docomomo International is a non-profit organization dedicated to the documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the Modern Movement. It aims at: • Bringing the significance of the architecture of the Modern Movement to the attention of the public, the public authorities, the professionals and the educational community. • Identifying and promoting the surveying of the Modern Movement’s works. • Fostering and disseminating the development of appropriate techniques and methods of conservation. • Opposing destruction and disfigurement of significant works. • Gathering funds for documentation and conservation. • Exploring and developing knowledge of the Modern Movement.

docomomo International wishes to extend its field of actions to new territories, establish new partnerships with institutions, organizations and NGOS active in the area of modern architecture, develop and publish the international register, and enlarge the scope of its activities in the field of research, documentation and education.
Contribute to the next journal
Journal 48 (scheduled for September 2018). Authors who would like to contribute in this issue are kindly invited to send their contributions to:

Appendix docomomo

compliance with the American Psychological Association (APA) style. Authors should follow the following guidelines:

70, 100-106.

References

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EDITORIAL

The European Large Scale Heritage

ANA TOSTÕES
Chair of docomomo International

ZARA FERREIRA
Secretary General of docomomo International

The theme of this 54th docomomo Journal is Housing Reloaded facing Post-War Housing Complexes in Europe. The debate focuses on the challenges and strategies that have been encountered in efforts to preserve collective housing in Europe, seen as a major issue in the contemporary agenda. Symbols of architectural, technological and social aspirations, these grands ensembles of Mass Housing have nowadays begun to be appreciated by users and authorities, as integral part of the current city. Whether discussing demolition (as faced by the Smithsons’ Robin Hood Gardens and Toulouse’s Le Mirail, and commonly seen as a focus for social marginalization), or the growing phenomenon of heritagization (as implicit in the story of the re-birth of the Cercle de L’Ermitage in Epesses), it is possible to present this Journal, addressing such an important question. Characterized by adventur-}

ous experiments in the use of new materials and techniques, space creation and gender transformations, the obsolence of these grands ensembles is determined on two different levels: the technical one (regarding comfort, such as thermal or acoustic, and the need for mechanical and safety improvements, as infrastructures, systems, elevators), and the functional one (involving space dimensions, organisation, orientation, and the introduction of new uses), all while complying with current regulatory standards. In addition, these buildings have frequently been intensively used and modified. After the 3 Rs discussion (Tostões, DJ 52, 2015) on Asia and America, the aim is to address this type of question, and consider the large variety of strategies presented in this issue concerning experiences developed mainly in Switzerland, but also in France, Italy, Belgium and Portugal. We believe that this issue deserves an in-depth approach, considering Northern and Eastern Europe to be pointed out in a next DJ issue.

We wish to thank Franz Graf and Giulia Marino, for accepting the challenge to be guest editors of this DJ. Due to their painstaking and rigorous work, and to the skills of the experts who contributed with their knowledge and experience, it is possible to present this Journal, addressing such an important question.

In particular, the research conducted at TSAM — Laboratory of Techniques and Preservation of Modern Architecture, at EPFLLausanne, deserves to be mentioned as an exceptional experience. Combining theoretical knowledge and technical know-how, the laboratory develops strategies for the preservation of modern architecture, including maintenance, conservation, restoration, rehabilitation, restructuring, redeployment and extension. This is exemplified in the rehabilitation plan developed for the Cité du Lignon (2008–2011) (DJ 44, 2011), which was distinguished with the Europa Nostra (2013) and SIA Awards (2014), and in the preservation process conducted at Miremont-Le-Crét. With a not-so-happy ending, it is told the story of the Cité de L’Etoile, caught between indiscriminate demolitions and restoration efforts. Representing an important turning point in attitudes to post-WW II housing, is the case of Corviale, which had always been seen as a symbol of social failure among large-scale housing in Europe, and which now is starting to be admired and gathering support for its preservation. The evolution of doctrines on modern architecture con-

servation is revealed on the story of restoration conducted over the years on the iconic Marseille Unité d’Habitation, while Bloco das Águas Livres shows how different rehabilitation approaches can be addressed inside the same building. The challenges presented by modern prefabrication systems in rehabilita-

tion processes are explored in the “EH, Evolutionary Building” prototype housing and in the Ieder Zijn Huis. Finally, landscape is presented as an approach that cannot recommend a heritagization perspective, since it is constantly changing.

The Documentation Issues section presents the amazing story of the re-birth of the Cercle de L’Ermitage in Epesses. It tells how it was possible to rediscover Sartoris’ original design, through research that managed to clarify different layers in time, functions and works of alteration. Some thoughts on conservation and museography are also discussed through André Wogenscky and Marta Pan’s House Workshop.

