



HERSUS project

## International Student Workshop

Nicosia, Cyprus

### International Seminar: *ADAPTIVE REUSE*

**1st Lecture: *Preservation of the Wine Cellars of Negotinska Krajina in Serbia: learning while doing. Education-based preservation of built heritage.***

Jelica Jovanovic

#### ABSTRACT

The aim of the lecture is to present the project “Preservation of the Wine Cellars of Negotinska Krajina in Serbia”, the rural ensembles of the wine cellars called *pivnice* in Serbian, which are spontaneously created secondary agricultural settlements of the wine producing villages in the Negotin municipality. The settlements are in the vicinity of the villages, mid-road to the vineyards. Their primary purpose is the production and storage of the wine, as well as keeping the utensils for viticulture and wine production. The wine production grew especially in the second half of 19th century, as the Western Europe's vineyards were destroyed by Phylloxera infestation. With good economic prospects, the villagers completely transformed the region, but also the economic and educational landscape of the community. The winemakers started constructing monumental buildings in *pivnice*, as well as in the villages. After the Second World War, due to the industrialization of wine production, the cellars lost their original role and significance, and the structures started declining.

The remaining ensembles were protected at the beginning of 1980s, as only four out of ten remained on site. However, three were protected: Rajačke, Rogljevačke and Štubičke pivnice, while Smedovačke were not, as they almost disappeared. Together with the old cemeteries in Rajac and Rogljevo, cellars were categorized as ensembles of exceptional importance. Today 166 – 196 out of 270 structures are still standing in Rajac and 126 standing out of 152 (300 according to elders) in Rogljevo, while only a few are active.

Faced with the fast decay and disappearance of the cellars, in 2002 the first activities of the project commenced, by undertaking an architectural survey of 4 cellars. Over the course of 19 years, several campaigns of surveying have been conducted, as well as geodetic and partial architectural survey of old cemetery in Rajac, the planning documentation and cadastral plans were updated.

Since the enlisting of the ensembles onto the tentative list of UNESCO in 2010, a long-term partnership was established with CHWB Albania to join forces and start reconstructing cellars through annual *Regional Restoration Camps*. Through these camps, the goal was to bridge the gap in restoration financing, since the privately owned monuments rarely receive government funding, but also to address the issues of the lack of trained workforce (both scholars and craftsmen) and lack of regional cooperation among (young) experts. In 2018 the field of collaboration expanded with the international project *Summer School of Architecture* by Grupa arhitekata joining in, bringing experts and participants from all over the world. Through these campaigns, with support both from Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, SIDA, Headley trust and GIZ Serbia, 16 cellars in Rogljevo and 3 in Rajac have been restored, as well as 3 buildings in the village of Rogljevo, a household and a cellar have been taken under custodianship for 15 years, and initial restoration has been done on them, while the stable of the Stanković-Aleksić family has been repaired to serve as an outdoor classroom.

## **Jelica Jovanovic, dipl.eng.arch, University of Technology in Vienna (UBFA Keynote speaker)**

Since 2013 PhD student of the University of Technology in Vienna, Institute for Art History, Archaeology and Restoration. Graduated from Faculty of Architecture University of Belgrade. Cofounder of Docomomo Serbia, secretary, website editor, documentation and digitalization coordinator. Founder of the NGO Grupa arhitekata. Attended courses of the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI), Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB), Central Institute of Conservation of Serbia, Center for Earth Architecture Mošorin (Serbia), Belgrade Open School. External collaborator of several institutes of heritage protection and museums in Serbia, working on the protection of mass (collective) housing, modernist architecture and vernacular architecture. Scholar of Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation (ÖEAD) & World University Service (WUS), twice of the Slovak Academic Information Agency (SAIA). Coordinator of the project *Unfinished Modernisations: Between Utopia and Pragmatism*, 2010-2012, (EACEA, Culture 2007-2013). Coordinator of the regional project *(In)appropriate Monuments*. Coauthor and coordinator of the international educational project Summer School of Architecture in Bač and Rogljevo (2010-now). Curatorial assistant of the Museum of Modern Art in New York (MoMA) for the exhibition *Toward a Concrete Utopia: Architecture in Yugoslavia 1948–1980*. Coauthor of the platform *Arhiva modernizma*. Coauthor of the book *Bogdan Bogdanović Biblioteka Beograd: an Architect's Library*. A practicing architect and conservator.

