

THESIS SUMMARY

THE (POST) CEMETERY SCENARIO

Sense-Making of The Cemetery Architecture's
Extension and Atmosphere in Barcelona

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THESIS PROJECT LOCATION

Barcelona

KEYWORDS

Cemetery; Scenario; Ambiance; Anti-liminal Space; Landscape

THESIS BACKGROUND

THE (POST) CEMETERY SCENARIO is an architectural concept regarding the interventions of the typical typology of the cemetery space. In my experience of visiting cemeteries, the cemeteries often present as places that lack a sense of humanity. The ambiance of the establishment is rarely inviting. It has become a usual paradigm that we tend to create cemeteries as fundamental infrastructures of the cities rather than places of love and memories.

Taking Barcelona as the research ground to conduct a theoretical experiment gives the project an entry point to re-introduce cemetery space to people's everydayness, as existing cemeteries in Barcelona are often surrounded by the urban fabric but enclosed with high walls. The thesis starts with a pattern in the urban context of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area, showing several newly built cemeteries sitting between the urban fabric and the natural landscape. The drift of cemeteries away from the city has slowly hidden death as a reflecting institution from life and turned it into a place representing our unspeakable anxiety and fear of death. This thesis proposes an alternative scenario in the relationship between people and our understanding of the final phase of life, with the sensational atmosphere in architecture and space experience.

THEORETICAL REFERENCES

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- ② The Garden of Death (Finnish: Kuoleman puutarha), Painting, Hugo Simberg, 1896

CASE STUDY REFERENCES

- ① Igualada Cemetery, Enric Miralles and Carme Pino, Barcelona, 1994
- ② Skogskyrkogården: Woodland Cemetery, Gunnar Asplund and Sigurd Lewerentz, Stockholm, 1915
- ③ Markuskyrkan: St. Mark's Church, Sigurd Lewerentz, Stockholm, 1960
- ④ Hofheide Crematorium, RCR Arquitectes, Holsbeek, 2014
- ⑤ Inagawa Cemetery Chapel and Visitor Centre, David Chipperfield Architects, 2017
- ⑥ Parc Güell, Antoni Gaudí, 1914