The need to develop sustainable sites, neighbourhoods and landscapes is one of the main issues for the 21st century. Post-war collective housing remains one of the most significant modern products representing efforts to develop architecture as a vehicle for an egalitarian society and where thousands of people still live today. The proper rehabilitation of these structures, while addressing the demands of the contemporary agenda, would represent a tremendous potential achievement, in an overall context of economic, social and environmental sustainability.
MoMove: The docomomo Virtual Exhibition

docomomo International has launched the docomomo Virtual Exhibition (MoMove) on the 23rd November 2015 in Tecnico-University of Lisbon. The original concept was developed by Ana Tostões and Yoshiyuki Yamana in September 2013 as an online exhibition to disseminate and to foster buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement throughout the (online) world, under the scope of docomomo. The website exhibition.docomomo.com is a great achievement in the pursuit of the docomomo mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission that could not be set up without the generous support of the Lisbon Mission estimate.

Converting the Registers into a web-based platform

In recent years, the development of databases of digitized contents opened new fields of research concerning the future of web-based documentation. A number of online databases of buildings and sites were released worldwide such as the Phaidon Atlas or SAH Archipedia. docomomo has been researching new documentation strategies linked to the current digital tools. The 13th docomomo Council Meeting (Seoul, 2014) decided that docomomo International would work together with the International Scientific Committee on Registers (ISCR) in order to build a docomomo web-based database. The first step, prior to the Council Meeting, was to ask the Working Parties to make a selection of 100 modern buildings. Each item on the list had to be illustrated by a picture and include the basic information (name of the architects, building name, site or neighborhood, city/place and years of the design and construction completion). As it is well known, documentation has been a central concern to docomomo owing to the fragility of the 20th century architecture, as it is possible to see by the number of buildings threatened or already demolished. The standard method to index buildings to the docomomo archives is to fill in a “register fiche” with detailed information, together with a collection of photographs and drawings. The fiches, in its two versions, — minimum and maximum fiche — synthesize data that take quite an effort to collect. However, with the 100 buildings list simple method — it would be possible to enlarge the selection promptly and then gradually research every building over time according to the Working Party availability. To sum up, the challenge faced by the MoMove curatorial team and production team was to convert all these registers composed of fiches, pictures and lists into a user-friendly website, including also some new information, such as the current condition of the buildings and precise geo-location by means of address and of GPS coordinates.

Technical aspects

Exported from a basic Excel table the program used in the creation of the docomomo Virtual Exhibition was based on Omeka with the support of a professional web-developer. From the user’s view, while browsing in MoMove it is possible to search buildings in three different ways: by dragging the map, inserting a name on the browse field or by clicking on the pictures and tags in the homepage. Furthermore, MoMove is provided with a tagging system that filters the buildings by: architect, city, country, type and decade. Multiple filters can be selected, refining the list of results. Each entry has the basic information regarding the name, dates, address, use, state of protection, type of building, visitor information and GPS coordinates.

From the contributor’s view, all the Working Parties have a private account to enter the MoMove back office. In the back office it is possible to edit, update and expand its contributions. The MoMove Guidelines is a manual produced by docomomo International to help the Working Parties to work within the back office.

Selection criteria

In order to make cross references to the more detailed information about a building, it is possible to link a building to the local docomomo Working Parties websites and to upload any kind of information in order to complement the information about a building and to open new fields of research.

The docomomo Virtual Exhibition is intended to be a global database, not exhaustive, as is an inventory, but selective, dedicated to all the people interested in modern architecture. Its selective character will contribute to add significance to the selected examples. The selection is inexorably
a subjective decision taken by the docomomo Working Parties, it is not a matter of importance but to an interpretation of the significance, meaning and influence of certain buildings in a geographical context.

MoMove was the result of the work of 482 docomomo members around the world. It is important to mention that docomomo International has an open understanding of the Modern Movement, which admits very different architectural expressions in accordance to local interpretation.

docomomo is responsible for curating the exhibition, verifying all the new entries and making them public, as well as uploading information that can complete the entries. docomomo International checks the information inserted in the back-office by the docomomo experts, before becoming public, in terms of form and not in terms of content. In order to guarantee that trustworthy information is provided and authorship is respected, every contribution needs to have the signature of a rapporteur. The individual contributors and their Working Parties are responsible for the content they submit.

An open platform in constant evolution

Predictably, MoMove will grow with the help of docomomo members who can upload short films, sound tracks and images and provide links to other web resources. docomomo Working Parties are free to create their own collections, to feature short texts and to update data. MoMove also works as a linking platform between all the Working Parties docomomo websites and museums, houses, monuments and institutions websites worldwide. As the name suggests, MoMove is an invitation to travel and visit a selection of buildings and sites, also through the recommended tours. This web-based platform and database tool serves as a mapping resource for Modern Movement architecture around the globe.

