

STUDENT HOUSING
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR ARCHITECTS
UP TO 35

INVITATION—PRESS RELEASE
Athens, 28.09.2009

**OLIAROS presents the in situ exhibition with
the UPTO35 results
34 Marathonos Street, Kerameikos—Metaxourgeio (KM), Athens
October 1st-7th, 2009**

***Press Preview in the presence of Members of the Jury Committee:
Thursday, October 1st, 12:00—14:00***

The UPTO35 in situ exhibition will present all 242 entries from 41 countries, including the top 50 and the 5 finalists, to be displayed openly to the public from October 1st to 7th in the 34 Marathonos street, Athens, Greece.

UPTO35 is an international competition initiated and organised by OLIAROS, for architects up to 35 years old. Participants were called to submit proposals for the design and construction of a **model student housing complex** in Kerameikos and Metaxourgeio (KM), an area in the historic centre of Athens, Greece. Participants have been asked to explore new building typologies that can house 18 students on the 200 m² lot at 34 Marathonos Street in KM, that can potentially sprawl in the neighboring properties, owned by third parties, with the aim to create a contemporary student housing hub in the Athens City Center.



All submissions were reviewed by the **Jury Committee**, comprised of: Bjarke Ingels, Andreas Kourkoulas, Marcel Meili, Iason Tsakonas, Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Yorgos Tzirtzilakis, and Elia Zenghelis.

On September 14th Elias Zenghelis, the Chairman of the Committee, announced the **five finalists** selected by the Jury Committee :

101DESIGN (MASAMICHI KAWAKAMI, YAUTAKA ONARI, TSUYOSHI SHINOZAKI)
- Japan

SOLID OBJECTIVES – IDENBURG LIU (FLORIAN IDENBURG, IOANNIS KANDYLIARIS, ILIAS PAPAGEORGIOU) – United States

JOAO PRATES RUIVO + RAQUEL MARIA OLIVEIRA – Greece

MARIEKE KUMS, DIRK PETERS – The Netherlands

SUPPOSE DESIGN OFFICE (MAKOTO TANIJIRI, RYO OTSUKA, YUKO FUKUMA, SACHIO INAGAMI, KEISUKE KATAYAMA) - Japan

During the in situ exhibition, the public will be invited to vote for one of the five finalists via text messaging. The project with the largest number of SMS votes shall be deemed to have obtained the public vote.

The Jury Committee has invited the five finalists to submit Design development propositions due on January 11th, 2010. The final winner, whose project will be developed by OLIAROS, will be determined at that point, by the votes of the seven members of the Jury plus the one vote deriving from the public. The final winner will receive a €10.000 award as well as €30.000 commission.

The Press Preview will take place on October 1st, 12:00-14:00 GMT+2 in the presence of Jury Members, at 34 Marathonos Street.

Please find below more information on the competition's theme, the Jury Committee, the submissions and the five finalists.

For more information on UPTO35, the Jury Report, images, photographs and information on the five finalists, please visit "Press" area at: www.upto35.com

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UPTO35: The competition

The competition aims to encourage creativity among the next generation of designers while supporting architectural research and the implementation of contemporary architecture projects in Greece. The competition seeks to elicit designs, which explore new ideas on urbanism and rethink existing housing models for communities. Special emphasis was requested on exploring structures that consist of separate student housing units with the capacity to acquire a viral character within the urban tissue and sprawl into neighboring empty lots. The competition challenges participants to rethink two traditional key studies for separate housing units: i) the *domus commune*, a structure consisting of smaller units with shared facilities and ii) the *shelter*, which elaborates on the idea of a structure as an amalgamation of self-sufficient units.

The specific site under examination, has been chosen by OLIAROS, in light of its position within the transient KM area, which is part of Athens' historic centre. With a population density less than half the Athens average, a large (30%) percentage of vacant plots and derelict buildings, a beautiful network of pedestrian walkways, an engaging diversity of residents and land uses and ease of access, KM presents a unique opportunity for creative architectural interventions with the potential to bolster its residential character, encourage social interaction and enhance contemporary living standards in the city center.

