

Arie Sivan 1940–2010

In memoriam

DESIGNER, architect, educator, researcher, critic, polemicist, Arie's multifaceted and ceaseless activity was, sadly, cut short just a week after his participation and lectures at the **docomomo** Congress and Icomos in Mexico, last August.

His formative years at the Architecture faculties in Montevideo, Uruguay, and the Technion in Haifa during the late sixties, were decisive for his long lasting belief in the Modern Movement instrumental role in the creation of "A new society" and, in his words, "A creative relation between people, their environment and their time".

In stride, his professional projects — to name just a few — educational games, tools and therapeutic facilities for the disabled, neighborhood libraries and recreational spaces, bear witness to those convictions. In large projects as well (in collaboration with his partner Horacio Schwartz) the pursuit of social and cultural dimensions is manifest, as in the award winning entry for the renovation of Tel Aviv boulevards formulated as a process of devolution and enhancement of urban public spaces. In the renovation of the historic build-

ings of the Bezalel Academy, Jerusalem, a dialectic interaction between the past and the contemporary is made explicit.

Perhaps his most outstanding achievements were in the field of education. Professor of Architecture at Bezalel for three decades, Head of the Interior Design unit at the Colman College, guest Studio Master and lecturer at American and European Universities and forums while constantly working on the update and creation of new study programs. His persuasive and engaging ways motivated generations of students.

Not surprisingly, Arie was the founder and leading figure of the Israeli Working Party of the **docomomo** involved in the redaction of the local register and in raising awareness for the much needed preservation — and most surely renovation — of important landmarks.

Knowledgeable, witty, ironic and at times confrontational, Arie's presence and contribution will be sorely missed.

As colleagues, we owe him the continuation of his work in the understanding that the goals of the Modern Movement are yet to be achieved.

In the name of **docomomo** Israel