Users can interact with the exhibition by making comments, sending material to docomomo International or sharing buildings on the social networks such as Twitter or Facebook. In this way, users provide constant feedback, improving the exhibition.

As a consequence, the innovative character of MoMove lays on the fact it is a living platform, being in constant evolution as the database can be constantly updated and expanded by the worldwide docomomo community.

Conclusions

The MoMove is an effective step to accomplish the docomomo mission, as it was defined in the Eindhoven Seoul Statement (2014)3 which updated the Eindhoven Statement (1989). docomomo endeavors to increase public awareness of the Modern Movement, to preserve and promote the study, interpretation and protection of its buildings, sites and neighbourhoods.

docomomo has been a leading global organization in the field of documentation and conservation, devoted to the safeguard and reuse of the Modern Movement architectural heritage. For the first time in the history of docomomo, all the work developed by the docomomo groups is being gathered in one single virtual interactive space. This web-based platform represents a major breakthrough in architectural research by applying the latest technologies to the documentation and registers of the Modern Movement heritage. As a powerful tool, user-friendly, that allows the universal use, not only by experts but also by a wide audience, MoMove is always interested in hearing feedback from all the users. Your help will be what keeps MoMove growing and evolving.  

Ana Tostões
Chair of docomomo International
Zara Ferreira
Secretary-General of docomomo International
Joana Gouveia Alves
Coordinator of the MoMove Production Team

Notes
4 Curatorial Team: Original Concept — Ana Tostões, Yoshiyuki Yamana; Curators — Ana Tostões, Joana Gouveia Alves, Zara Ferreira; Assistant curator — José Pedro Cardoso. Production Team: Coordination - Joana Gouveia Alves, José Pedro Cardoso; Web developer — Sérgio Almeida; Production — Zara Ferreira, Catarina Teles, Cristina Alonso, Leandro Arez, Beatriz Olmos; Logotype — Luís Moreira (TVM); Website background design — Beatriz Olmos.
5 Omeka: http://omeka.org. “Omeka is a free, flexible, and open source web-publishing platform for the display of library, museum, archives, and scholarly collections and exhibitions.” The use of the open source platform permitted to reduce costs in comparison to developing a database from scratch. As a result of volunteer work, the use of the platform is non-commercial, free of advertisements and free of any charge. All open source software that was used is available to the public with the same license of use.
6 Sérgio Almeida.
Schokbeton is an architectural concrete precasting system, which was developed in the early 30s in the Netherlands. The shock system was invented by two concrete workers who converted a washing machine into a “shock table” on which concrete during the casting process was “shocked” for a few minutes to consolidate the material. The founders obtained an international patent for this technology in 1935. Over the almost 50 years that the “shock” process was used by the company, it was exported from the Netherlands to 30 countries around the world, from Japan to USA.

The initial goal of founders, G. Lieve and M. Leeuwrik, was to make low-cost, custom-made artificial stone elements intended to replace natural stone in buildings. In the artificially acquired land that constitutes the majority of the Netherlands, natural stone was rarely available, and was, therefore, very expensive to import in the interwar years. The idea of “shocked” concrete was derived from the knowledge that vibration was necessary to reduce the water content of the concrete mixture while achieving good compaction and high strength with less cement. Cement was also a product that was less available in the Low Lands and difficult to obtain from neighboring countries.

The first products made on “shock tables” were sills, thresholds, window frames and lamp posts. Noted Dutch architects Van der Steur and Van Ravenstein were the first to use the Schokbeton process to produce architectural precast concrete elements for facade architecture in Rotterdam. Van Ravenstein was the architect of several animal enclosures and the watchtower of Blijdorp Zoo in Rotterdam (1938–1941). It’s the first project where Schokbeton was applied at a large architectural scale (Figure 02).

Due to the ability to consistently produce a desired uniform finish and the durability of the material, architectural precast concrete, and the Schokbeton process that produced it, became popular for the post-war generation of modern architects. Because of the large building task, especially in the bombed city center of Rotterdam, the Schokbeton company grew to have three branches in the Netherlands and produced complete façades for very large projects such as more than 1000 farm barns in the Noordoostpolder (1947–1953) area reclaimed from the sea and the immense Trade Center in Rotterdam by architect Maaskant (1953, Figure 03). In the early 60s half of the European countries had Schokbeton precasting plants producing standard products and customized building elements. Schokbeton was the favorite building material of architect Marcel Breuer, who, like the architect John M. Johansen for the US embassy in Dublin (1964, Figure 01), preferred the unique qualities of concrete at the center of a new architectural language.