Jury Committee:

Bjarke Ingels Principal of BIG

After co-founding PLOT Architects in 2001 and collaborating with Rem Koolhaas at OMA, Bjarke Ingels started his own office -the Bjarke Ingels Group- in 2005. Through a series of award-winning design projects and buildings, Bjarke Ingels has created an international reputation as a member of a new generation of architects who combine shrewd analysis with playful experimentation, social responsibility and humour. In 2004, he was awarded the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale for the "Stavanger Concert House", while "VM Houses" received the Forum AID Award the following year. His latest completed project "Mountain Dwellings" won numerous prizes and nominations in 2008, including a World Architecture Festival Award. By practicing what Bjarke Ingels likes to describe as 'programmatic alchemy', BIG often mixes conventional ingredients such as living, leisure, working, parking and shopping into new forms of symbiotic culture. Alongside his architectural practice, Bjarke has been a Visiting Professor at Rice University's School of Architecture, at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and currently at Columbia University.

Andreas Kourkoulas Assistant professor, School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens, Kokkinou-Kourkoulas Architectural Office

Born in Athens with a PhD from University College London (1986). He worked with OMA London (Zeggelis, Koolhass), 1981-83. An Assistant Professor in the National Technical University of Athens School of Architecture, he has lectured at universities around Europe. The architecture practice he set up in Athens with Maria Kokkinou in

1987 has been awarded in numerous competitions in Greece and internationally. The practice completed the New Benaki Museum on Piraios Street in 2004; the building was nominated for the Mies Van der Rohe prize in 2004 and went on to take the Greek Architects Association Prize in 2005.

Marcel Meili

Eth Studio Basel, Contemporary City Institute; Principal of Marcel Meili, Markus Peter architekten, Zurich

Marcel Meili was born in Zurich in 1953. He studied architecture at the Swiss Federal Polytechnic (ETH Zurich) (1973-1980) and was a research associate at the Institute for History and Theory of Architecture (ETH Zurich). He worked in the office of Professor Dolf Schnebli (1983-85) and was a teaching assistant for Professor Mario Campi (1985-87). In 1987, he founded an office in Zurich together with Markus Peter. Meili, Peter Architekten's recent built work includes the RiffRaff cinema in Zurich, the Zurich Central Station extension, the Swiss Re Center for Global Dialogue in Rüslikon and the Hyatt Hotel in Zurich. Major current projects include the Zurich Football Stadium, the Helvetia Insurance Headquarters (Italy) in Milan and the "Mitten in München" complex, a large passage in the old town of Munich. The office currently employs 45 members of staff. Marcel Meili has taught as a visiting professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and since 1999 has been teaching at the Swiss Federal Polytechnic Faculty of Architecture where—together with Jacques Herzog, Pierre de Meuron, Roger Diener, and Christian Schmid—he founded and runs ETH Studio Basel: Contemporary City Institute. www.studio-basel.arch.ethz.ch

Iasson Tsakonas,

Managing director, OLIAROS

Iasson Tsakonas graduated from Cornell University in 1994 and worked as an analyst for Prudential Securities in New York until 1996, when he moved to Baku, Azerbaijan for three years and started his own business in finance and property development; he remained active in the Azerbaijan until 2006. In 1999 he also entered the start-up technology sector both as a principle and an investor. Having moved to Greece in 2001, he established OLIAROS in 2002, introducing a new-generation approach to property development in Greece with his first project on the island of Antiparos.

