Cultural transfers between Latin America and Europe since 19th century

EAHN Latin American Architecture and City Interest Group

Tallinn, 13 June 2018, 13.30-16.00

Recent exhibitions, catalogues and books on Latin America modern architecture and cities have revived the region’s presence in contemporary international debates, corroborating its importance and breadth. A hybrid cultural and human landscape, Latin American art, culture and architecture have deep roots branching across the continents, from Asia to Africa, and certainly from Europe. The connecting ties between Europe and the Americas are undoubtedly of great relevance, and have been considered by scholars and researchers from both continents, establishing a dynamic corpus of academic debates.

The aim of the EAHN Latin American Interest Group is both to strengthen existing as well as to establish new debates among Latin American and European scholars about cross-continental exchanges from the 16th century to today. A significant part of the historical debates in Latin America has considered the European presence in the new world. Subjects of great importance such as the affinities between European and Latin American architecture and urban development since the 16th century are a traditional field of studies on both sides of the Atlantic. The displacement of European-born professionals to Latin America since the mid-nineteenth century is another important research field of common interest together with considerations of cross transfers of modern architecture ideals and examples. The effects of exiles and migrating architects settled in the region have helped to catalyze significant changes in the local architectural culture. Other possible connections may be added to this already complex network of research interchanges between Europe and Latin America.

For the first meeting of the group, to be held during the Fifth International Meeting of the European Architectural History Network, we are suggesting a discussion on the cultural encounters between Latin America and Europe since the 19th century which might include topics such as the displacement of European-born professionals to Latin America, cross transfers of modern architecture ideals and models through the written word as well as images, the Latin American historiographical constructions vis à vis the European Modern narratives, Latin America architecture and urbanism and the concepts of hybridization. Each speaker will give a brief presentation on their last research on this topic. An open discussion will follow.
Speakers

- **Jean-François Lejeune**  
  University of Miami (USA)  
  *Beyond the Mediterranean: Le Corbusier, Lucio Costa, and vernacular modernism in Brazil*

- **Ana Vaz Milheiros**  
  Universidade Técnica de Lisboa (Portugal)  
  *Brazil / Portugal. Post-colonial urban migrations through architectural objects*

- **Helena Bender**  
  Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre (Brazil)  
  *The centre of Brasilia as an urban archipelago, 1968-1973*

- **Raquel Franklin**  
  Universidad Anáhuac México Norte (Mexico)  
  *Shaping a national image: the 1897 competition for Mexico’s Legislative Palace*

- **Karine Daufenbach and José Kós**  
  Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianopolis (Brazil)  
  *Bruno Zevi, Brazil, Brasilia. Historiographical constructions in the post-war world*

- **Gisela Barcelos de Souza**  
  Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte (Brazil)  
  *The impossibility of reconstruction: the Latin American city as an antithesis of the European one*

Moderator

- **Ana Esteban-Maluenda**  
  Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (Spain)  
  *Bonet and Dieste at the Casa Berlingieri: a successful encounter on the shores of the Atlantic*