Memberships: Docomomo Serbia since 2010; ICOMOS Serbia since 2017-today; Association of Belgrade Architects, since 2010 (IT, UIA, ISoCaRP, ACCEE – collective membership); Society of Conservators of Serbia, since 2011, Presidency member 2020-2024; International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI) 2021-2022; American Concrete Institute (ACI) 2017-2018.



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**2nd Lecture: “As Found”. A New Approach to the Reuse of the Built Environment.**

Prof. Carlos García Vázquez

### **ABSTRACT**

The “as found” concept was defined by Alison and Peter Smithson in the 1950s as a specific design strategy based on minimal intervention. Their goal was taking profit of all the lot pre-existences that could be reused in the new buildings. This strategy is nowadays spreading as a new way of addressing the issue of the reuse of the built environment. Some examples of this are the Tallinn’s Pier, by Kavakava Architects; the conversion of the Bonames airfield, by Michael Triebswetter; and the Duisburg’s Landschaftspark, by Peter Latz. Underlying this “as found” approach to the reuse of the built environment is the environmentalist debate. In the last decade, there has been a substantial change of mind in this debate. Radical ecology movements reclaim the need to overcome so-called “weak sustainability” and to take steps toward “strong sustainability”. This demand has stimulated interest for the preservation of obsolete areas, which are considered as an opportunity to repair part of the damage cities have caused to the natural environment. One of the best-known advocates of the conservation of these areas is the French botanist and landscaper Gilles Clément. The case of the old Berlin airport of Tempelhof, which was inaugurated in 1941 and closed in 2008, is a good example of the implementation of his ideas. In 2014, a referendum was called to decide on its future and Berliners voted in favor of leaving the place as it was, even rejecting any sort of building on its perimeter. Over three million people visit this wild area every year, a place which is completely different from traditional parks. This success hints to the fact that a kind of cultural revolution is happening, the cultural revolution that is needed in order to overcome the “weak sustainability” approach and start the “strong sustainability” one. For this purpose, the “as found” concept can be a great contribution.

**Prof. Carlos García Vázquez, University of Seville (USE Keynote speaker)**

Architect and urban planner since 1987. University teaching since 1994, Full Professor at the University of Seville (Spain) since 2008, and Visiting Professor at the Politecnico di Milano (Italy) since 2011. My research activity has been focused on the field of urban studies, with special focus on contemporary phenomena (urban resilience, urban commons, bottom-up urbanism, etc.). As a second field of research, the one dedicated to urban obsolescence stands out, fundamentally that of the postwar social housing estates. My third field of research is architectural heritage. I have published six books in prestigious international publishers including Routledge and Gustavo Gili. All of them have been widely disseminated and valued by specialized critics. The most recent one, *Cities After Crisis. Reinventing Neighborhood Design from the Ground-Up* (Routledge, 2022), was selected by Knowledge Unlatched to be included in its open access Climate Change Collection 2022. I received the Fomento de las Artes Decorativas–FAD Award for Thought and Critique in 2017. Between 2011 and 2014 I was coordinator of the "City, Architecture and Contemporary Heritage" research group (University of Seville). I have participated in 15 research projects and contracts. In eight of them I had the position of Principal Investigator. I have supervised 14 PhD dissertations, all of which were evaluated with the highest marks. Four of them obtained the Extraordinary Doctorate Award from the University of Seville. Since 2011 I have been a visiting professor at the Scuola di Architettura Urbanistica Ingegneria

delle Costruzioni (AUIC) of the Politecnico di Milano. I have also taught at Texas Tech University (Lubbock, United States), Universidad de Los Andes (Bogota, Colombia) and Prima Facoltà di Architettura della Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza" (Italy), have lectured around the world. I have carried out three extended research visits (Northwestern University, Chicago; University College London; and Tongi University, Shanghai) and 15 appointments and visitations as a visiting professor. I have experience as a courses and papers reviewer, curator of exhibitions, and have been a member of various editorial boards and scientific committees.



