty must point to the idea of being itself an addition of architecture studios, where a group of 20 students configure a studio needing about 100 m². It must be a well tempered environment, with the entrance of natural light.

To see and to be seen. Catwalks connecting different level offices and broader spaces for group working in order to meet acoustic comfort. Walking is intended to be a rich experience of finding variety, mess and peace and, almost together, the idea of a exposed infinite with long visual perspectives and the idea of the protected shelter.



THE LIVING BUILDING

The spirit of this critic time fights between the affiliation of architecture to the reasonable duration or to the celebration of an event accepting its briefness and high cost maintenance. We assume quietly the specificity of the architectonic discipline, as a principle of approaching perfection. In a world contaminated with the noise of images we return to the idea of construction. The shape will only pass through the task of time when it meets coherence between thought and construction. The obsolescence comes with the mechanic elements but the character comes with its tectonic.

We must think again about the thermodynamic principle and, looking back in history, build the external walls with a high thermic inertia and resistant to the dust of time. The gravity of the fabric gives way to the lightness of the interior spaces. But the internal atmosphere is incomplete if it doesn't link the outside views through the permeability of the walls. The transparency is not literal in architecture but phenomenological so the visual cleanliness is always subordinated.



CAPABILITY AND PROCESS

We can develop the project in Melbourne if necessary. We can even spend one academic year as invited professors as we are teaching the subject of architectonic projects in three different levels in the school of architecture of Valencia. In our studio we are three main architects and some more collaborators. We cannot nominate any local consultant because we still don't know any.



VALENCIA SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE ENLARGEMENT

EXTENSION OF THE BANK OF SPAIN IN ALICANTE

We are finishing the third and last stage of the enlargement of the school of architecture of Valencia (Spain) with a final surface of more than 30 000 m² of which about 20 000m² is refurbished area and 10 000m² are new facilities, integrating the old and the new in a coherent building. In fact almost every image displayed in this EIO shows different aspects of the building that complete the written information.

Another recently completed project is the Bank of Spain, branch of Alicante. Being a much smaller building it's a extension of a historically protected building inside a visible garden, meeting both the highest requirements in security protocol and the maximum transparency with a minimum maintenance keeping the generative syntax.

MERITPUBLICATIONS

DOCTORAL THESIS

Architecture and industry. The origins of the industrial city in the Alcoià valley. 1988. ISBN 84-7579-494-7

CROQUIS 27

Project for Manterol offices. January 1987

LOTUS 71

Il piano ara , di Alcoi. Descrizione come premessa. February 1992.

-AV

Cogeneration Central Temiluz for a Textile Factory in Cocentaina. Published in A&V. September 1998

-UNIT 20. BARTLETT SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

Introduction to the Unit 20. ISBN 84-9705-275-7. Edita UPV. Editor ACTAR. October 2002.

PRIZES

-FAD PRIZE 1999 of District LA SANG 144 dwellings in Alcoy (Alicante), with Manuel de Solà-Morales



-First Prize in the competition for the enlargement of the School of Architecture of Valencia. 1999

-First Prize in the european zone of the international competition " Architecture and water" organized by the UIA. June 2001

-Second Prize ex aequo in the 2G competition for the new Head offices of the Mies van der Rohe Foundation. Barcelona 1998

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