Yoshiharu Tsukamoto

Professor, Dr. Eng. Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

Yoshiharu Tsukamoto co-founded the Atelier Bow-Wow architectural office with Momoyo Kaijima in 1992. The practice's interests lie in diverse fields ranging from urban research to architectural design and the creation of public artworks. The practice's Pet Architecture Guidebook, a seminal report on small architecture in urban Tokyo, and Made In Tokyo, its analysis of Tokyo's anonymous hybrid architecture, were both published in 2001, marking the pair's first venture into urban research. While the practice has designed over 20 detached private houses in central Tokyo, the completion of projects such as the Hana Midori Cultural Centre and Mado Building in recent years has marked a move towards larger-scale works such as museums and commercial architecture. Their 'glocal' approach to architectural design is now recognized outside Japan in the US, Greece, Portugal, France, Denmark, Austria, England, China, Iran and elsewhere. Atelier Bow-Wow's

experimental projects with micro-public space have been exhibited across the world in international art museums in the context of the Gwangju Biennale (Korea), Shanghai Biennale (China), Echigo Tsumari Triennale (Japan), Venice Biennale (Italy), Busan Biennale (Korea), Sao Paulo Biennale (Brazil), Yokohama Triennale (Japan) and the Istanbul Biennale (Turkey). Their most recent installation, "Super Branch" was exhibited at the Höhenrausch in Linz (Austria). In 2006, the practice's research into Tokyo and the changes that have occurred since the financial bubble burst were published in *Atelier Bow-Wow From Post Bubble City*, while 2007 witnessed the publication of their comprehensive monograph entitled *Graphic Anatomy Atelier Bow-Wow*. Atelier Bow-Wow's first solo exhibition "How to Use the City" in Kirin Plaza, Osaka, was followed in March 2007 by "Atelier Bow-Wow: Practice of Lively Space: Glocal Detached Houses and Micro Public Space" at the Gallery Ma, Tokyo and "Small Case Study House" at REDCAT, Los Angeles in 2009.

Yorgos Tzirtzilakis

Assistant professor, University of Thessaly, Department of Architecture

An architect and independent curator who teaches in the Department of Architecture at the University of Thessaly, Greece. Program consultant for the DESTA Foundation for Contemporary Art and commissioner and curator of the Greek Participation at the 52nd International Art Exhibition Biennale di Venezia, he has also edited a number of monographs, books and special issues and contributed critical essays to numerous exhibition catalogues and magazines. He also edited a series of documentaries on modern and contemporary Greek architecture for Greek state television (ET1).

Elia Zenghelis

Architect and educator

Elia Zenghelis (b. Athens, 1937) an architect and teacher of architecture, divides his time among Belgium, Greece, Switzerland and The Netherlands. He studied and taught for 20 years at the Architectural Association in London. He is one of the original founders of OMA in partnership with Rem Koolhaas until 1987, when he established Gigantes Zenghelis Architects in Athens and Brussels with Eleni Gigantes. He has been Professor at the Dusseldorf Academy of Fine Arts and thesis tutor at the Berlage Institute for more than 10 years; Visiting Professor at Columbia University, New York, Princeton University, UCLA, and other schools of architecture in the United States, South America, Spain and Japan; since 1998 at the EPFL Lausanne, the ETH in Zurich and Professor at the Accademia di Architettura in Mendrisio. External Examiner at the Bartlett School of Architecture, and the Edinburgh College of Art. He was awarded the RIBA Annie Spink Award for outstanding contribution to architectural education in 2001. His current practice includes work in Belgium and Albania.