Due to economic and technical developments after the 1980s, the economic competitiveness of the “shock” system was diminished by the advent of admixtures such as plasticizers. The Schokbeton Company however, continued to produce concrete façade elements until 2005 and the name is still used in some international locations, which are still using the name to symbolize the quality architectural concrete.

The original Schokbeton plant in Zwijndrecht, constructed in the 1930s, was, until 2015, in use by the Loveld concrete company. It was in this plant the first “shock” machines were invented and the casting process perfected.

From December 2015 to March 2016 De Vergulden Swaen, the city museum of Zwijndrecht told the history of the firm Schokbeton, exhibiting the first “wooden shock machine”, models of buildings made with the patented “shocking” process, and drawings and photographs of international iconic projects from the 20th century.

Lucas van Zuijlen
docomomo Netherlands

More information: www.schokbeton.info; www.swaen.org
in which she has been involved ever since. In short, with regard to the place that Ana Tostões occupies in the 20th-century architectural history in Portugal, I must just say the following: there is a before and an after. In this sense, with *Idade Maior*, a cycle is closed and another one is opened. A cycle is closed because this work, the result of the author’s doctoral thesis at Instituto Superior Técnico in 2003, supervised by Professors Nuno Portas and António Canha Piedade, keeps the “goal of studying Modern Movement architecture in Portugal”, covering now not only the key moment of “Modern Portuguese architecture of the 50s”, but also entering in the 60s, as well as in the other key moment that is “the first modernist experiments of the 1930s”. She “focuses on the relationship between form and construction”, or rather, focuses much of the research in materiality and construction systems, something so unusual in Portuguese historiography, as indispensable as it is for a full understanding of architectural development.

It is not surprising that Professor José Augusto França, in its preface to this book, states that it “brings to the understanding of the historical discourse of the national architecture of the 20th century an essential contribution in information and reflection”. And being so, for the first time we witness the implementation of a *Grand Récit* of 632 pages about Portuguese modern architecture of much of the 20th century which is crucial to be noted as being unique among us and, not least, by being conducted at a very difficult time in which the comfort of fragmentation and deconstruction is privileged over the ambition of great syntheses. So with this work is also opened a new cycle because, as a first major synthesis, it will serve as a central reference for study and future investigations, both from the perspective of developing larger views, or perhaps to contradict it. One way or the other, or both, *Idade Maior* runs the positive risk of confirming itself as a unique piece of architectural history of the 20th century in Portugal. Again, I believe that there will be, a before and an after it.

It is also beautiful, both in its content, of words and images, and it is carefully designed, to which we have become accustomed to from the editor of the Architecture Faculty of the University of Porto.

**Idade Maior, Cultura e Tecnologia na Arquitectura Moderna Portuguesa**

Author: Ana Tostões  
Publisher: FAUP  
ISBN: 9789898527042  
Language: Portuguese  
Year: 2015

In the summer of 1930 the so-called Stockholm Exhibition burst onto the scene. The exhibition was a huge success in terms of both its form and its content, and attracted as many as four million visitors. In Sweden the event marked the breakthrough of modernist architecture. It was inspired by European precedents, with the Bauhaus School in Dessau serving as a kind of ideological center and the work of architects like Walter Gropius and Le Corbusier leading the way. In Sweden these ideas were given a distinctive regional interpretation that is sometimes known as Nordic Functionalism. The functionalist breakthrough happened in the midst of a period of intense development, with new garden cities springing up around Stockholm’s periphery. One of these, and in fact the last of them, was Södra Ängby. The community was located directly west of Stockholm, and built between 1934 and 1940. Södra Ängby is a suburban development of over five hundred single-family homes strewn across two hills on the north shore of Lake Mälaren, one of the largest collections in Europe of single-family homes in modernist style. It quickly earned the nickname of the White City.

This book is about Södra Ängby — about the ideas that developed among Stockholm’s urban planners, how international precedents from places like France and Germany influenced them, who the architects were that designed the houses, how they were built, where the first residents came from, and how we can preserve this national cultural heritage site for future generations. But Södra Ängby has even more to tell us. It captures

**Södra Ängby – Modernism, Architecture, Landscape**

Edited by Thorbjörn Andersson, Sören Johansson, Paul Källenius, Anders Lindunger  
Publisher: Carlson Bokförlag  
ISBN: 978 91 7331 737 5  
Language: English  
Year: 2015
the emergence of a new, modern society built on new values of democracy, progress, public health, and community. Södra Ängby became a reflection of the new Sweden that was being born, the political push to construct a “home for the people,” and of the Swedish model of compromise between capitalism and socialism that would be studied internationally as “the Middle Way.” It was a time when Sweden was the most modern country in the world.

From the Publisher.