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## **International Seminar: *ADAPTIVE REUSE***

**3rd Lecture: *Adaptive Reuse: How Successful can a recovery be within the Contemporary Sustainable Era?***

**Dr. Despina Parpa**

### **ABSTRACT**

The practice of adaptive reuse is intertwined with sustainable development and although it is widely believed that mainly economic factors drive possible redevelopment schemes for successful recoveries, it was found that, in the case of adaptive reuse, there are some other participating criteria. But how is success measured in adaptive reuse? This presentation will explore the essence of adaptive reuse as a practice while at the same time establishing the most important criteria driving a successful recovery of derelict and abandoned buildings within the context of Cyprus, based on realized research using multiple regression analysis. The contributions included in the model derive from a multidisciplinary process, and more specifically, the realms of socio-economics, culture, and the environment. These vital contributions are successful proponents of both the practice of adaptive reuse and sustainability-driven developments of the built environment. The findings although being indicative, are seen as a valuable tool for decision makers and involved stakeholders aiming to achieve successful sustainable adaptations within the contemporary sustainable (?) era.

### **Dr. Despina Parpa, University of Cyprus (UCY Keynote speaker)**

Despina Parpas received both her BSc in Architecture and Diploma of Architect-Engineer from the University of Cyprus, and her MA in Historical and Sustainable Architecture from New York University. She holds a Ph.D in Architecture which she received in 2019 from the University of Cyprus. The title of her thesis was "Empirical Evidence of a Successful, Sustainable-driven Adaptive Reuse: A Multiple Linear Regression Approach".

Her research work was presented and published in several international scientific conferences and in a peer reviewed international journal, and she actively participated in workshops and seminars. Currently, she is practicing architecture while at the same time maintaining her bonds with Academia having participated in research programs, co-authoring and seminars.



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#### **4th Lecture: *From documentation to adaptive reuse: The case study of Agios Ioannis' district in Kavala***

Dimosthenis Sakkos

#### **ABSTRACT**

Managing monuments and architectural works of the past, in consideration of heritage sustainability, is a crucial point for their assignment to future generations. Architectural heritage's management should be based on special character and values' comprehension. In case of an individual object, the identification of its values is easier, but the same does not happen in the case of an entire residential complex. The difficulty in managing urban neighborhoods or entire settlements, in addition to the extent of the object, is also related to the difficulty of recognizing and understanding their values and special character. To the above mentioned, constraints and new requirements that arise from the need to reuse, are added. The necessity of fully functional spaces with modern terms and energy behavior, in existing buildings, sets new standards to the reuse project. Parts of residential complexes that are built in different time periods, have different building technology and were designed to meet different needs, make their detailed documentation a key tool for evaluation and ultimately for the proposal of restoration and reuse. An interesting example of residential complex's reuse is the case of Agios Ioannis' district in the city of Kavala. The documentation and the first stage of the restoration and reuse project of this ensemble was completed at 2020 within the Interdisciplinary Studio of the Interdepartmental Program of Postgraduate Studies "Protection, Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Monuments" of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The district of Agios Ioannis is the first Christian district to be built outside the walls of the city of Kavala. The first core of buildings was built around the end of the 19th century and includes the church, a residence for the local priest, a tobacco warehouse and a coffee shop. Gradually, in different time periods, four houses in a row, a group of six houses in a row and a group of four four-storey houses in a row were built. Additionally, a candle workshop and some secondary buildings were constructed while further changes took place in some of the original buildings. The complex exists today in this form, however the absence of maintenance and modernization of the building stock, makes the houses non-functional. Worth mentioning and studying is the way these buildings were constructed and the different building systems that were used. Overall, most of the materials and construction methods that were in use at that time can be found in the complex. This fact made the process of reuse very complicated. After the brief presentation of buildings' documentation in order to identify their special elements, the basic synthetic principles and decisions that led to the reuse proposal will be pointed out. The proposal includes both the existing building stock and the surrounding area of the complex. The latter aims to simultaneously maintain the character of the district by serving modern needs and ensuring the issues of accessibility and good energy efficiency of buildings.

