

**Tenth International DOCOMOMO Conference**

**Rotterdam, September 13–20, 2008**

**The Challenge of Change: Dealing with the Legacy of the Modern Movement**

The legacy of the modern movement has gained legendary status, largely as a result of the appreciation of the masterworks and the visionary architectural concepts. In the reality of everyday life, however, it has been difficult to maintain the architectural creations of the modern movement in such a way that they still reflect the original intentions of their designers.

Many buildings and ensembles of the modern movement have already been saved; the icons amongst these have even become so precious that they are treated like pieces of art rather than as buildings in everyday use. But despite the success that have been achieved, many buildings and ensembles are still at risk of demolition or maltreatment. The biennial international conference is one means by which it is possible to continue furthering the aims of Docomomo.

Knowing that many modern architects aimed at functionality and changeability, the challenge for today is how to deal with the modern heritage in relation to its continuously changing context, including physical, economic and functional changes, as well as socio-cultural, political and scientific ones. It is with this in mind that conservation in general, and the conservation of modern architecture in particular, has become a new challenge. Rather than attempting to return a modern building to its presumed original state, our challenge is to revalue the essence of the manifold manifestations of modern architecture and redefine its meanings in our changing world of digital revolution, worldwide mobility and environmental awareness.

## Second International DOCOMOMO Workshop

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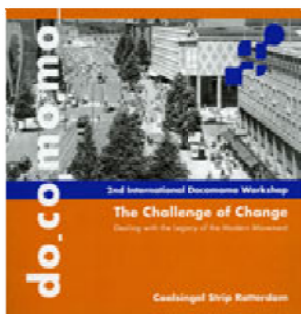
### **The Challenge of Change: Dealing with the Legacy of the Modern Movement**

The Second International **DOCOMOMO** Workshop made a sizeable contribution to the general program of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Docomomo Conference in Rotterdam in September 2008. The theme and area of study were chosen on the basis of two complementary issues:

- 1 Recognition of the specificity and current urban development of Rotterdam.
- 2 The need to tackle the urgent problems raised by the highly controversial re-design of Rotterdam city center.
- 3 The proposed demolition of the Lijnbaan shopping area.

The theme of the workshop ‘Strategies for the Coolsingel Strip’ gives serious pause for thought. Coolsingel, the backbone of 21st-century Rotterdam and dramatically reshaped by the trend towards newborn Manhattanism, is the repository of the Rotterdam collective memory. The handful of public buildings that survived the Luftwaffe bombing raids on May 14, 1940 inspired the construction of a modern boulevard, flanked by some remarkable edifices that reconfigured the vision of urban space.

As the area of study for the workshop, Lijnbaan tested the students’ ability to rethink Rotterdam’s modernist heritage as an asset and challenged them to put forward proposals on various scales and under diverse economic constraints. Students and tutors worked hard to come up with solutions. They rose to the challenge of measuring their plans on a human scale and tried to avoid formal gestures that favor designing within the interstices and remodeling spaces via changes that generate more sensible and body-related urban tissues. This new vision, which sees heritage as a living force and a priority for human beings living in a multilayered; built-up environment, lies at the heart of this report. Whatever future awaits Coolsingel, some of the ideas presented in this have already proven vital; let us hope that they will prove fruitful as well.



### **Second International Docomomo Workshop The Challenge of Change: Coolsingel Strip Rotterdam**

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*Foreword by Maristella Casciato — The Role of the Coolsingel Strip in the Historical Development of Rotterdam*

**Proposals for the Coolsingel Strip:** *Urban Vision: A Pumping Heart — Re-pulsion: Proposal for New Urban Heartbeat of the Very Ending of the Lijnbaan* by Group 1: Hilton (A) — *Changing Connections: Redevelopment of the Coolsingel Commercial District* by Group 2: Luxor (B) — *Slow Down: The Urban Stop of Coolsingel Strip* by Group 3: Holbein House (C), Spaarbank (D) — *Permeability: Desirable Connection* by Group 4: Lucia School (E) — *‘Box’ing: Bijenkorf, The Boundaries of Preservation* by Group 5: Bijenkorf (F) — *Stitching the City Together: Up / Between / Under* by Group 6: Abn-Amro Bank (G), Jungerhans (H)

### **Jury Report**



**Tenth International DOCOMOMO Conference  
Conference Proceedings**

**The Challenge of Change: Dealing with the Legacy of  
the Modern Movement**

Rotterdam (September 13–20, 2008) 549 p.