La Arquitectura de la Vivienda Colectiva

Author: Josep Maria Montaner
Publisher: Editorial Reverté
ISBN: 978 84 291 2126 1
Language: Spanish
Year: 2015

This book presents a story that had not yet been written with a broad and interpretive vision. This history is exposed from a contemporary perspective addressing the reality complexity, describing experiences that are model examples of housing policy and architectural typology. The case studies are interpreted not only on its original time, but also in its later use. Emphasis is placed on cases that have focused on community and urban issues.

In the first part of the book it is exposed the long tradition that have began with the Existenzminimum experiments, with the Viennenses Hofe and the German Siedlungen, followed by the British new towns and the French grands ensembles.

The second part explains the answers to the crisis on modern urbanism and functionalist housing, with the alternatives offered by the organism, by participatory processes, the typological criticism and the theory and practice of media.

The third part deals with contemporary systems: the organization in plan, modular combination systems, urban integration, neighborhood development and the superposition of layers.

Finally, the fourth part discusses alternatives to the dominant systems: rehabilitation, environmental architecture, forecasting the periphery, the redevelopment of marginal neighborhoods and of responses to catastrophe situations.

To give a broader view of the above, the conventional Eurocentrism and the exclusive presentation of works carried out in developed countries was renounced. Therefore, the book includes a numerous experiments carried out in developing countries. Also, it is not only presented conventional examples of new plan but also rehabilitation and recycling, sustainable architecture and emergency housing are studied.

Translated from the Publisher.

In Light of Hilberseimer. The Genesis and Legacy of the New City

Author: Plácido González Martínez
Publisher: Vibok Works
ISBN: 978 84 939058 6 6
Language: English
Year: 2015

With clear and elegant writing, González Martínez unravels an important paradox in this book: the unexpected emotional intensity hidden within this figure who was commonly described as cold, dull and stubborn; his tragic love story with Otti Berger, a student he met in Bauhaus de Dessau; his close relationship with students at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago (IIT), who suffered from the daunting arrogance of a certain Mies van der Rohe... In short, this book reveals the profound human dimension behind the leader of urban and architectural rationalism in the 20th century.

From the Publisher.
One of the biggest gaps in Brazilian modern historiography is the absence of a profound and exclusive architecture study on the trajectory of the Roberto brothers’ office and its importance for 20th-century architecture. The architect brothers Marcelo, Milton and Maurício associated themselves and together, over the decades from 1930 to 1960, as the office called MMM Roberto, they brought forth a rationalist architecture which became a reference in quality for all the young Brazilians architects of the that era. Marcelo, the eldest one who graduated in 1930, joined with his brother Milton, the middle one, in the competition for the new head office of the Brazilian Press Association, ABI, in 1935. They won the competition with an unusual corner building that had its two façades covered with vertical brises-soleil. A few years later, Maurício, the youngest brother, joined them and the new office was created. The exciting feeling in 1939 caused by its opening went beyond Brazil’s borders. In December of the following year, the North American magazine Architectural Record published articles about the then newly opened building in Rio de Janeiro. ABI was praised for its fixed sun-baffles, which give the building’s exterior its form and ornament, had never before been used in tall buildings. The projects of MMM Roberto were published in national and international architecture magazines of the decades between 1940 and 1960; even appearing in specialist magazines and mentioned with great fanfare as a part of Brazilian Modern Movement architecture. However, MMM Roberto was never covered in a comprehensive book about the firm’s projects.

Authored by the architect and professor, Luiz Felipe Machado Coelho de Souza, the book Irmãos Roberto, Arquitetos is a result of his thesis defended at the University of Paris I, Panthéon Sorbonne. In it, the author identifies the creativity and singularity of the brothers and sought to contextualize it within the social and cultural environment of the Rio de Janeiro of the mid-20th century, which gave birth to a charming rationalist architecture, and to other cultural phenomena, such as the Bossa Nova in music. The book also analyses the trajectory of each of the Roberto brothers inside the office and how the singularity of each of them was reflected in the final production of the office.

Outlining a panorama of the production of the office between 1935 and 1996, it is clear the transformations of Brazilian architecture at the time. The first project built by the partnership of the brothers, the ABI, was the first tall building built in Brazil that has followed the rational functionalism aesthetic of the 20th century. Its conception and construction predates the edifice of the Ministry of Education and Health, the collective work by the leading figures of the first generation of modern Brazilian architects — Lucio Costa, Oscar Niemeyer, Afonso Eduardo Reidy, Jorge Moreira, Carlos Leão and Ermani Vasconcellos —, and which was consecrated by historiography as the inaugural symbol of the Brazilian Modern Movement, relegate the ABI building to a secondary role.

Perhaps, the explanation of this phenomenon is found in the trajectory of the office MMM Roberto which produced a fairly autonomous work in parallel with the legacy of the architect Oscar Niemeyer, the almost hegemonic influencer of Brazilian architecture at that time.

