

English Summary

Arquitectura wishes to close 1981 with a monographic or anthological issue, not simple because of the abstract validity of the idea, but because of a specific intention to devote the majority of pages of this issue to an important part of the work of Alejandro de la Sota. These are not unpublished works, all have been published more than once, except for the Post Office, building in Leon, not yet finished, and the Guzman House in Madrid, therefore published only in photos.

We felt it interesting to present to our readers through this issue a re-examination of some of the recent buildings and, in general, the meaning of the work of De la Sota. In times which some call **post modern**, after a decade in which the architectural question of modernity has been revised and strongly debated, it is perhaps desirable to return to the work, of this Spanish architect who, greatly esteemed for the quality of his work, was not only absent from the revisionist front of Modern Movement, but also defended his views with firmness and intensity.

The work of Alejandro de la Sota is published with four analytical essays about various aspects of it. Keeping mind what is now historical and distant from international interests (currently in the majority) his work can be granted a critical exhibition different from the contemporary view that his work and intellectual positions received in the past.

The introduction by Antón Capitel, citing the architectural education of De la Sota, attempts to establish a vision of the tools and ideas which supported and granted a unique character to his work. Following this, two studies by Alfonso Valdés are presented; the first devoted to establishing the loyalty of De la Sota to modern principles which, in the opinion of the author, are embodied in the figure of Mies and which gave rise to the continuing search for a modern ideal which was based on "brutalist contamination of that time". The second investigates questions of architectural language, studying the way in which traditional elements are transformed in favor of a stated ideal. Finally, José Manuel López Peláez adds a commentary on the way he sees summarized the meaning of the work of the architect.

Along with these texts, we include four buildings and one project of De la Sota: the César Carlos student residence in Madrid, the pavillion of university classrooms in Sevilla, the Calculations Center of Postal Savings Bank in Madrid, the Guzmán House on the outskirts of Madrid and the above mentioned Post Office building project for Leon, not yet completed. Also included are designs for a lounge chair currently in the prototype phase.

This issue is completed, firstly, with two restorations projects; one by Luis Burillo and collaborators for the ruins of a church in Daroca in the province of Zaragoza and the other by José Antonio Martínez Lapeña and Elías Torres for the consolidation and adaptation to other uses of a church in Ibiza. We should state that these two projects should have been included in issue number 230 devoted almost enterily to restoration, but is was imposible due exclusively to reasons of space. They are therefore intentionally published here together, having in common their professional skill, their lack of ambiguos intentions as well as reflecting a certain polemic character that can be linked with **modern** operations for old structures (though with different intensities).

Finally, and giving a certain symetrical character to this issue with the first one of the year, we present an unpublished work of Sáenz de Oíza. The project, designed almost ten years ago for the Echevarría House in the Florida area on the outskirts of Madrid, represents a rather uncommon version of the architecture of Sáenz de Oíza.

