

Fourth International DOCOMOMO Conference

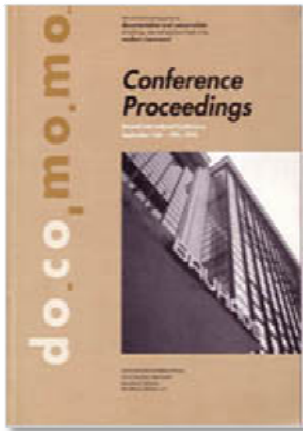
Sliac & Bratislava, September 18–20, 1996

Universality and Heterogeneity

The Fourth International **DOCOMOMO** Conference, in Slovakia, has been an important occasion in many ways. As the title “**Universality and Heterogeneity**” suggests, the modern movement has known many different local and regional interpretations of one universal goal. The participants’ stay in Central Europe—the Big Brother environment of Bratislava after the War, as well as the pleasant 1931–37 spa buildings of Sliac by the architect Rudolf Stockar—made this point clear from various angles.

German philosopher Helmut Lethen opened the first conference day in Bratislava with a bang. His paper “Between the Barrier and the Sieve: Finding the Border of the Modern Movement” was a sobering and critical, yet carefully designed mirror, reassessing the image of the modern movement and the conservation of its relics. Keynote speakers Carla Yanni (USA), Gérard Monnier (France) and Fabio Grementieri (Argentina) all questioned, in different and well-presented ways, the validity of the various interpretations of the modern movement as provided by historiography so far.

With strong cocktails and a bus ride, the nearly 200 delegates returned to Sliac, two hundred kilometers east in the foothills of the Tatras, their apropos and location for the next two days of the conference. András Ferkai’s kaleidoscopic overview of modern architecture in the former Austro-Hungarian territories; Daniel Bernstein’s paper on his students’ analysis of Le Corbusier’s Unité at Firminy; Jorge Gazaneo’s ode to his old employer and master, Amacio Williams; Allen Cunningham’s ideas about making use of the modern movement legacy as an educational catalyst; and Jeffrey Chusid’s exposé on concrete problems at California houses by Schindler and Frank Lloyd Wright—captivating presentations, all, they set a standard of quality which was to become the norm for future **DOCOMOMO** conferences.



Fourth International Docomomo Conference Proceedings Contents

Universality and Heterogeneity

Bratislava (September 18–20, 1996), 272 p.

1 Main Theme

Between the Barrier and the Sieve: Finding the Border in the Modern Movement by Helmut Lethen — *Modernism in Central Europe: Its Background, Correlation and Manifestations* by Dana Borutova — *Towards a Reintegration of MoMo Architectural Cultures* by Fabio Grementieri — *For an Historical Critique of the Concept of Unity as Applied to the Modern Movement* by Gérard Monnier — *Universality Across Time: Henry Russell Hitchcock and the Prehistory of Modernism* by Carla Gianni

2 Architectural History

The Lesson of Eastern Europe by András Ferkai — *Architecture as Object and Habitability: Karl Teige, a Master Builder of Utopias?* by Manuela Castagnara — *Bohuslav Fuchs: A Synthetiser of Regional Traditions and International Tendencies* by Jan Sedlák — *Zlín Architecture: A Lesson of Universality and Heterogeneity in Modern Movement* by Peter Lizon — *German Influences in Slovak Architecture, 1918–45* by Matús Dulla & Henrietta Hammer — *Modern Movement and National Identity: The Predicament of 'Cubic House' in Turkey in the 1930s* by Sibel Bozdogan — *Tracing German Speaking Jewish Architects* by Myra Warhaftig & Hedwig Wingler — *Le Corbusier in La Plata: The Curuchet House, Urban Insertion and Transcendental Message* by Norberto José de la Torre