The main platform for disseminating Brazilian Modern Movement architecture were the widely publicized public works. In contrast, the MMM Roberto office had as its main customer the private sector, producing spaces that were built in dialogue with society’s desire for the modern Rio and Brazil of the decades from 1940 to 1972. In the housing projects the brothers designed with high spatial and constructive quality, as well as commercial profitability.

Roberto’s workmanship is known for its great contrivance. Designing all elements of the building, making the most of new techniques and engaged in control of its construction sites, the Roberto brothers already said in their first project: “In ABI, there was not a screw that had not been designed by us”. In addition, it was an architecture that provided a rich dialogue with public space. Subverting existing regulations that prohibited the use of sunblinds, they projected a series of institutional and commercial buildings in which elevators and stairs gave access directly onto the street, and the city cold of Rio de Janeiro, in its traditional mosaic of white and black stones, so that people entered into the building via the hall of elevators. The façades were objects of a constant volumetric and compositional experimentation, in which the sun protection of brises-soleil had a key role that took on varied solutions designed to meet the uniqueness of each project. Their residential projects offers a constant discussion about modern housing, especially in the use of duplex apartments, in terms of constructive rationalization, and the spatial quality qualification of housing. They were open to the influences of Le Corbusier’s rationalism to Wright’s organic nature, even though without ignoring several good projects of compositional from traditional scholarship. For all of this, this book is an excellent opportunity to reassess the role that brothers Roberto had in the dissemination of modern Brazilian architecture.
projects. The success of the first conference has resulted not only in the rapid growth of interest, but also has led to the organization of three more iterations. This year will bring the fifth of the series, titled 20th Century Architecture — Preservation — Conservation.

Undoubtedly, the choice of Gdynia as the place of the inaugural conference was not random. This Polish city seems to be a perfect location for such activities and studies, as it is the only Modern Movement creation of that scale in Poland. Its homogeneous and well-thought-out architectural concept was designed mainly in the 1920s and 1930s and is still clearly visible today, the Polish “White City” is preserved almost in its original form.

The book, documenting this prominent event, is as important as the conference itself. Although it does not aspire to be a monograph, it does present a vast spectrum of information about work carried out in various European cities. The material has been split into two parts, first of which serves as a presentation of icons and models of modernist architecture from the period between the World Wars, while the second part deals both with theoretical and practical issues connected with the preservation of 20th century heritage. Despite noticeable differences in the authors’ views and opinions, the book clearly stresses two issues: the different character of Modern Movement architecture compared with historical monuments, giving rise to the inability to use the same methodology of conservation in both cases, and the unquestionable need of creating a separate and coherent procedure when dealing with 20th century heritage. Authors of the thoughtfully illustrated articles included in the book document individual problems in a detailed manner; the separate issues are connected with respective buildings, the relationships between ideas and forms of all the European flavors of Modern Movement heritage are thoroughly explored.

Although the need to create new conservation methodology for modern architecture in Poland is still urgent, the situation looks to be a lot better nearly a decade after the first Modernism in Europe. Modernism in Gdynia conference. The book Modernism in Europe. Modernism in Gdynia. Architecture of the 1920s and 1930s and its Protection is still relevant as a document of the former state of affairs and also as a reminder that, although a great deal of work has been done since 2007, several questions about Modern Movement architecture’s future still have to be answered.

Piotr Tomaszewski
docomomo International Collaborator

En el Sitio Roberto Burle Marx

Author: Patricio Vélez
Publisher: Libros del Vórtice
ISBN: 978-84-617-3314-9
Language: Spanish, Portuguese and English
Year: 2015

En el Sitio Roberto Burle Marx is a descriptive essay about the place where the famous landscape designer had his gardening and landscaping laboratory. Eighteen photographs in black and white, twenty two in color, and eight pages of text, describe the different environments and most characteristic elements, whilst, at the same time, highlighting the importance of the Sitio in the artist’s life and in the experimental process that provided new concepts on, and shapes to, the modern Brazilian garden.

Translated from the Publisher.

Reconstruire La France. L'Aventure du Béton Assemblé. 1940–1955

Author: Yvan Delemontey
Publisher: Editions de la Villette
ISBN: 978-2-915456-882
Language: French
Year: 2015

The reader is invited on a journey through the emerging building industry and the resulting architecture. He is provided with a reasoned inventory of a multitude of inventions, improved from one building site to another, contributing to the accelerated modernisation of a sector deemed backward in a time of repairing the damages of the war. The urgency and the challenge that the recovery of the country represents impose the implementation of innovative operational processes, all of this led by the Government. In this context, the explosive growth of prefabrication paves the way for innovative technical performances and formal achievements around a leading material, the concrete.