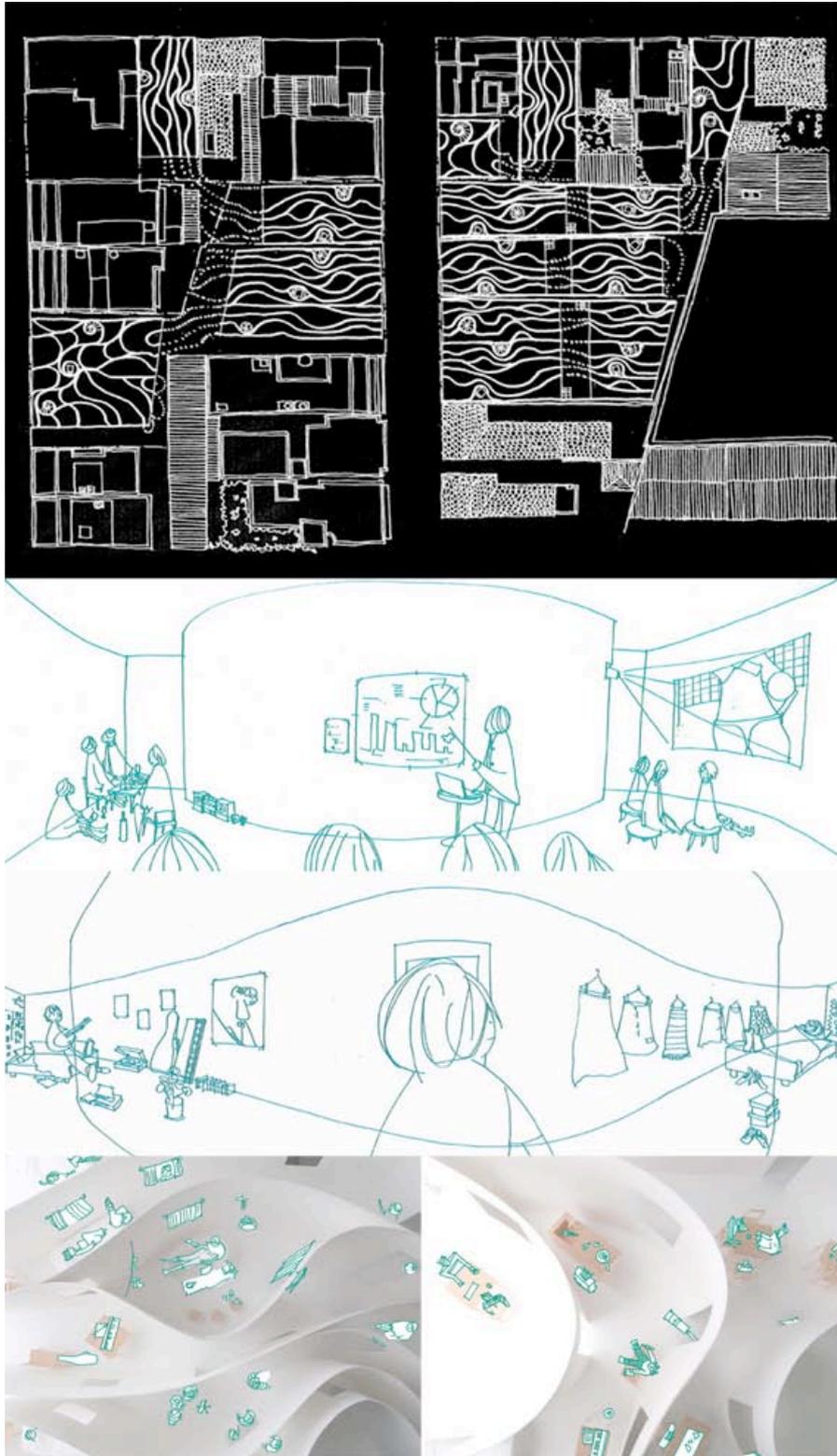
Submissions by country:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Germany, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Syria, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA

Finalists

Entry_ID 3GMK28: 101DESIGN (MASAMICHI KAWAKAMI, YAUTAKA ONARI, TSUYOSHI SHINOZAKI) –JAPAN

HOUSE IN ATHENS -Rectangular coordinate housing system



«The main concept of our proposal is to create an architecture that both expands the urban environment into the building and infiltrates the interior environment out to the city. We have set up two characters—the ‘around the corner’ and ‘eels nest’ types—by creating winding walls.

Both types meet the conditions laid down by the Greek law with regard to natural sunlight and ventilation for primary activities. They start from the perimeter zone and create stratified areas that penetrate to the full depth of the site.

The ‘around the corner’ type will make parallel layers against the front road. With walls that stand vertical to the students’ movement, it forms corners that people have to peek around to find out what is going on ahead. The corners will be assumed as common space. Students can get some privacy, though every space is open or connected to the public zone.

