

FEBRUARY 2018

BEGINNING A NEW SEMESTER

We have 16 visiting students at ARCHIP this semester: 11 in the GAD program, 2 Erasmus students from Ankara Turkey, and 3 study-abroad students from the US school Judson University, in Illinois. Regina Loukotová, Rector of the school, has returned from her Fulbright scholarship at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. And our ongoing cooperation with DOX is taking form.



AD STUDIO BRIEFS

Four different design briefs, from each of the AD studios, have common, overlapping themes: Culture, Infrastructure, Landscape, Housing, and Prague 7.

In Dlesk-Horová studio: the project is to re-think the possible uses of Libenský bridge. Due to its poor condition, it is temporarily closed, and it could become 'more than a bridge for traffic', but also a new life in the city. In Nasadil-Duba studio: the project, '150 meters of Culture,' asks students to propose a cultural institution, on a narrow and unused piece of land. Possible programs include a 'Czech Architecture Centre', a 'Film Archive, and a 'Centre for Czech Photography'. In Wertig - Neuhäusl studio: the project is a continuation from last semester, and asks the students to develop from a masterplan to a building. In Schindler-Fessler studio: the project, 'Scales of Living', asks for new residential typologies to be introduced into a typical yet unique city block.

A new approach is being tested this semester for our First year students, all of whom share the same brief and site. They are each to make a house for a client of their choosing, and as a whole to form a linear city block of row houses - on a site located just around the corner from the school.



'A VISION FOR PRAGUE'

ARCHIP students participated in the first part of a new series of public discussions at DOX. The event and initiative, on current themes concerning the City of Prague, asks for students' visions of the city (and also includes participation from students at ČVUT and VŠUP). Students presented their ideas alongside an exhibition of selected projects from last semester.

In preparation for this evening (which took place March 1), ARCHIP students were asked to propose 'What Prague needs?' and 'What do we miss in Prague?'. Small teams of 2-3 competed internally within each studio and the winners from each studio were selected to present at DOX. Amongst the finalists were: 'Vltava Connection': a mobile app to connect along the river, 'Riverside Community': linking student housing and activities in Prague 7, 'Kafka's Staré Město': a critique on the commercialisation of the city centre, and 'Innovative District', encouraging start-ups and citizen initiatives. The winning proposal (and a 2-day trip to Berlin) went to 5th year Master's student Atoosa Ghanaemiyandoab, for 'The Propaganda of HappyNess': a revisiting of the content of public signage.

Thank you to all our students for contributing your thoughts to this open public question!



TOUR OF DOX

ARCHIP students and faculty were given a private tour around DOX with Michaela Šilpochová. We visited the many galleries and also climbed into Gulliver, the open air-ship; a literary space 'floating' above the courtyard. We were introduced to the organisation, its history and interests, and how they operate. It was an opportunity to better know what DOX is, and to explore what we have next door!

The name DOX originates from the Greek word DOXA which is roughly translated as "ways of perceiving". In the institution, there is no permanent collection and no permanent artist's exhibition. A variety of topics are addressed, periodically over the year, according to common, trans-disciplinary themes, from different points of view and media. The goal of DOX Center of Contemporary Art thereby is to address the relevance of broad social topics, in asking "What art has to say about issues in the world". The presence of ARCHIP within this context adds yet another discipline to the cultural space. More interactions and overlaps between our institutions will be developed in the coming months.

Many thanks to DOX for our small tour around the museum and thanks to Megi Davitidze, Baran Koral Atman, Hana Benešová, Elan Fessler and Jakub Krejčík for joining us!