

"INTERIORS. NOTES AND FIGURES": BELGIAN PAVILION - VENICE BIENNALE 2014

The project "Interiors. Notes and Figures" will be presented in the Belgian Pavilion at the 14th Venice Architecture Biennale.



The concept of the interior is fundamental in architectural design. Yet there are very few studies that approach it as a separate field of inquiry. Behind the permanence of buildings' façades, all sorts of transformations, adjustments and modifications are carried out. From this perspective, a study of our interiors provides valuable information about the new challenges to which architectural practice must rise. Obliging us to counter the notion of modernity as an all-consuming phenomenon, it reveals a vernacular architecture in which modernity itself is being consumed and absorbed.

Focusing on the home, "Interiors. Notes and Figures" records and analyzes the domestic landscapes that result from this process of transformation. The curatorial team spent five months taking thousands of photographs of home interiors throughout Belgium. The study attempts to devise a vocabulary and to reveal the attitudes that, beyond pure form, allow us to define a culture that is specific to these transformations. The photos, notes and figures have been collated in a catalogue, resembling a manual, that will be published at the opening of the pavilion.

An interpretation of the research findings will be presented inside the Belgian Pavilion. It presents significant themes from the study in the form of architectural interventions, scale models and surface treatment. Generating both new spatial organizations and visual relationships, these play on the disparity between architecture and its different forms of appropriation, creating a tension between the real and the possible.

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Publication: ?Interiors.Notes and Figures? Available June 6th
2014 Éditions de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles / Cellule
architectureIn collaboration with A+ - ISBN
978-2-930705-06-4

An initiative of the Architecture Unit of the Wallonia-Brussels
Federation in collaboration with Wallonia-Brussels International.

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Date	07/06 - 23/11/14
Publication	21/05/14
Website	http://www.interieurs-notes-figures.be