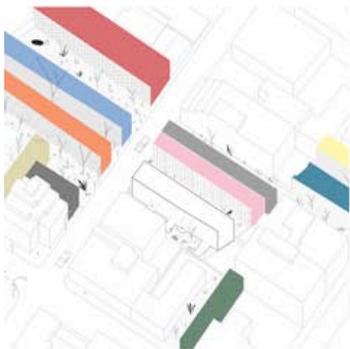
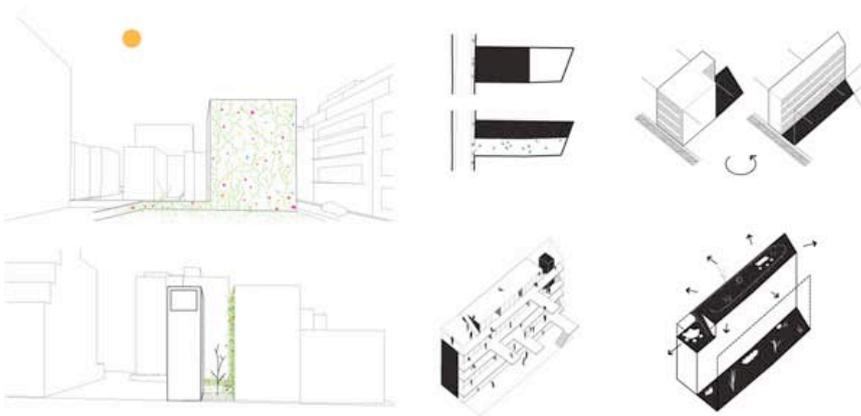
The ‘eels nest’ type forms vertical layers against the front road. Each side of the perimeter zone will be considered a private bedroom for a student, who will own a long wall instead of a wide room. Each of the walls in the private rooms has a window: by mutual agreement of the students on both side of the wall/border, they can talk through it.

In both types, the winding walls create a collecting space as well as a very narrow space, which supplements the structure’s directionality bias while making corners that vary the space without physically dividing the one-room space and its connection to fresh air and natural light.

The viral type can vary, including both types on a single floor depending on the size and shape of the site».

MASAMICHI KAWAKAMI, YAUTAKA ONARI, TSUYOSHI SHINOZAKI

Entry_ID N9ADTG: SOLID OBJECTIVES – IDENBURG LIU (FLORIAN IDENBURG, IOANNIS KANDYLIARIS, ILIAS PAPAGEORGIOU) - USA PARTY WALL



«No phase in life offers such a plethora of experiences as being a student. Emotions and moods rush from intimacy and concentration to exuberance and celebration. No time is as social and diverse, and never is one's mind as open. The way we live in these years has a fundamental impact on the person we become. A typology that responds to this condition is essential.

The city of Athens, and the districts of Kerameikos and Metaxourgeio in particular, are characterized by a pot pourri of building types facing onto narrow streets, most of them closed and disconnected. The building code produces backyards that are left dirty, unused and out of sight. Though life in these neighborhoods has an edge and is intense and diverse, its current form of urbanism does not allow this life to infuse into its city blocks.

Shifting the allowable massing on the lot and aligning it along the party wall opens up a range of possibilities. A common yard, generated by a required 4.55 m setback, allows the characteristic urbanity to become an integral part of the living experience, while providing a communal zone to serve as a buffer between the public and intimate realms of life. It offers a new type of porous urbanity: one that filters rather than shields. The yards can proliferate to form an internal network, reviving the city blocks from within. The strategy can be applied in variations (back-to-back or back-to-front), thus diversifying the qualities of the shared spaces.

