

GALICIA

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This issue's main section is dedicated to 14 architects from the region of Galicia. The majority were born in this region, studied in Madrid and returned to Galicia to establish their professional practice. Though a wide variety of projects are shown (from a church, to housing units, to an industrial building), some common elements can be seen which unite the architects. The climate of Galicia is a strong determining factor in many of the schemes. The traditional language of the gallery or *mirador* so common in the north is employed in many projects. The concern for light can also be seen. The single family house which typically utilizes the ground floor as a storage area with the living area above is explained by Manuel Gallego in the development of the house in Eiris and is shown also in works by Alcalá and Trabazo.

SEVEN CLOUDS

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Swiss artist, Lisa Rehsteiner, states that their purpose of her work entitled the Seven Clouds is to convert to architectural dimensions a project originally conceived to be realized at the scale of the human hand. The roots of her work come from the rain cloud symbol of the Navajo Indians. The Navajos develop a symbol by manipulating the rope with their ten fingers. The different stages of development show the interesting way in which each cloud grows from the preceding one.

BOLOGNA: AN EXPERIENCE OF COLLECTIVE RECUPERATION OF THE HISTORIC CENTER

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Francisco Pol describes the process of recuperation and renovation of the 450 hectare historic center of the city of Bologna. The renewal of this area represents a unique approach by the Communist Municipal Council within the framework of a capitalist state. Unlike renovation efforts in so many western countries, the case of Bologna is an attempt to improve the neighborhoods for their inhabitants. The article outlines the basic political structure of neighborhood councils, unions and cooperatives working parallel to the municipal council in the four basic areas of reform; housing policy, urban reform policy, public services, and the democratization of local institutions. The new line of intervention, begun fundamentally in the Plan of 1969, delineated 13 areas of low income population, substandard housing and poorly utilized public facilities. Though this plan was basically a defensive measure, the passage of the 1971 housing reform gave legal strength to the municipal administration to begin a new phase of intervention. Subsequently an extensive classification and analysis of buildings and open spaces was carried out and a *rolling type* renovation program begun. The goal of the first phase is the rehabilitation of 22,000 m² with about one third of this already completed.

CRISIS IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

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In this final part of the article on the *Crisis in Architectural Education*, Jorge Togneri outlines what he believes the pedagogical principles used today and how they relate to the crisis in

architectural education. In the last section he presents a scheme for the resolution of these problems which he feels is realistic and has the potential of a practical solution.

Basically the problem areas seen are; the use of ideal concepts which are not founded in the real world, the compartmentalization and division of the discipline into fragmentary parts which make understanding of the totality difficult, and a competitive and individualistic educational system.

To overcome these weaknesses of the educational system, Togneri presents a methodology which includes the following: *design* as the focal point in architectural education, group work, the establishment of relations with the means of production and potential users of projects. He continually states that exercises must be linked to reality and that this will encourage students to be active participants in the search for solutions and in the learning process.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION FOR A TOWN HALL

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This competition held in July, 1977 had as its purpose the creation of a new building to house the functions of the local government of Fene, located in the province of La Coruña.

The first place award was granted Alberto Campo Baeza of Madrid. He opted for a scheme which would articulate and define a plaza which could serve many the functions related to the social and cultural activities of the town hall and which employed the traditional symbolism of including a clock tower and principal balcony in their design.

The second placed design of Alfredo Alacala Navarro grouped the various function of the town hall in separate buildings though connected by their common roof and pedestrian walkways.

The project of Manuel Casabella created a plaza by setting the building back from the street. The purpose of this was to add an urban dimension for the project, create a plaza, and to pronounce the public nature of the building.

CANNIBALISM

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Maurice Culot is his article entitled *Cannibalism* talks of the present day destruction Brussels. Since 1695 the city has not experienced deterioration due war. Rather, the current day phenomenon in which more than 50 % of the city is physically and socially destroyed is due to other factors. The reasons for the devastation are: the political situation related to the conflict between the French speaking and Flemish speaking populations, the entrance into the Common Market and NATO which led to great speculation, the construction of urban expressways since 1958, and the location of multinational companies in Belgium with their later abandonment of the city.

In 1968 the first organized demonstration against the destruction of the city marked the birth of the organization L'Atelier de Recherche et d'Action Urbaines, (L'ARAU) dedicated to research and urban action. This group of people, politically leftists, defined as its two objectives: the democratization of the urban decision making process and the creation of new alternative urban images for the city.

To oppose a strategy of fragmentation, L'ARAU has the cooperation of hundreds of neighborhood association and has elaborated a cohesive, utopian, alternative plan for Brussels.