**Introduction:** *Modern Architecture is Durable: Using Change to  
Preserve* by Maristella Casciato

Introduction by the Organizing Committee

**Change and Continuity (1):** *Introduction: Issues of Temporality, Paradoxes and Challenges of  
Modern Heritage* by Horacio Torrent — *Being and Becoming of Modern Heritage: The  
Challenge of Planned Conservation* by Andrea Canziani — *Notes on the Unfinished Modern  
Monument: Clorindo Testa's Civic Center in Santa Rosa, La Pampa* by Claudia Costa Cabral  
— *Historic Present: The Modern Movement in Situation* by Zeuler Lima — *Architecture and  
Temporality in Conservation Theory: The Modern Movement and the Restoration Attitude in  
Cesare Brandi* by Fidel Meraz — *Metsäpaviljonski: Forms Follows Wood* by Cristian Suau.

**Change and Continuity (2):** *Introduction: Buildings and Ideologies* by Dirk Van den Heuvel  
— *The Evolution of Intervention Criteria in Modern Movement Restoration: Essential Problems  
and Circumstantial Problems, GATCPAC's Conservation Projects as a Case Study* by Martin  
Capeluto & Maria Turull — *Anatole Kopp (1915–1990): The Engaged Architect and the  
Concept of Modern Architecture* by Anat Falbel — *The Cubanacan Art Schools Rehabilitated*  
by Universo Garcia Lorenzo — *Modern Movement Conservation as Progressive Practice:  
Byker and British Welfare State Housing* by Aidan While & John Pendlebury — *Rewriting the  
Past: The Demolition of Modern Buildings and Monuments in Post-Communist Poland* by  
Krystyna Wieszczyk & Fabiano Lemes de Oliveira.

**Change and Continuity (3):** *Introduction: Monuments and Icons* by Nancy Stieber — *The  
Trojan Horse: Contemporary 'Iconic' Architecture and the Falsification of Modernism* by Miles  
Glendinning — *Transformations of a Suburban Estate Designed by Gregory Ain: Preservation  
of the Mar Vista Tract After 60 Years* by Yasuko Kamei — *Neglectfulness in the Preservation  
and Continuity of Late-modern Architecture: The Case of St Peter's Seminary* by Gillespie, Kidd  
and Coia by Mhairi McVicar & Cristian Suau — *The Obsolescence of the Monument: The  
Future of Airport Icons* by Nathalie Roseau — *Reconstructing the Philips Pavilion, Brussels  
1958: Elements for a Critical Assessment* by Sven Sterken.

**Change and Continuity (4):** *Introduction: Myth, Authenticity and Lived Practices* by Hilde  
Heynen — *Beyond Oscar Niemeyer: Authorities, Remodelings, Paradoxes and Peculiarities in  
the Preservation of Modern Buildings in Brazil* by Carlos Eduardo Comas, Cecilia Rodrigues  
dos Santos & Ruth Verde Zein — *Myth, History and Conservation in Tel Aviv* by Marina  
Epstein-Pliouchitch & Ron Fuchs — *Rietveld at Bergeijk* by Madeleine Steigenga — *Viva  
Stirling's Florey Building* by Igea Troiani — *Questioning Material/Conceptual Authenticity* by  
France Vanlaethem & Céline Poisson.

**Cities and Landscape (1):** *Introduction: Cities* by Paul Meurs — *The Urban Validity of Modern Experiences* by Carmen Blasco Sanchez, Francisco Martinez Perez & Julia Deltoro Soto — *Translating the New Old-world into the New New-world: Reassessing Ernst Plischke's Plan for Naenae, Lower Hutt, New Zealand* by Ian Bowman — *Transformation: An Alternative Approach Renewing the Postwar City* by Arjan Gooijer, Gert Jan te Velde & Henk van Schagen — *Plymouth: City of the Welfare State in the 21st Century* by Jeremy Gould — *The Pittsburgh Civic Arena: Memory and Renewal* by Robert Shaw Pfaffmann.

