Events

Arquitecturas-Imaginadas: Representação Gráfica Arquitectónica e “Outras-Imagens”

Saverio D’Auria

The seminar Arquitecturas Imaginadas: Representação Gráfica Arquitectónica e ‘Outras Imagens’—kept in Brazil at the Centro Universitário Maria Antônia of the University of San Paolo from the 5th to the 9th of March 2018, one of the first abroad scientific meetings supported by Unione Italiana per il Disegno—has reached its fifth edition and caught the attention of the scientific representation community (fig. I).

The first edition, named Desenho […] Cidade, was taken at the Architecture Department of the University of Lisbon from the 28th to the 30th of April 2014 during the namesake project started from Pedro António Janeiro in 2009 at the CIAUD—Centro de Investigação em Arquitetura Urbanismo e Design—of the University of Lisbon and during it the most general aspects regarding the drawing and representation of the city were analysed.

Still now the seminars follow the first one’s guidelines and the participants, chosen according to their academic and scientific profiles, have to get an official invitation.

The second seminar, still taken at the Architecture Department of the University of Lisbon from the 20th to the 30th of April 2015, in memoriam of the Portuguese professor Maria João Madeira Rodrigues, had as subtitle Desenho […] Cidade […] EU and proposed to debate the existing connections between the executor and the beneficiary of an image (graphic, photographic, cinematographic).

The 3rd seminar was hosted by the Instituto de Arquitetos do Brasil of Rio de Janeiro from the 7th to the 9th of March 2016, it had as main topic the drawing related to the modern city (the subtitle was Desenho […] Cidade-Moderna) laid the foundations to keep on going a wider and more articulated research project which involved researchers from abroad.

The new research project, still lead from professor Janeiro, lasts four years (November 2016-November 2020) and preserves its historical name Arquitecturas Imaginadas: Representação Gráfica Arquitectónica e ‘Outras Imagens’. It involves more than ten South American and European Universities (among which the Faculdade de Arquitetura of Lisbon, the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura of the Universidad Politécnica of Madrid, the Politecnico of Milano, the Politecnico of Bari, the Universities of Salerno, of Basilicata, Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, of Palermo, the FAU in San Paolo) and several scientific and researching bodies or organisations (for example the Instituto de Arquitetos do Brasil) and is financed by the Departamento de Composición Arquitectónica of the Universidad Politécnica of Madrid, by the Coordenação de Pesquisa of the university centre SENAC and by the Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo of the University of San Paolo, by the Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa of the San Paolo State, by Preciare–Consultoria e Avaliação Imobiliária and by A.A.M., Architettura Arte Moderna of Roma. Among the non-Portuguese/Brazilian researchers, make up the team, just to name a few, the professors Javier Seguí de la Riva and Javier Mosteiro, from the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura of the Universidad Politécnica of Madrid and, between the Italians, Francesca Fatta, Antonio Conte, Salvatore Barba and Vito Cardone.

One of the purposes, most of which already discussed during the last two seminars, is about analysing through the drawings the variation of the insights of the cities in order to reach an accurate knowledge of the critical issues, linked to the association between the drawing and the city starting from the perception of the last one.

The scientific research is in fact pointed around the city drawing and its identification elements—the geographic area, the inhabitants, the natural landscape,
the data and the ongoing events—elements characterized by the body’s presence and action expressed in gestures, movements, facts, motions and stays. Therefore the research analyses the processes that the subject of some society uses in order to represent the objects around him and, more specific, the images of the architectural object. Moreover, it has to think about how to represent the inexistente architecture during the design and project steps of the same in order to reduce the distance between the known architecture and the one represented. The first common considerations about the researches were developed during the penultimate edition of the seminar—kept on the 17th and 18th of May 2017 at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura of the Universidad Politécnica of Madrid—which was focalized on the memory of the city through the drawings (Dibujo […] Ciudad […] Reminiscencia).

For the 5th and last international seminar, the scientific coordinators—the professors Pedro António Janeiro (of the Architecture Department of the University of Lisbon), Myrna de Arruda Nascimento (belonging to the Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Comercial, SENAC, of the University of San Paolo) and Ricardo Ferreira Lopes (of the Laboratório de Investigação DOMVS of the Architecture and Urbanism Department of the Federal University of Juiz de Fora)—have chosen the subtitle Desenho […] Cidade […] Corpo, habitando a Terra, and decided to dedicate those studying, researching and debating days to the theme of the city drawing linked to the body.

The events were divided in five study days. In the morning there was three workshops dedicated to PhD and post-doc students about Cidade Filmada: Ma-
pear Topia-em-Movimento; Quadrinhos como o discurso do sujeito e Produção de imagens multissensoriais: superando preconceitos visuais. In the evening the invited relators exposed their work and, on the fourth day, even a fourth workshop named: Desenho, Arquitetura, Corpo.

The themes treated during the speeches all followed the same line which takes the cue from the architecture considered firstly as a relationship between who lives the space and the space itself, and secondly as the consequence of different graphic representation called "images". These representations allow the body to stay in the world in a different way compared to the one in which the architecture and its built shapes confine it. Assuming that the architecture, as relation, is itself the germ inside the representations that imagine it, the researches linked to seminar activities proposed to study how this germ is born and developed in the architectural images (and so if these images are more academical, like for sketches and schemes or more technological like for the products of the parametrical design, of the NURBS or algorithmical modelling, of rendering an so on) and how it is taught to decrease the gap between the real and virtual world to the new generations of designers.

The different contributes all converged to the same themes even thought they were all characterized from the different experiences and origins of the speakers who treated their points using examples and study cases belonging to the major architects and scholars of the city (from Camillo Sitte to Le Corbusier and Kevin Lynch) or belonging to the most important cities of the new and old world (Paris, New York, Giacarta, San Paolo) and of colonial Portuguese Africa, an unknown territory for our studies.

Fig. 2. Federico García Lorca. Urban perspective with self-portrait.
Some of the speakers paused most on their drawings, like Marcello Sèstito of the Architectural and Land Department of the Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria, brilliant and compulsive illustrator; much appreciated; other speakers intervened in video-conferencing such as Santo Giunta, of the Architecture Department of the University of Palermo, who exposed *Scarpa na Sicília. O sentido da memória.*

Other speeches instead focused on cities’ descriptions made or deduced by travellers, architects or writers; among these Vito Cardone, Saverio D’Auria and Emanuela De Feo exposed a work named *Imagens literárias e descrições de viajantes para o conhecimento da cidade* (presented by Vito Cardone) and Luís Antônio Jorge (from the Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo, Universidade de São Paulo) with a relation named *Retratos de cidade* (fig. 2).

Among the most original speeches the one by Francisco Oliveira is to be underlined, *A pele da cidade–visões para uma identidade tátil do espaço.* Almost all the contributes showed a wide approach and the needing of a multidisciplinary cut and multimedia tools in order to face the themes at stake.

The seminar ended with the conference of Pedro Janeiro called *A carne do corpo e a carne das coisas: o desenho como conversão do visível em outra visibilidade.*

As for the past editions, the papers presented at the project after the reserved call and the invited reports will be collected in the volume of the symposium proceedings edited by the CIAUD - Centro de Investigação em Arquitetura, Urbanismo e Design of the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Lisbon, and this time published the prestigious publishing house Taylor & Francis Group. The next editions of the seminar will represent new moments for sharing the ongoing studies and, most of all, will be essential for the advancement and conclusion of the research project’s second part, started in November 2016.

---

**Author**

*Saverio D’Auria, Scuola Politecnica e delle Scienze di Base, University of Naples ‘Federico II’, saverio.dauria@unina.it*