Book Reviews

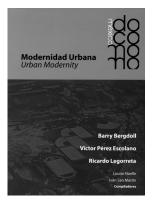
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. The Buildings

By Ana Tostões Publisher: Calouste Gulbenkian Found. ISBN 978-9-8997-2892-9 Language: English Year: 2012

CAROUSTE AUGUSTATION The Buildings

Modernidad Urbana Urban Modernity

By Louise Noelle and Iván San Martín Publisher: **docomomo** Mexico ISBN 978-6-0780-5906-5 Language: English and Spanish Year: 2012



Bloquinhos de Portugal. A Arquitectura Portuguesa no Traço de Lúcio Costa

By Lúcio Costa Publisher: Caixa Cultural Language: Portuguese Year: 2012



The Headquarters and Museum of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation are a major work of architecture. The impact it has had and the way it has revealed the effectiveness of qualities such as formal sobriety and contention have confirmed the magnificent articulation achieved between design and construction. Together with the garden, the complex has constructed the image of prestige and innovation of the Foundation itself.

This book is the final product of research that began some years ago, focused on the buildings and the relevance in affirming Modern architecture. By delving into the Projects and Works Department archives, the author unearthed thousands of documents that made it possible to reconstitute the strategy adopted, the choice of the protagonists, the doubts, discussions and major decisions, and the opinions and recommendations gathered. The aim of this work is to reveal the whole process from the moment of creation in 1956 to the present day. Particular emphasis is placed on the design process, in an endeavour to show the daily work that preceded and resulted in the final product.

The book also looks at the potential of the architectural complex, highlighting both its value as Modern heritage and its contemporaneity. It looks at the way it has withstood the transformation in use over the years, including recent interventions and the building's capacity for renewal. It also states the recent recognition as a national monument, starting a new period in patrimonial concepts embodying Modern Movement architecture as heritage.

en years ago, in 2003, **docomomo** Mexico was created and in 2010 it organized the 11th International Conference under the title "Living in the Urban Modernity", celebrated at the UNAM in Mexico City. This publication compiles the speeches by Ana Tostoes (docomomo International Chair), Louise Noelle (docomomo Mexico Chair), and Louise Cox (UIA President between 2008 and 2011); and the keynote presentations by Barry Bergdoll ("Good Neighbors: the Museum of Modern Art and Latin America, 1933-1955, a Journey through the MoMA Archives"), Víctor Pérez Escolano ("1929: La Primera Arquitectura Moderna en las Periferias Ibérica y Latinoamericana") and Ricardo Legorreta ("José Villagrán García y Luis Barragán").

The book is presented by Iván San Martín and has a prologue by Sara Topelson de Grinberg.

Texts in English and Spanish depending on how they were originally presented, and it has been possible thanks to the scientific and economical support of **docomomo** Mexico members, showing their strong commitment with their academic work and with **docomomo**.

These documents are not only a compilation of texts but they suppose a critical approach towards the role of Modern Movement in the urban context, seen from the point of view of some of the most important critics and architects of our time. The book can be found at: http://servidor.esteticas. unam.mx/docomomo/publicaciones/page1.html

he exhibition of the same title shows the record-I ings made in small note books by the famous architect and urban planner during his visits to Portugal in 1952. These small note books were lost for 50 years and were revealed to the public in an exhibition at Espaço do Brasil, curated by Maria Elisa Costa (daughter) and José Pessoa. In total, these documents by Lucio Costa resulted in 305 sheets, filling five small blocks. On the occasion of the publication of his autobiography in 1995, he unsuccessfully tried to find the drawings he had made in Portugal in order to to include them in the book. Only after his death, this material was found by her daughter Helena. This publication compiles these materials and makes it possible to see these unknown documents.

Lúcio Costa's relationship with Portugal has always been one of extreme tenderness and respect. The creator of Brasilia, the foreword looking visionary, had a profound connection with the Portuguese mold of Brazilian culture, not as a counterpoint to its architectural boldness but as the foundation and pillar of a Modern reality.

His wise take on Portugal, which he visited so many times and got to know profoundly, is quite patently clear in this admirable collection of sketches, mnemonic moments of an aesthetic devotion that was experienced by this unique architect and urbanist in his 1952 trip to Portugal.

