An interdisciplinary five year joint project in Architecture & Philosophy

2nd Summer School
Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik
Sept. 2017 11–15

Between Intellectual and Sensory Reason: Towards an Epistemology of Architecture

Course description: Throughout the history of philosophy, architecture has been widely referred to as a metaphor for conscious action and logical construction. For Aristotle the work of the master builder served as a metaphor for his philosophy of action, while Nietzsche used the metaphor of a “shaking tower of concepts” to visualize and make more comprehensible the precarious state of metaphysics. Yet architecture means much more to philosophy and critical thought than what the explanatory use of architectural imagery evokes. It was Kant who went beyond metaphor by claiming “architectonics is the art of systems”. As such, architecture is not only a cultural practice based on knowledge but moreover a cultural practice that serves the production of philosophical knowledge.

This course focuses on the double bind of architecture as a material practice and an agent of knowledge production. We will discuss the importance of architecture in the formation of thought. It will draw attention to architecture as a cultural practice between intellectual reason and sensual reason. It was Nietzsche who already emphasized the close interrelation between philosophy and architecture and insisted on the philosopher's need for appropriate spaces for thinking. He held that after the death of God “we need some recognition of what above all is lacking in our big cities: quiet and wide, expansive places for reflection. Places with long, high-ceilinged cloisters for bad or all too sunny weather”.

Participants:
Co-Directors:
Petar Bojanić (University of Belgrade / CAS SEE University of Rijeka)
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Lecturers include:
Katharina Borsi (University of Nottingham)
Vladan Djokić (University of Belgrade)
Zoran Lazović (University of Belgrade)
Ludger Schwarte (Academy of Fine Arts Düsseldorf)
Luca Skansi (IUAV Venezia / University of Rijeka)
Idis Turato (University of Zagreb)

This summer school is open to graduate students in all stages of their studies. Students will be asked to read texts in advance, present presentations about a topic which will be agreed upon with the course directors, and actively participate in the meetings. The students will also take part in a supervised two hours research project in Dubrovnik. Findings of this research will be later analyzed at the classroom.

For further information:
http://iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=1054
http://www.architekturtheorie.tu-berlin.de/

Kindly supported by:
Gesellschaft von Freunden der TU Berlin e.V.
Wissenschaftskooperationen und Strategische Partnerchaften TU Berlin