A dialogue that is contemporary with the past is found in the view on heritage presented by Carlos Ferrater in his essay on Catalan Gothic and by the Bosch-Ballester-Mercenac team in their analysis of proposals for the regeneration of the space of the imperial forums in Rome. The boldness and modernity of the space in Ljubljana, covered today by enlightened neoclassicism, was the setting for an urban, civil enterprise class while the forum accommodated the whole Empire.

While not sharing this patrimonial condition, a dialogue with the existing environment is still the base of the highly interesting proposal for a multi-purpose hall at the Lycée Français in Valencia by Orts-Trullenque. Here, the relationship with the pre-existing elements is stabilized clearly and with Mediterranean sensitivity.

This is a kind of architecture that Marta Pelegrín might identify with the term “disposition”. An operational tool that she underlines in her work and that, as she states, is shared by European architects such as Lacaton (66), Herremos (61) or Roger Rieuwe in his studio with Frans Regl, who she interviews for our publication. His architecture, interpreted as a backdrop for the city and the activities it hosts, conceals behind its natural appearance a sophisticated intellectual project that does not disregard neither craft nor technique. Equally daring—here, beautiful and almost haunting—is the intervention of Anna and Eugeni Bach in Mies’ Barcelona Pavilion. A white patina, whose installation and removal was recorded, clears any materiality and confers the pavilion an onerous condition.

Lastly, two essays written in 1886 are published, “Essays on disorder. The historic city” by Xavier Rubet de Ventós, and “Soft edges” by Jan Gehl (Spanish translation). Beyond the chronological coincidence, both delve into the meaning of the civic condition, the former relating to the city itself, and the latter to its seams. They defend the need for spaces dedicated to casual activities, at the edges of privacy according to Gehl, in the remains of bourgeois cities according to Rubet de Ventós. The depth of these texts, their current validity, sets in the urban space for planning the new uses of modern society. “A fragile scene the possibilities of disorder as a creative and optimistic vocation of unity. It is only possible to reconcile opposite considerations of the active willingness of “the other” at the time of his crisis is the crisis of a man’s abstract model who asks the architects for reborn humanism.

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This article explores the figure of Javier Carvajal and his architectural project design; research; architecture.

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An interview with Roger Rieuwe

Marta Pelegrín
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Key words: design tools; diagram; phenomenology; architectural experience.

Lycée Français multi-purpose room

Orts-Trullenque arquitectos
DOI: 10.5821/palimpsesto.17.5386

In a built environment with a strong formal character (the charismatic “techo de losas”) the Lycée Français of Valencia in its project takes the project on the cylindrical shape from the current buildings in order to fall into place, in polyvalently, as a two of the woods. After solving some sensitive project situations, as the access of service vehicles, using the plot topography, the proposal converts the site insertion strategy into an architectural strategy. This approach results in great working, organically and economically, for the new building. The rest consists of planting trees, lots of them. The new multi-purpose room will be a remarkable space for the future UVl. It will be its picture towards the interior; it also will remain in the memory of people who lived special moments in it.

Key words: Lycée Français Valencia; multi-purpose room; tambour.

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Soft edges

Jan Gehl
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A multitude of surveys has established that life in residential streets and other public spaces is a major attraction and a very highly valued amenity. Trends in the 1990’s point towards a growing importance of lively residential streets for formal and informal social activities. This article discusses a number of conditions for supporting this function of residential streets. The focus is primarily on the importance of creating “soft edges” by way of foreyards/fourcourts/porches in order to provide better opportunities for staying in the public spaces for residents of all ages. Researches of residential street life in Australia, Canada, and Scandinavia are presented to support the conclusion that “soft edges” may be a most important way of promoting an active life in present-day residential streets.

Key words: residential street; activity; public space.

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Project design is research

Alberto Campo Baeza
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There are countless reasons that demonstrate why an architect should not be an artisan or research. Architectural practice, which we architects call project design, from the initial idea to the basic project, followed by the construction or working project and from there to site management, is, or should be, a real work of research. And by the same token, its transmission, the teaching of project design, is also a real work of research. In this text is my intention to show how design in architecture is research. Because, while this may be difficult for those who are not architects to understand, project design is research.

Key words: Project design; research; architecture.

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Essays on disorder

The historical city

Xavier Rubet de Ventós
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In these essays on disorder, the theoretical order and the spatial order which bound the notions of ideology, dialectics, methodology, urban planning are questioned. The author suggests reversing the meaning of the term ideology, multiplying and crossing the logic; dismantling the urban order, dribbling the control that each power system orders. He questions the idea of its own products.

Key words: Disorder; ideology; urban order.

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