**Dimosthenis Sakkos**, MSc, Phd Candidate, Architect Engineer, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH Keynote speaker)

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Dimosthenis Sakkos is an architect-engineer with master's degree in Protection, Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Monuments. He is a PhD candidate in School of Architecture at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and his PhD thesis is about: Restoration and modernism and more specific the assessment of restorations and rehabilitations projects of post-war modern architectural heritage of 50s- 60s".

Since 2016, he has worked as an architect-engineer in more than 10 projects of restoration and preservation of monuments and cultural works and in projects of reusing of inactive craft and industrial buildings. At the same time, he has participated in conferences as speaker but also as member of conferences' organizing committee. In 2021, he participated in the research program of the NTUA. entitled: "Historical and Architectural documentation of buildings in Lakki and Lepida of Leros" while at the same time participates as a member of working group 1 in the documentation of mass housing in Europe in the 1950s and 1960s.

From 2019 until today, he participates as teaching assistant at courses in School of Architecture at A.U.Th, such as "Restoration of Historic Buildings", "Historical Structural Systems", "Architectural Design in Historic Environments" and "Historical Complexes and Places Rehabilitation". In addition, he participates in the laboratory of Interdisciplinary Cooperation of the postgraduate study program: Protection, Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Monuments of AUTH.



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**5<sup>th</sup> Lecture: "Conservation beyond reuse and abuse? Notes on the current fate of deconsecrated churches"**

**Professor Donatella Fiorani**

### **ABSTRACT**

The change in use of Christian religious buildings raises various issues and establishing a context for them means dealing with core conservation themes while at the same time examining the relationships between shape and content in architecture.

For several decades, the debate around this subject was focused on the dichotomy between figurative and historical (material) values. Today, theoretical reflection vacillates between the pre-eminent attention paid to the architecture itself, and to the meanings that we can derive from it. Changes in function – the outcome of technological and cultural transformations – happen over time and with changes in behaviour that alter depending on their historical and geographical contexts, and with the nature of the building. In this context a new organic project is generally required, something that is balanced between the priorities of function and those of the existing structure.

The compatibility/function pairing has mainly promoted the insertion of cultural services into historical buildings, including religious ones. For some time, choosing 'higher' cultural activities has helped to make such reconversions societally acceptable, but the economic crisis of the last few years has promoted a more inclusive pragmatism, one that legitimises almost any change of use in order to avoid possible demolitions.

In this climate, we must contextualize the present issue of the functional reconversion of the churches, in an era when religion – which was once the engine both of personal spirituality and of social aggregation – is being replaced by a more individual and 'liquid' secularization.

### **Prof. Donatella Fiorani, Sapienza University of Rome (luav Keynote speaker)**

Professor Donatella Fiorani, architect, specialist, and full professor in the conservation of architectural heritage at the Faculty of Architecture, Sapienza University of Rome (Department of History, Representation and Conservation of Architecture).

She has taught for international masters in conservation abroad, has collaborated with the Italian Ministry for Culture and with several inter-ministerial working groups. She collaborated with UNESCO-ICOMOS in different activities.

Professor Fiorani has participated in and organised national and international conferences, seminars and workshops, and has written about 220 essays, most of which concern questions of methodology and restoration theory, the knowledge and conservation of traditional building techniques, topics on history of architecture, digital humanities. She coordinates university research groups and is a referee for the evaluation of scientific research. She is Director of the scientific magazine "Materiali e Strutture" and is a member of the scientific staff of other periodicals in the field of conservation. She worked and is currently a consultant for conservation projects of Italian and European historical architectures.