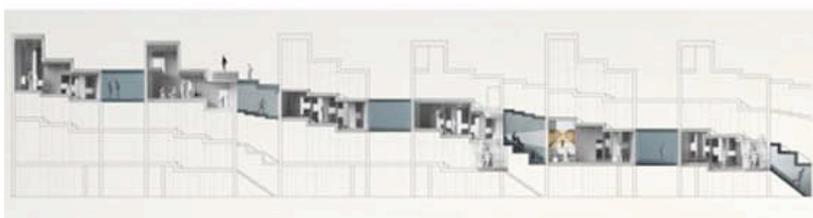
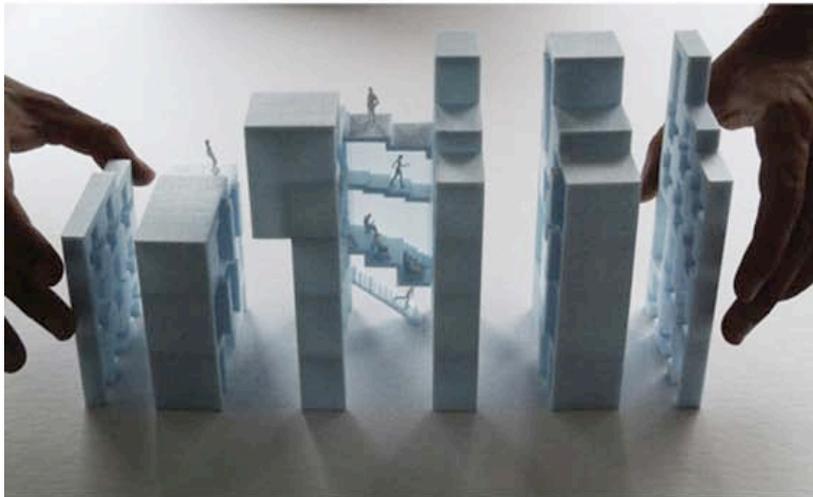
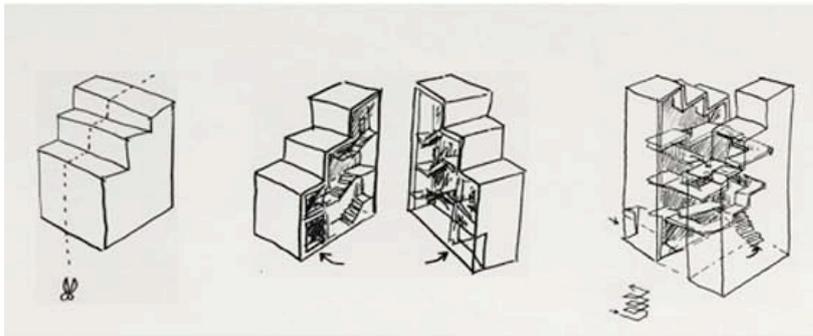
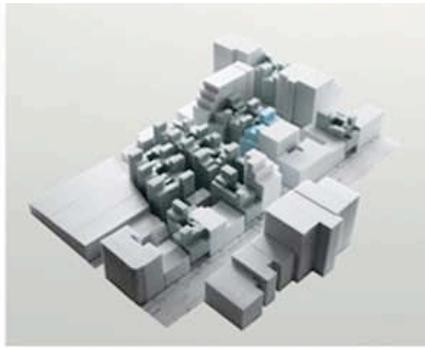
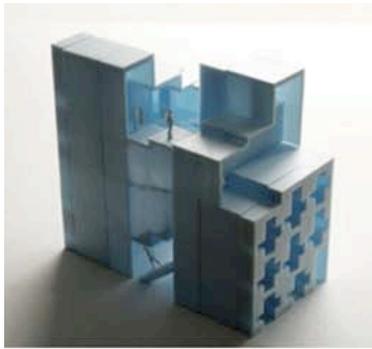
The architecture of this new urbanity can be straightforward and clear. Four floors and a basement hold 18 rooms, outside terraces and a communal laundry room. The yard provides perfect daylight, intimacy and views; it is an extension of the spaciousness of the rooms.

A façade of sliding doors shaded by the balcony above provides daylight and natural ventilation. The balconies double as horizontal circulation, thus enhancing social exchange. Some balconies have platforms in the sky that extend out to the neighbouring party wall. They are communal spaces: a yard in the sky and “eyes on the street”».

Solid Objectives – Idenburg Liu is an international office based in NYC.

Competition team:
Florian Idenburg, the Netherlands
Iannis Kandyliaris, Greece
Ilias Papageorgiou, Greece

Entry_ID U3778P: JOAO PRATES RUIVO + RAQUEL MARIA OLIVEIRA -
GREECE
18 Steps



«How to design collective housing for the individualized cyberspace generation? By eliminating the traditional floor division, it is possible to give each resident their own floor, which nonetheless remains part of the collective realm (in circulation).