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

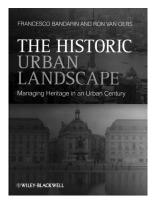
Ivan Blasi

Secretary General docomomo International

Miguel Horta e Costa Commissioner General of the Year of Portugal in Brazil

The Historic Urban Landscape. Managing Heritage in an Urban Century

By Francesco Bandarin & Ron van Oers Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell ISBN 978-0-4706-5574-0 Language: English Year: 2012



When the current debate on how we should preserve our cultural heritage revolves around urban sites-historic monuments in urban settings, historic districts, or complete historic towns. The growing complexity of urban heritage conservation makes reaching a consensus on how to manage urban heritage difficult. Additionally, the sharp increase in the world's population now living in urban areas, combined with a lack of policies to facilitate a sustainable use of heritage assets means the pressure on historic sites is set to rise. Unless new and innovative ways of managing these sites can be agreed on, there is a real danger that historic cities as we know them today will not survive the first decades of the 21st century.

The Historic Urban Landscape: managing heritage in an urban century offers a comprehensive overview of the intellectual developments in urban conservation. The book examines its modern interpretations and critiques, and the way in which the classical approach has been challenged by the evolution of the conceptual and operational context of urban management. Analyses are provided of how World Heritage sites are managed-with associated debates and decisions-to inform the development of local urban conservation policies and practices.

The authors offer unique insights from UNESCO's World Heritage Centre. Examples are drawn from urban heritage sites worldwide-from Timbuktu to Liverpool-to demonstrate key issues and best practice in urban conservation today.

Wiley-Blackwell

Nos trópicos sem Le Corbusier: arquitectura luso–africana no Estado Novo

By Ana Vaz Milheiro Publisher: Relógio d'Agua ISBN: 978-9-8964-1301-9 Language: Portuguese Year: 2012



A outras teses neste conjunto de textos. (...) Gosto da forma como se insinuam através de contextualizações mais aprofundadas do que tem sido comum na historiografia especializada nesta temática e cronologia. Note-se, por exemplo, como emergem as diferenças, que por certo agora a autora estará a desenvolver, entre os contextos e resultados da produção arquitetónica na Guiné, Angola e Moçambique.»

A preface is a lens mounted on a book according to a particular perspective. [...] When the book is a collection of texts issues become sharper [...]. Unless they constitute a coherent body and have been organized with clear principle. This is the case of "In the Tropics without Le Corbusier", a collection of texts with a suggestive title which clearly expresses its content [...]. If the title (which is also used for the last text) defines time, the subtitle (Portuguese–African architecture in the Estado Novo) tells us, here equivocally, which is the space. It even reveals much more: the social, political and historical context.

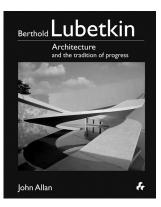
There are other arguments in this group of texts. (...) I like the way these are insinuated through contextualizations which are deeper than what has been usual in specialized historiography on this theme and this chronology. Note, for example, how differences arise – something the author will now develop – between the contexts and results of architectural production in Guinea, Angola and Mozambique.

Walter Rossa

Architect and Professor at the Universities of Coimbra and Algarve

Berthold Lubetkin—Architecture and the Tradition of Progress

By John Allan Publisher: Artifice Books Architecture ISBN 978-1-9073-1714-7 Language: English Year: 2013



ow in a new, updated and re-designed second edition this awardwinning book, first published in 1992, is the only comprehensive account of the life and work of Berthold Lubetkin (1901-1990), pioneer architect of the Modern Movement in Britain, survivor of the Russian Revolution, European traveller and intellectual, social commentator and, at the age of 81, RIBA Royal Gold Medallist. John Allan's study (now with 1000 illustrations) is the outcome of his 20-year friendship with Lubetkin and contains many previously unpublished drawings, photographs and extracts from Lubetkin's writings, which were as compelling as his architecture.

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The author studies Tecton's large-scale post-war housing schemes in Finsbury and Paddington and the circumstances of the firm's dissolution in 1948. There follows a fully-documented account of Lubetkin's greatest challenge as Architect-Planner of Peterlee New Town—a dream commission that ended in ruins after only two years, leading to his long period of embittered seclusion. The conventional myths of Lubetkin's unbuildable city of towers and ensuing premature retirement are disproved, and the considerable but little known design work of his later years is critically evaluated.

The book is complemented by the original text of Lubetkin's celebrated Royal Gold Medal address; a full directory of works and references; an essay on Lubetkin the writer; an extensive bibliography; a note on sources of material, a chronology and an additional section containing over 100 new colour illustrations.

Artifice Books on Architecture