Honors thesis

Master of Science in
Architecture Construction City

Abstract

The construction of the idea: analysis of the projectual process. Four proposals for two urban fabrics in Madrid

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The aim of the thesis is to reflect on the intense studies experience spent during the 2013-2014 academic year, at the Escuela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura of Madrid. The investigation focuses on the pedagogic and working approach to architectural project, learned from spanish school, in order to reflect on the final outcomes. The challenge indeed, is to analyze if this method, made of a very intense and hard work, with lost of and very fast deadlines, can lead to a coherent result: a result where the early idea becomes architecture, thanks to a process of progressive steps, which allows to control the project from the urban scale to the construction detail. For this reason the reflection on the method is developed through its direct application on the project.

About the method, the choice is to show all the steps that drove each project from the early idea and concept to the final and more detailed result. All the documents that structured and legitimated the projects are shown: sketches, models, drawings, images and references. This analysis has the aim to reflect on the importance of the drawing as a thinking tool, as a way to create, express and communicate ideas; furthermore it would like to show how the contribute of the references and imaginary, like existing architecture, images, forms and idea, takes a fundamental role in all the phases of the creative process.

About the project, four proposals had been developed on two big themes: the house and the public space, so the difference between private and public life. Each theme had been applied to two very different areas of Madrid: one study case is situated in the periphery (Barrio de Batan), the second in the center (Barrio de Los Jeronimos). This double work led to a double reflection: above the architectural design questions, it gives the opportunity to think about the building a new layer in the urban existing fabric, which has to interact and dialogue with its context. According to this the project has the possibility to change and improve in different way, different parts of the city.

This critical reading also opens the reflection to other more general themes: the architectural project as an artistic, intellectual and technical process, from the idea his construction, as well as the role of the Architect, as a multidisciplinary profession, where education, training and knowledge take an essential part.
1. Architecture Museum project: document that shows the first intentions, ideas, space’s quality

2. Architecture Museum and double life appartaments: groundfloorplan and section. On the left side some drawings and references that explain the project developement and process.
3. Double life apartments: facade and section. On the left side some drawings and references that explain the project development and process.

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