3 Register Session

Official Point of View and Personal Regard on the Docomomo International Selection by France Vanlaethem — *Is It In or Is It Out? Developing a Docomomo Registry in the Northeastern United States* by Andrew Wolfram, Theodore Prudon & the Docomomo North-Eastern US — *Recent Landmarks: Identifying Vancouver's Modern Heritage Buildings* by Robert G. Lemon, MAIBC & Marco D'Agostini — *The Modern Movement in Palm Springs, California, USA* by Anthony A. Merchell — *DPH and Docomomo: Register of Modern Architectural Movement in the City of Sao Paulo, Brazil* by Mirthes I.S. Baffi, Clara Correia d'Alambert & Walter Pires — *Dutch MoMo: Monuments Under Discussion* by Marieke Kuipers

4 Urbanism Session

Urbanism of the Modern Movement in Wroclaw (Breslau) by Wanda Kononowicz — *Oswaldo Arthur Bratke: Two Urban Challenges in the Amazonia* by Hugo Segawa — *Megastructure and Genius Loci: The Architecture of Cumbernauld New Town* by Miles Glendinning — *Postwar Townplanning in its Mid-life Crisis: Current Developments in Conservation in the Netherlands from a Policy Point of View* by Rob Docter — *The Influence of the Modern Movement in Argentine Housing: Architectural Types and Urban Result* by Alfredo Conti — *Aluminium City Terrace: Transforming Modernist Housing for America* by David Anthoné — *The Conception and the Transformation of the Superblock of Brasilia* by Juan Antonio Zapatel — *The Reconstruction of Le Havre: An Exceptional Architectural and Urban Heritage* by Joseph Abram — *The Significance of Park Hill Sheffield for the Modern Movement* by Edwin S. Brierley

5 Gardens and Landscapes Session

Green Modernity: The Transcendence of the Work of Burle Marx by Guilherme Mazza Dourado — *Landscape for Living: The Landscape of the Modern Movement in the Netherlands* by Jan Woudstra — *Challenging High Modernist Universality: Landscape, Art and Architecture at La Fondation Maeght* by Jan Birksted — *Landscapes of Modernity in Europe and America* by Yves Deschamps

6 Technology Session

Towards a Worldwide Network by Wessel de Jonge — *Concrete and California Modernism* by Jeffrey M. Chusid — *Folk Roots in MoMo's Technical Innovations: A Case Study* by Jorge O. Gazaneo — *The Debate on 'Autarchy' and the Heterogeneity of Italian Architecture* by Sergio Poretti & Rosalia Vittorini — *Wide-spanned Structures in the Modern Movement: Structural Optimization* by Berthold Burkhardt — *Technical Responses to Typical Conservation Problems for Architecture in England After the War: Current Research and Case Studies from English Heritage* by Susan Macdonald — *The Use of the Brise-soleil in Brazilian Modern Architecture* by Angela West Pedrão — *A National Material and its International Trend* by Anna Maria Zorgno & Daniela Bosia

7 Preservation Session

Aspects of Preservation of the Early Modern Movement in Denmark by Helen G. Welling & Ola Wedebrunn — *Preserving Modern Housing: The British Experience* by Catherine F.A. Croft

8 Education Session

Latin-American Experience at the University of Buenos Aires: Intentions and Policies for the ISC/Education by Mabel Scarone — *Modern Architecture as Educational Catalyst* by Allen Cunningham — *Learning Architecture Through MoMo Rehabilitation Studies* by Daniel Bernstein — *From Virtual Space to the Apple Tree: Student Projects for the Future Bauhaus Competition* by Penjo Stolarov — *Teaching the Moderns* by Panayotis Tournikiotis

9 'Kaleidoscope' Session

Architecture and Politics: State Rental Flats and the Modern Movement in New Zealand by Julia Gatley — *Modern Movement in Slovenia* by Andrej Hrausky — *The Silent Architecture of Zagreb* by Darja R. Mahecic — *Architect Paul Choroa Ramalho: An Everlasting Œuvre* by José Manuel Fernandes — *A Toronto Modernist: George A. Robb* by James Ashby — *MoMo Industrial Architecture in Buenos Aires: Between Universality and Heterogeneity* by Stella Maris Casal — *Bandung and the Manifestation of International Style* by Dibyo Hartono — *The Bloch-Tank House in Stuttgart by Bloch & Ernst Guggenheimer: Modern Architecture Reshaped After 1933 into 'German Home'* by Dietrich W. Schmidt