

archithese kontext
6 and 7 June 2017
4.00 – 8.00 pm

House 2
Campus Toni-Areal
8005 Zurich

Symposium 6 May 2017

Open Space

Daniel Ganz
Dario Negueruela
Dieter Dietz
Simon Lamunière

Open Space focuses on porosity – from territorial to architectural to material scale. The symposium asks: What effects do spatial interactions have on people and cities? How can architects stand up for accessibility to shared space?

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Protostructure

Agathe Mignon
Manuel Herz
Milica Topalovic
Tanja Herdt
Yona Friedman

Protostructure supports spatial exchange. The symposium searches for instruments that enable cohabitation, promote dialogue, and foster the evolution of design. The inhabitants become creators of their own space. But what role remains for the architect?

Symposia *Open Space* and *Protostructure* on 6 and 7 June 2017

***House 2* is a forum installation designed and built by 200 students who are studying in the Alice (Atelier de la Conception de l'Espace) first year architecture atelier at EPF Lausanne. This wooden home will be open to passers-by in Zurich from 30 May to 15 June.**

archithese, one of the main scientific journals on architecture and urbanism in Switzerland will cover the two symposia *Open Space* and *Protostructure* on 6 and 7 June.

Alice is a laboratory in architectural design at EPF Lausanne focusing on space and responsible for the first year design studio. We are leading a series of research and research by design projects that establish links between education, social space, design thinking, architectural tools and public space. In this context we are organizing a series of events for summer 2017 in close collaboration with the City of Zurich and the Zurich Art School ZHdK at Toni Areal in Zurich. The events will take place at *House 2*, a forum installation designed and built by 200 students who are studying in our Alice first year architecture atelier. In view of growing cities around the globe and the respective opportunities and questions regarding the quality of life in our urban societies, *House 2* offers an approach to spatial appropriation by many in a collaborative and dialogical process.

***House 2* – a vision of the house of the future**

House 2 will host a series of events programmed by the City of Zurich, the ZHdK, and Alice for a period of three weeks. The questions of density and cohabitation will be addressed in a spatial construct offering a place for exchange, debate and discussion. In reference to Richard Sennett's recent book 'Together', a strong emphasis is given to the notions of collaboration, dialogical discourse and the negotiation of space of social difference. The project works as a hypothesis as it materializes these notions in the process of its construction and in its physical and spatial parameters.

Two Symposia

As part of the events Alice is organizing two symposia, together with Zurich based magazine *archithese*. One day on *Open Space* and a second one on *Protostructure*. Both themes are anchored in recently launched Alice research projects that gravitate around public space and appropriation of space as a social, cultural and physical phenomenon.

Open Space focuses on accessibility and porosity in lived space: from territorial, to architectural, to material scale. *Open Space* not only investigates strategies engaging architecture as an instrument to actively and pointedly counter present tendencies towards segregation (from the territorial to the material scale), but also explores the implications that spatial interaction and localization have for people, systems, infrastructures and cities. *Open Space* advocates the soundness, efficiency and adequacy of spatial and architectural instruments as tools to enact equality and accessibility to common space, against gated and segregated space. *Open Space* and its instruments ideally act directly in the public domain, in the real world, on projects that open up landscape and the city for us all. Access to space should be declared a human right.

The second research project, framed under the term ***Protostructure***, develops instruments that facilitate cohabitation and engage spatial exchange and dialogue between people, from small to larger groups. We

define protostructures as structures in a proto-state – ready to receive either alterations in themselves or to accommodate further figurations. As such they are both open in content and development but also defined by their existence as structure. They have the capability to formalize open ideas and support their further evolution. The prefix proto- implies the notion of temporality in placing structure before any evolution of form or content. Thus the term embodies the idea of a structure as initiator of its own transformation, and as support and object of transformation itself. Protostructures appear at all scales in architecture, from micro to macro, embodying the dialogue between form and its usage. They suggest the hypothesis of a constant trajectory towards the appropriation of space by many, and the challenges concerning the production of space, be they social, economical or political. In being inherently set at the threshold between idea and articulation, protostructures are a catalyst for design processes that facilitate decision-making.

Location

House 2 will be located in Zurich-West, a neighborhood that has seen major transformation in the last 10 years. Former place of cultural events in abandoned industrial sites and party-mile with only few residents, housing projects have been built and today ZHdK inhabits with 5000 students an industrial complex that used to process up to 1 million liters of milk per day. Toni Areal is one of the largest single-building campuses in Europe. In locating *House 2* at Toni Areal a synergetic scenario is put in place. The public space outside the very entrance of the ZHdK is today disqualified as a large bicycle stand. *House 2* as a protostructural device will activate the square into a forum, an open space for debate and interaction.

«House 2 is first built as a protostructural balloon-frame holding the genetic code for a future series of studio projects that are designed and built by 200 students and will perform as a forum offering open space for exchange between many: between the city and its inhabitants, between professionals and citizens, between educational institutions and everyone. Each project will be strongly contextualized by the site and will enter into multilayered dialogical discourse with its surroundings. Therefore the spatial experience of House 2 will be that of unfolding space in evolution, hovering in potentialities, open for interpretation.»

Learn more about the partners:

alice.epfl.ch

zhdk.ch

stadt-zuerich.ch/content/portal/en/index.html

archithese.ch

Learn more about the project:

aliceblogs.epfl.ch/

alice.epfl.ch/page-20191.html

Program

Symposium *Open Space* **06.06.2017**

Introduction

4.00 – 4.10 pm Dieter Dietz

Lectures

4.10 – 4.40 pm Dieter Dietz
4.40 – 5.10 pm Dario Negueruela
5.10 – 5.40 pm Daniel Ganz
5.40 – 6.10 pm Simon Lamunière

Pause

6.10 – 6.30 pm

Panel Discussion

6.30 – 7.30 pm Moderation: Dieter Dietz

Symposium *Protostructure* **07.06.2017**

Introduction

4.00 – 4.10 pm Jørg Himmelreich

Lectures

4.10 – 4.40 pm Agathe Mignon
4.40 – 5.00 pm Yona Friedman (recorded interview)
5.00 – 5.30 pm Tanja Herdt
5.30 – 6.00 pm Milica Topalovic
6.00 – 6.30 pm Manuel Herz

Pause

6.30 – 7.00 pm

Panel Discussion

7.00 – 8.00 pm Moderation: Jørg Himmelreich