The stepped residence undoes the traditional division between private and communal: circulation expands to the point at which it becomes shared space,

conquering room from the private realm. The rooms are stripped to the minimum: a space to sleep and study, they follow the model of monastic cells. Their domain can be easily expanded into the collective gallery by opening the wall that separates them from the gallery: the communal experience becomes individual choice, and the slope is animated by the humour of its inhabitants.

Each cell is served by individual toilets integrated into the perimeter: a wall of services that protects the interior and allows for an unexpected and utopian open plan. One can have a shower on the balcony in the thick skin of the building».

João Prates Ruivo + Raquel Maria Oliveira, Athens 2009

João Prates Ruivo (1980, Lisbon), based in Athens, and Raquel Maria Oliveira (1981 Porto), currently residing in Madrid, met in Rotterdam, where they worked, 2004-2008.

Entry_ID WDPFBD: MARIEKE KUMS, DIRK PETERS- THE NETHERLANDS

Urban Encounters



«The degeneration and redevelopment of urban areas are mayor themes in contemporary (European) city centres. Kerameikos / Metaxourgeio is an example of how the traditional European city block has decomposed and made way for more informal forms of urbanity; forms that now mould the character of the area and provide an ultimate resource for experiments in living.

The design proposal does not start out by creating strong edges or massive blocks; rather, it is based on the in-between spaces; an unbuilt program, it proposes an urban park—a carefully designed collective space—as the basis for daily life. The building program is then distributed freely over the site like little islands in the garden. Some of the buildings will cluster to form living groups and small communities. Others will remain free standing, enjoying an unimpeded view of the gardens. This free field of emergences and gardens easily translates into new concepts for student housing. By connecting and disconnecting volumes on site, the archetypes of the self-sufficient unit and of collective housing are overlain to form an endless spectrum of various life-forms fitting the different stages of student life.

Mouldability and flexibility within design are essential in realizing an optimized and sustainable living environment. By “folding back” the upper and lower parts of the building volumes, access points and movement at grade are increased and the general daylighting conditions and natural ventilation are improved. The resulting typology is unique; a forest of tall, elegantly curved buildings approaching each other and bouncing back to connect once more, forming passages, meeting places, views, fresh breezes and light wells.

Together, the gardens and buildings form a unity that provides a locus for a new student community to emerge. The urban park will eventually benefit more than its inhabitants; it will share its qualities with the surrounding neighbourhood and beyond».

Marieke Kums & Dirk Peters

**Entry_ID XFG3UJ: SUPPOSE DESIGN OFFICE (MAKOTO TANIJIRI, RYO OTSUKA, YUKO FUKUMA, SACHIO INAGAMI, KEISUKE KATAYAMA) - JAPAN
Urban Airgap**



«We propose a plan to create an airgap for the living environment and a community in student housing.

We have studied the characteristic KM building of today (which does not have a window on the side of the adjacent boundary, and which can thus use the maximum allowable volume for each plot) with a view to improving security, creating a gap and improving the living environment.

Generally, an apartment style is self-sufficient or a structure consisting of smaller units. However, in this case, the common space connects to smaller units on the

upper and lower floors, while second landscapes can be created in the middle level. People will be aware of the residents at all times, which will improve security.

The living environment can also be improved for the eight plots in question and the neighbourhood in general by introducing the prevailing northern wind into each airgap.

By creating the horizontally open airgap above the ground level, an open community and an amenity for living can be achieved.

Through the building, we intend to improve security and the living environment in the neighbouring area».

MAKOTO TANIJIRI, RYO OTSUKA, YUKO FUKUMA, SACHIO INAGAMI, KEISUKE KATAYAMA

About OLIAROS:

As a result of its collaboration with an ever-growing international network of architects, OLIAROS embraces the principles of contemporary, innovative, and environmentally-friendly architecture to create micro-environments that blend with and respect their natural and urban contexts, setting higher standards for contemporary living.