Actions

EXHIBITION & SEMINAR AT SHENZHEN BIENNIAL OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM



Address

CN Shenzhen

For our architectural track, Belgian Spirit takes part in the Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism / Architecture 2013 (UABB), which theme is ?Urban Borders? with our ?XX Models Young Belgian Architecture? exhibition and on the side a seminar.

The exhibition will take place from December 6th 2013 to March 14th 2013. The lectures will be given on December 7th.

1. THE EXHIBITION XX Models Young Belgian Architecture

The exhibition presents 20 scale models, each representing a project of a public or collective nature built by an emerging Belgian architectural firm in the last ten years.

All 20 architects were invited by A+ Architecture in Belgium / Bozar Architecture to the Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels between 2008 and 2012 to give a lecture on their project, their first major commission at the time. Their model was subsequently exhibited for one year in this magnificent building designed by Victor Horta.

The location of most of the exhibition projects is Belgium, which forms an endless conurbation as one of Europe's most densely populated countries. In this context of continuous urban sprawl, political, cultural, social and linguistic borders serve in place of vanishing urban boundaries. The result, especially in Belgium, is a complex arena of shared territories and landscapes. Based on its public or collective dimension, each project bears witness in its own way to this specific urban condition.

The exhibition also explores the idea of the model as architectural project in its own right. Each one is accompanied by interviews with the architects about their building and how they have represented it. This is because, besides its political, administrative or social aspects, architecture is also concerned with questions of form, space, dimension, scale, materials, conception methods and, of course, representation.

The co-curators of the exhibition are Iwan STRAUVEN and Marie-Cécile GUYAUX.

Participating firms and projects:

- Bureau Vers plus de bien-être (V+), Cinéma Sauvenière at Liège

- Julien De Smedt Architects, Mountain & VM dwellings at à Copenhagen

- 360 architecten, Vlerick Leuven Campus at Louvain

- architecten de vylder vinck taillieu, Les Ballets C de la B ? Lod at Gand

- Dierendonckblancke architecten, Centre culturel at Avelgem

- noA architecten, Soustation 150/15kV Petrol at Antwerp

- AgwA, Métal at Saint-Gilles

- Bulk architecten, Service technique at Blankenberge

- Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen, Kortrijk Xpo at Courtrai

- Matador, Maison Folie at Mons

- HUB, Art Basics for Children at Schaerbeek

- Urban Platform Architects, Retail Headquarters at Seneffe

- B612 Associates, Dolez at Uccle

- URA, KOP at Puurs

- Planners, Centre culturel Zwaneberg at Heist-op-den-Berg

- Puls Architecten, De Drei Heeren at Antwerp

- Geert De Groote Architecten, Eden at Gand

- A229, ITP at Court-Saint-Etienne

- Bureau d'architecture Ledroit-Pierret-Polet, Cygnes-Digue at à Ixelles

-NU architectuuratelier, C-mine expeditie at Genk

A new catalogue in English and Chinese, based on the publication, will be presented at this occasion.

2. THE SEMINAR XX perceptions of Urban Borders

This seminar is part of the official program of the Biennale. It will be held on December 7th from 1:20 PM to 3 PM 15 on site B of the Biennale.

The seminar, directed by Li Mei TSIEN and moderated by Tom VEREBES, former Co-Director of the AA Design Research Lab

(DRL) at the Architectural Association in London and Associate Dean and Professor at the University of Hong Kong, will revolve around the notion of Urban border as perceived by the 20 architects of the XX Models exhibition.

The architects have be invited to give their perception of urban borders and illustrate their approach and understanding of the problematic through an architectural and or urban proposal they've experienced . The various intervention will be gathered into a booklet which will accompany the seminar. 5 of the selected offices will come to present and share their approach with chinese architects answering the question in an open talk followed by a debate

Speakers : AgwA / B612associates / Office Kersten Geers David Van Severen/ URBANPLATFORM / Standardarchitecture

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