SYMPOSIUM NONUMENT!

In the shadow of the demolition of the Transgas Building, the CCEA – Centre for Central European Architecture – is organising an international symposium on hidden, abandoned and forgotten monuments of the 20th century. The symposium will present case studies of such buildings, monuments and infrastructure projects across Europe, focusing on approaches to their conservation, restoration and reuse.

The international NONUMENT! Symposium will be held in Prague’s CAMP on 13th–14th June 2019, aiming to present the forgotten monuments of the 20th century, the so-called “nonuments”. CCEA in collaboration with partners from Slovenia, Austria, Serbia, Bulgaria and Cyprus, will present European nonuments. The focus will be on their use today, under completely different political and social circumstances.

“We would like to contribute to discussion on how to deal with buildings, artworks and other monuments that remain forgotten and become the centre of attention only when it is too late to save them from destruction, like in the case of Transgas. This is why the Transgas situation has been chosen as our theme,” said Yvette Vašourková from CCEA, symposium organiser.

The research and interventions of the project partners will be presented at the symposium, as well as lectures from external experts, followed by a discussion between experts and the general public. Austrian art historian Elke Krasny and Lithuanian artist Deimantas Narkevičius are some of the speakers accepting the invitation to the symposium. The lectures will address the topic of transformation, such as perception of socialist buildings in time and the relationship of infrastructure projects to ideology. Moreover, we will be asking the question ‘is it possible to incorporate the projects designed for different future into our present?’

In addition, the symposium will include professional workshops aimed at finding approaches to the issue of monument protection in the Czech context. The workshop When Will You Respect Me? led by Veronika Vicherková from the Faculty of Architecture of CTU will address the problem of rigidity of the system of monument protection in the Czech legal system. The workshop I am a dependent object! led by the artist Katarína Hládeková and art historian Markéta Žačková will focus on removing art from the public space and legislative loopholes allowing for this to happen.
The Nonument! project is being developed in collaboration with the MAPS – Mapping & Archiving Public Spaces project, supported by the European Union and the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The project partners are MoTA (Slovenia), W24 (Austria), TAČKA KOMUNIKACIJE (Serbia), ARTOS Foundation (Cyprus), House of Humour and Satire (Bulgaria).

Those interested in participating in the symposium can register at the e-mail address: nonument@cceamoba.cz. The number of seats is limited.

Organiser and contact for media:

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Fb: https://www.facebook.com/pg/centre.for.central.european.architecture/events/?ref=page_internal
Program NONUMENT! Symposium, 13.–14. 6. 2019, Prague, CAMP

13 June, Thursday

9:00    Registration
9:15    Yvette Vašourková – Introduction
9:30    Nika Grabar (SI), architect: Nonument!
10:00   Martin Bricelj Baraga, Neja Tomšič – Nonument Group (SI), artists: McKeldin Fountain, Baltimore

First session: Conflict and Suppression
10:15   Jürgen Weishäupl (AT), artist: Flak Towers, Vienna
10:45   Pavel Karous (CZ), artist
10:55   Ljubica Slavković (SRB), architect: In Search of Public Interest in Belgrade: Legalizing the Wild City
11:25   Martin Zet (CZ), artist: Missing and Invisible Sculptures of Miloš Zet
11:35   Discussion
11:50   Coffee break

Second session: Infrastructure and Ideology
12:00   Danica Sretenović (SI), architect: The Pioneer Railway
12:30   Vladimír Turner (CZ), artist: Ephemeral Monuments
12:40   Martin Bricelj Baraga, Neja Tomšič - Nonument Group (SI), artists: From Nowhere to Noplace – Pioneer Railway
13:40   Katarína Hládeková (SK), artist, Markéta Žáčková (CZ), theoretician: Brno: Sculptures in the Streets
13:50   Discussion
14:00   Lunch

15:00   Special Lecture: Elke Krasny (AT), theoretician: Curating Memory and Curating Mourning

Third session: Memory and Post-Socialist Condition
16:00   Dora Ivanova (BG), architect: Buzludzha – the Apotheosis of the Socialist Art in Bulgaria
16:30   Benjámin Bradňanský, Vit Halada (SK), architects: Iconic Ruins
16:50   Ole Frahm - Ligna Group (DE), artist: Reenactment, Working-Through, Alienation. the Radioballet as Performative Remembrance
17:20   Petr Dub (CZ), artist: Public Boarders
17:30   Veronika Vicherková (CZ), theoretician: Respect! Keep or Squeez!
17:50   Discussion
18:05   Coffee Break

18:20   Special Lecture: Deimantas Narkevičius (LT), artist: Too Long on the Plinth

19:20   Final discussion
20:30   Afterparty - Bar/ák
14 June, Friday

9:00   Introduction
9:00   Workshops

- When Will You Start to Respect Me? – Veronika Vicherková (CZ), theorietician
- I Am a Dependent Object! – Katarína Hládeková (SK), artist, Markéta Žáčková (CZ), theorietician

10:30  Special Lecture: Miloš Kosec (SI), architect: Nonumental Infrastructure

11:30  Workshops – Outcomes and Discussion

11:45  Lunch

Fourth session: Reversion
12:30  Ladislav Zikmund-Lender (CZ), theorietician: Topography of Demolitions: Case Transgas
13:00  Peter Szalay (SK), theorietician: The Mirror of Unwanted Patrimony: Narcissism or Cynical Egoism?
13:30  Hans van Houwelingen (NL), artist: Undone
13:50  Achilleas Kentonis (CY), artist: Legend Generating Machines
14:10  Discussion
14:20  Coffee break

Fourth session: Impossibility of a Future
14:30  Vladimir Dulović (SRB), theorietician: Genex
15:00  Viktória Mravčáková (SK), architect: How to Bring Good Art into the City?
15:10  Elizabeth Sikiaridi (GB) and Frans Vogelaar (NL) - Hybrid Space Lab, architects: Deep Spaces
15:40  Elise Hunchuck (DE), architect
16:10  Discussion
16:20  Special Lecture: Branislav Dimitrijević (SRB), theorietician: “Egypt Rather Than “October”: Incongruences in Interpreting Yugoslav National-Liberation Monuments, Then and Now
17:30  End of the symposium

We focus on the contemporary city.
CCEA is involved in defining the Central European Culture.
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Banner of Peace (Sofia, Bulgaria), photo: HHS/MAPS

Fountain on McKeldin Square demolished in 2017 (Baltimore, MD, USA), photo: Nonument Group

The building of Transgas (Prague, CZ) became the main topic of research for CCEA, photo: Ondřej Kohout

Pioneer Railway (Ljubljana, Slovenia) was in operation only during 1948–54, photo: Nonument group

Flak tower nicknamed “Peter” was part of Vienna air defence during the Second World War, photo: Joshua Koeb.