Even if it doesn’t summarize itself the building industrialization policy, prefabrication is the result of an unprecedented technical adventure, an adventure defined by the wealth of new proceedings and by the remarkable inventiveness of the concept that testifies the richness and the vitality of the French constructive culture back then.

In this effervescence where most of the players think about the procedures, manufacture and construction, the architect, which sees his role redefined, the engineer, the building contractor, the technician and the worker, experience an unlimited fascination before the process of fabrication and assembly, the movement of cranes, the back and forth of trucks, disassembly and reassembly of the formwork, the pace of the molding. Nevertheless, beyond the reeling aroused by this “mechanical ballet”, some architects are worried about the possible excess of an absolute rationalization.

Translated from the Publisher.

El Paris de Le Corbusier

Author: José Ramón Alonso Pereira
Publisher: Editorial Reverté
ISBN: 978 84 291 2098 1
Language: Spanish
Year: 2015

El Paris de Le Corbusier analyzes the dual relationships between the city and the architect: the dialectic between the real city — Paris, where he lived — and the ideal city — the abstract Paris that he was projecting, El Paris
*de Le Corbusier tries to confront both worlds to understand them better. Paris is an opportunity to understand Le Corbusier and Le Corbusier is the occasion to study Paris. None of the factors wants to take precedence over the other.*

Le Corbusier embodied the dynamics of the 20th century in Paris. It was there that he lived most of his life: where he thought, where he wrote, where he designed. The city of Le Corbusier was both place of reality and utopia. His proposals for *La Ville Contemporaine* and *Ville Radieuse* are both a prophetic gesture and a poetic image.

The intersection between his ideals and the reality of Paris is presented in this book through a rich and sequential speech — Édouard, Jeanneret, and Le Corbusier: the discovery of Paris by Édouard, the dialectic that Paris, with its provocative energies, established with Jeanneret, and the proposals for Paris developed by Le Corbusier, making them a poetic journey and a vital encounter.

Even the viewpoint is very much set in the present, in presenting the recently restored library, its pure white surface, the soft grey soapstone on the main entrance façade, and the carefully finished details of the windows, doors and staircases. The photos taken specially for the book beautifully show Aalto’s masterpiece in all its new splendor.

From the Publisher.

*Alvar Aalto Library in Vyborg: Saving a Modern Masterpiece, Part 2*

Edited by Eric Adlercreutz, Maija Kairamo and Tapani Mustonen
Publisher: Rakennustieto Oy
ISBN: 978 952 267 101 1
Language: English
Year: 2015

On its completion in 1935, Alvar Aalto’s library in Vyborg was regarded as one of the most significant functionalist buildings of its time. The restoration of the library, which had been in a state of neglect for a long time, began in 1994 and was completed in 2013. The restoration work has since received several awards for the exceptionally high-quality result and the laudable international cooperation.

*Alvar Aalto Library in Vyborg: Saving a Modern Masterpiece, Part 2* takes off from where the previous book ended and presents in detail, through texts, photos and drawings, the individual renovation projects that were completed in 2010–2013: the lecture hall, the lending and reading halls, the children’s library, the main entrance and lobby, the basement floors, the book storage and technical systems as well as the external walls and roofs. The book’s viewpoint is very much set in the present, in presenting the recently restored library, its pure white surface, the soft grey soapstone on the main entrance façade, and the carefully finished details of the windows, doors and staircases. The photos taken specially for the book beautifully show Aalto’s masterpiece in all its new splendor.

From the Publisher.

*Towards a Typology of Soviet Mass Housing: prefabrication in the USSR 1955–1991*

Authors: Philipp Meuser and Dimitri Zadorin
Publisher: DOM publishers
ISBN: 978 3 86922 446 6
Language: English
Year: 2015

Soviet mass housing is a contradictory but unique phenomenon. It is usually blamed for creating the most monotonous built environment in the history of mankind, thus constituting a symbol of individual suppression and dejection. The construction programme launched in the post-Stalinist era was the largest undertaken in modern architectural history worldwide. At the same time, Soviet mass housing fulfilled a colossal social role, providing tens of millions of families with their own apartments. It shaped the culture and everyday life of nearly all Soviet citizens. Therefore, the time is ripe for a critical appraisal of this ambitious project. The authors aim to identify the most significant mass housing series designed and engineered from Kaliningrad to Vladivostok.

From the Publisher.

