CATALOGUE 01: METU MASTER OF URBAN DESIGN

The current studio catalogue represents the works of a generation of ‘urban designers’ taught in the last twenty years at Middle East Technical University (METU), Turkey. Sharing similar values, priorities, expectancies and ideologies with their young colleagues from other parts of the world, they have pursued their creativity in the way that the collective experience would eventually represent a certain period in the disciplinary history of urban design as well.

Taken in this way, though it might be considered quite a late attempt, publication of the selected studio works of METU Master of Urban Design Program (METU MUD) at its 20th anniversary of foundation does actually provide an opportunity to have a holistic view on the general profile of both the programme and the contemporary urban design education from the mid-1990s. By this catalogue commemorating the twenty-year experience of the studio, it is possible to review the changes and continuities in the disciplinary tradition originally established by Baykan Günay and his colleagues.

Despite having reflected the general characteristics of its term (within conceptualisation, representation and control), the twenty-year experience of METU MUD reveals its own peculiarities and identity due to the particular interpretation of urban and design within the continuous experimentation at the studio. The term ‘experiment’, in this sense, is quite a key notion in consideration of the programme. As observed even after a quick look at the works presented by years, one could recognize that in each and every term, there are different concepts, frames and definitions suggested in an implicit search for the new and novel in practice.

As the compilation of fifty (individual and/or group) projects introduced by 43 authors, the ex-grad students of the studio, CATALOGUE.01 involves six opening papers reflecting on both the experience of METU MUD in particular and the contemporary urban design education in general. This suggests the readers and researchers of urban design not only a retrospective view on the issue, but also a projective perspective for future.
Heritage valuing comprises numerous and a variety of actors and stakeholders. Among them, architects, planners, urban designers are the key professional actors and place-makers in the process of revealing and conserving the values of heritage. This book, and the exhibition that accompanies it aims to raise the questions about the roles of these place-makers by putting forward the questions of what these professionals’ roles are in the process of revealing and conserving the heritage values while, at the same time, creating and adding new ones? How do they value and valorize the heritage? How do they reconcile the old and the new? How do they combine the past, the present and the future together in the process of heritage conservation and regeneration projects of Professor Kecheng Liu-one of the leading conservation architects in China. The book and the exhibition will act as the medium for academics, professionals, graduate and post-graduate students, and other place-makers to ask themselves once again how the fields of architecture, planning and urban design can co-operate and collaborate together through a range of urban scales from a single heritage artefact or monument to a large urban area or a region scale territory, and how the professional collaborations, co-operations and sometimes conflicts can be effectively and fruitfully used and proceeded within the processes of reconciliation and contestation of heritage valuing and management.

The sixth symposium entitled “Spaces/Times/Peoples” on the particular theme “Patronage and Architectural History” was organized by Middle East Technical University Architectural History graduate program in 2009. The symposium, which brought together the participants from varied disciplines, addressed the issues of design, patronage, art, artist, architect, political power, representation, gender, and identity. This symposium book was shaped and finalized based on the papers presented by the valuable participants.

MEKÂNLAR / ZAMANLAR / İNSANLAR: HAMİLİK VE MİMARLIK TARIHİ
SPACES / TIMES / PEOPLES: PATRONAGE AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Orta Doğu Teknik Üniversitesi, Mimarlık Tarihi Lisansüstü Programı tarafından “Mekânlar/Zamanlar/İnsanlar” genel başlığı altında 2009 yılında Hamilik ve Mimarlık Tarihi teması ile altıncısı düzenlenen ve farklı disiplinlerdeki katılımcıların bir araya geldiği sempozyumda; tasarım, himaye, sanat, sanatçı, mimar, erk, temsil, cinsiyet, kimlik, hamilik gibi konular irdelenmiştir. Bu sempozyum kitabı, bu değerlendirilen katılımcılar bildirileri ile şekillenmiş ve son halini almıştır.