TANGIBLE - INTANGIBLE HERITAGE(S)– DESIGN, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CRITIQUES ON THE PAST, PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Heritage Reloaded

• Author(s) Name:
Moira Valeri
Evin Eriş

• University or Company Affiliation:
Yeditepe University, Architecture Department, Istanbul, Turkey
Nisantasi University, Architecture Department, Istanbul

• Presentation Method. I would like to:
  i. submit a written paper only and not attend

• Abstract (300 words):
The urban, cultural and economic changes of the last decades have left a widespread presence of abandoned and neglected buildings not anymore suitable for the functional program they were built for. Although the aesthetic of the ruins has always fascinated architects – inspired by literature on memory and the passage of time – it is needed to be mindful of the impact that abandoned and underused buildings have on many aspects of the city and its public domain.

Ever since UNESCO adopted the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972, a progressive revision of the concept of heritage
itself has sparked a debate, still open at the present day. The paper focuses on how the re-thinking of the concepts of heritage and cultural identity on a global scale has triggered a reviewing process of conservation, above all on what to preserve and what to discard, as nowadays it seems more challenging to clearly and objectively define, distinguish and separate extra-ordinary buildings from the ordinary ones. Thinking of heritage and the contemporary architectural project not as opposites, rather as two sides of the same coin would help keeping these spaces alive - while also preserving the memory of their bygone days - evaluating them as an open work, a palimpsest available to collect and open up to new stories, to host new transformations. The nowadays practice of recycling existing artifacts as an aesthetic and theoretical device, overcomes the limits of a retroactive and traditionalist approach - that is based on criteria of excellence and monumental being - and it pushes to update the criteria of evaluation and methods of intervention on existing structures.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Moira Valeri received her PhD at the International Doctorate in Architecture “Villard d’Honnecourt” at Iuav University of Venice in 2012. Since 2013 she has been Assistant Professor at Yeditepe University’s Department of Architecture, Istanbul. She coordinated and participated to national and international workshops, conferences, exhibitions, focusing on contemporary architectural and urban issues. In 2015 she was the co-curator of Ecoweek Istanbul-Contemporary Archeology, an international symposium and workshop held at Yeditepe University, and she co-edited the book Istanbul. Ritratti di città [Istanbul. City Portraits, Letteraventidue, 2015] based on the contributions of an international symposium held at School of Doctorate Studies oluav University of Venice in 2012. In 2016 she coordinated the research/installation Factory Reloaded within the frame of the 3rd Istanbul Design Biennial organized by IKSV-Istanbul Foundation for Arts and Culture and since then she has been the curator of the conference series Stories of Italian Architects promoted by the Italian Culture Institute in Istanbul.

Evin Eriş completed her BArch and MArch degrees at Yeditepe University and her PhD at İstanbul Yıldız Technical University in 2016, during which she went to Siegen University in Germany as a researcher. Since 2016 she has been part-time instructor at Yeditepe University’s Architecture Department, Istanbul. Since 2017 she has been Assistant Professor at Nisantasi University’s Architecture Department, Istanbul, and Head of Interior Design Department at the same university. Her research interests include architectural and urban competitions, urban morphology, modernity, Berlin, urban-social movements and civil architecture. She received various awards for urban and architectural competitions. In 2016 she is the team member of the research/installation Factory Reloaded within the frame of the 3rd Istanbul Design Biennial organized by IKSV-Istanbul Foundation for Arts and Culture.