**Cities and Landscape (2):** *Introduction: The Landscape of Modernity* by Louise Noelle — *Modern Urban Landscape to Sustainable Urban Landscape: A Challenge for Chandigarh* by Parmeet Singh Bhatt — *Landscapes of the Recent Past: Identifying Key Problems Regarding the Conservation of Designed Landscapes* by Jan Haenraets & Obas John Ebohon — *Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds: Everyday Modernism in Australian Suburban Communities* by Hannah Lewi — *Ecological Crisis and the Modernist Residential Landscape: Pontchartrain Park, New Orleans, Louisiana* by Carol McMichael Reese & Jane Wolff — *Mountains and Modernity: Bernese Modernist Buildings in its Environment* by Bernd Nicolai.

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**Education in Transformation:** *Introduction: Education in Transformation* by Changmo Ahn — *Lessons on Architecture for the Future of the Past* by Beatriz Santos de Oliveira — *Preventative Conservation of Modern Architectural Heritage Study Program* by Maria-Elena Ghersi Rassi & Alvaro Gonzalez Bastidas — *How Should We Teach the Conservation of Modern and Contemporary Architecture?* by Franz Graf — *Experiencing the Modern in Lisbon* by Jorge Spencer, João Paulo Martins, José Neves & Pedro Belo Ravara — *Modern Education and the Education in Transformation of the Modern: The Experience of the Masters Degree in 'Rehabilitation of the Built Environment'* by Gonçalo Canto Moniz & José Antonio Bandeirinha.

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**Change and Continuity (Short Papers):** *Historical Research, Architectural Design and the Conservation of Modern Paulista School Buildings: The Case of the Gymnasium of Itahaém* by André Augusto de Almeida Alves — *Preserving the Body in Greek Modern Architecture: The Sanatorium 'Sotiria' in Athens* by Katerina Chatzikonstantinou — *Change and Permanence in Greek Modernity: The Case of Takis Zenetos* by Elias Constantopoulos — *Paradoxes in the Rebuilding of Casto Fernandez-Shaw's Porto Pi Petroleum Station* by Luis Maldonado Ramos, David Rivera Gamez & Fernando Vela Cossio — *Chandigarh: Managing the Challenge of Change in an Icon of the Modern Movement* by Sangeeta Bagga Mehta & Rajiv Mehta — *A Roof Over One's Head: Luxury for Everybody, Vienna's Social House Project, 1923–2008* by Inge Podbrecky — *Paradoxes and Contradictions in Conserving Modernisms from the 1960s, Case Study: Pihlajamäki Housing Area, Protective Plan, Regeneration and Repair Guidelines* by Riitta Salastie — *Making a Home of Modernism: Architectural Alterations in the Dessau-Törten Siedlung, 1928–2007* by Andreas Schwarting — *Tropical Modernism: The Legacy of the Modern Movement in Sri Lanka, with Respect to Three Practitioners* by Rajiv Wanasundera.

**Restructuring Cities and Landscape (Short Papers):** *Inseparable Links: Architecture, Nature, Landscape, The Tourist Village 'Le Rocce,' Restoration Plan* by Cecilia Alemagna — *Re-creating Urban Form With Industry: Turkish Modernization and Kayseri Experience* by Burak Asiliskender — *The Portales Neighborhood Unit: Change and Continuity of a Housing Project in Santiago de Chile* by Umberto Bonomo Tria — *Luigi Cosenza and the Unity of Architecture and City Planning in Modern Napels* by Francesca Bruni — *The Modern 'D-List' vs. the Bottom Line: Contemporary Urban Redevelopment, Economic Incentive and the Fate of Regional Modernism in Atlanta, Georgia* by Jon Buono — *Modern Architecture Goes on Holiday: The Lidi di Mortelle in Sicily, a Small 'Linear City' by the Sea* by Isabella Fera — *Modernist Social Housing in Colombia: An Endangered Species* by Maarten Goossens — *The Modern Agriculture Village on the Hachirogata Polder in Japan: The Design Process During the Economic Development Period* by Yasunori Kitao — *Modern Housing in Brazil and the*

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