*Angola Cinemas. A Fiction of Freedom*

Authors: Walter Fernandes and Miguel Hurst
Edited by Christiane Schulte, Gabriele Stiller-Kern and Miguel Hurst.
Publisher: Steidl / Goethe-Institut
ISBN: 978-3-86930-794-7
Languages: German, Portuguese and English
Year: 2015

*Angola Cinemas* honors the unique, fantastic and unknown architecture of movie theaters in Angola, built in the decades before the end of Portuguese colonial rule in 1975. Initially designed as traditional closed spaces, open-air cinemas with terrace bars became the order of the day, better suited as they were to a tropical climate. The arrival of these cinemas in the 1960s brought atmosphere and elegance to the experience of going to the movies; but these urban cathedrals were also, importantly, a place where social barriers dissolved and where liberation from colonialism was possible. Walter Fernandes (born 1979) photographs offer not only an examination of the architectural history of these buildings, but also an important document of urban organization in the 20th century, as well as the changing mentalities of a society living with the prospect of its independence.

From the Publisher.
**Housing the Future — Alternative Approaches for Tomorrow**

Edited by Graham Potts and Rachel Issac-Menard  
Publisher: Green Frigate Books  
ISBN: 978 0 9933706 0 1  
Language: English  
Year: 2015

Housing the Future — Alternative Approaches for Tomorrow offers three perspectives on the problems of housing today with an eye on tomorrow. It brings together world-leading practising architects with academics from even countries and teams of international students. World leaders in the field of residential design such as UN Habitat Award winner Avi Friedman present built projects whose design criteria and aims they lay out in text. Academics from the UK, the USA, Spain, Germany and elsewhere follow these project descriptions with extended essays from a more theoretical perspective but remain focused on the realities of practice. Finally, ideas on current housing problems from the next generation of designers are brought together in student projects.

From the Publisher.

**Das Grenzlandtheater in Zittau 1934–1936**

Authors: Jos Tomlow and Sabine Spitzner-Schmieder  
Publisher: Graphische Werkstätten Zittau  
ISBN: 978 3 929744 96 5  
Language: German  
Year: 2015

The construction of Grenzlandtheater was caused by the fire of the previous bourgeois theater in 1932. Of the three theaters in the service of National Socialism it was the highest among them to achieve active participation by the political parties in the years from 1934 to 1936 (the Reichsgaueitung, the propaganda and interior ministries, and the broadcasting corporations).

It was considered to be an exemplar implementation of the idea of the Thing Place.

From the Publisher.

**La ciudad colonial y la cuestión de la vivienda. Tetuán-Larache 1912–1956**

Author: Alejandro Muchada  
Publisher: Universidad de Sevilla — Consejería de Fomento y Vivienda  
ISBN: 978 84 8095 573 7  
Language: Spanish  
Year: 2015

This collective work about the urban transformation of the cities of Tetouan and Larache during the colonial period (1912–1956), contains an interdisciplinary approach about the origin of the modern city in northern Morocco and about the issue of habitat, especially on the urban peripheries, and public housing production based on an analysis of unpublished documentary sources. A diverse group of professionals and Spanish-Moroccan researchers at the <www.tetouanmodernchallenge.com> initiative has reached a complex and critical view of this unknown period for Spanish and Moroccan historiography.

Translated from the Publisher.

**BAGDAD: La Construction d’une Capitale Moderne (1914–1960)**

Author: Caecilia Pieri  
Publisher: Presses de l’Ifpo  
ISBN: 978-2-35159-399-8  
Language: French  
Year: 2015

With the Orientalist imagery casting Baghdad as a vanished mirage, that of wars tending to transform it into a foil, and a regime which functioned for thirty years as a screen between Iraq and the rest of the world, how can a clear perception of the modern city of Baghdad be achieved now? This book identifies the main stages of transformation of Baghdad’s urban and architectural landscape between the First World War and the establishment of the first Iraqi Republic. It assesses what is at stake in the building of a modern capital. It envisions the interaction between architectural forms and urban practices as a paradigm of a complex identity and intertwines various approaches: studying the historical and political context, unravelling shaping patterns and processes, and analyzing the societal modernization. Its largely unpublished iconography is rich with more than 820 illustrations: old and recent photographs, drawings, plans, maps, autograph documents, archives.

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From the Publisher.
docomomo International is a non-profit organization dedicated to the documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the Modern Movement. It aims at:

- Bringing the significance of the architecture of the Modern Movement to the attention of the public, the public authorities, the professionals and the educational community.
- Identifying and promoting the surveying of the Modern Movement’s works.
- Fostering and disseminating the development of appropriate techniques and methods of conservation.
- Opposing destruction and disfigurement of significant works.
- Gathering funds for documentation and conservation.
- Exploring and developing knowledge of the Modern Movement.

docomomo International wishes to extend its field of action to new territories, establish new partnerships with institutions, organizations and NGOs active in the area of modern architecture, develop and publish the international register, and enlarge the scope of its activities in the areas of research, documentation and education.