

METABOLISM REVISITED

OHRID / MACEDONIA, 29.06 - 06.07 2014



Yoshiharu Tsukamoto & Momoyo Kaijima

Atelier BOW-WOW

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University American college Skopje | School of Architecture and design
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN
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THEME

METABOLISM REVISITED

Metabolism of today is no longer the Metabolism of heroic period of the sixties. It was 'invented' in Japan by a group of then young architects and theoreticians like Fumihiko Maki and Noboru Kawazoe, during the preparation for 1960 Tokyo World Design Conference. They were influenced by a wide variety of sources including Marxist theories and biological processes. Their manifesto was a series of four essays titled: Ocean City, Space City, Towards Group Form and Material and Man, and it also included designs for vast cities that floated on the oceans and plug-in capsule towers that could incorporate organic growth.

Japanese Metabolism had its golden moment at the Expo '70 in Osaka, when three generations of architects (Tange-Kikutake-Kurokawa) found themselves united under a common denominator of architecture, which functions like a living organism, leaving the (architectural) world breathless. Members of Archigram, just like Le Corbusier in the Czech town of Zlín forty years previously, came to see the realization of "their" ideas at large scale.

Kengo Kuma, however, is critical of such interpretation: "The Metabolism and the 'philosophy of symbiosis' of Kisho Kurokawa could not remove themselves from seeing organisms in the manner of the nineteenth century. Architecture undoubtedly provides shelter to organisms, but there is absolutely no need for architecture itself to resemble organisms. An organism is not autonomous, but instead, by assimilating and excreting external matter at incredible speed, it escapes an increase in entropy and manages to live on. Such approach was of course absent in Le Corbusier's teleological or functionalist vision of organisms, Wright's idea of organic architecture and Kurokawa's philosophy of symbiosis."

In 2002, at the time of construction of his Sendai Mediatheque, Toyo Ito presented his own version of the emergence of the Metabolism: "Architecture can be compared to the human body, which is composed of the musculature and the skeleton. But for the human body to function, it needs a brain that tells the body what to do, thus a different dimension. Basically, it is the same with architecture. The physical, the visible, is controlled by the invisible, the thoughts, the soft substance".

For Yoshiharu Tsukamoto and Momoyo Kajima of Atelier Bow-Wow the essence of the Metabolist concept is not the internal functioning of isolated objects, but a horizontal expansion at urban level. They established concept of „Void Metabolism” which grasped rhythm and patterns of urban regeneration in Tokyo. They draw upon premises of the new generation of houses in Tokyo based on critical understanding of the behaviour of house types in the 20th century Tokyo.

Metabolism is deeply rooted not only in Japanese, but in Macedonian architecture as well, mostly through Kenzo Tange’s winning competition scheme for redevelopment of the capital town of Skopje, after the great earthquake which occurred on July 26th, 1963. Through the ages, city of Ohrid has developed upon its own ‘metabolic’ patterns. The idea behind the workshop theme is to research these patterns and to find ways to emphasize improve or change them for the benefit of citizens and guests of this wonderful settlement.

MAIN TUTORS:

YOSHIHARU TSUKAMOTO & MOMOYO KAIJIMA, Atelier Bow-Wow, Tokyo Japan

Paul Noritaka Tange began his architectural career upon receiving his Master in Architecture from Harvard University, Graduate School of Design in 1985. That same year he joined Kenzo Tange Associates, the architectural firm headed by his father, well known international architect, Kenzo Tange. Paul became President of Kenzo Tange Associates in 1996 and founded Tange Associates in 2003. Tange Associates, headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, has worked worldwide and offers a full range of architectural and urban design and planning services. At this time, Tange Associates has close to 40 on-going projects in ten countries. The firm’s extensive international experience enables it to work effectively in all cultures. Its long standing associations with local architectural firms and its familiarity with local building practices is invaluable to Tange Associates’ ability to efficiently undertake small to large scale projects in urban as well as rural areas in all parts of the world. Paul himself exemplifies the international element of his practice. Born in Tokyo, Japan, and educated in Japan, Switzerland and the US, he is a registered architect of both Japan and Singapore.

ASSISTING TUTORS

Vinko Penezić & Krešimir Rogina, Penezić & Rogina architects, Zagreb Croatia

Vinko Penezić (born in Zagreb, Croatia in 1959) and **Krešimir Rogina** (born in Rijeka, Croatia in 1959) are collaborating since 1979. Establish PENEZIĆ & ROGINA architects in 1991. Zagreb School of Architecture graduates. Postgraduate studies at Belgrade School of Architecture with Prof. Ranko Radović, (from 1983 to 1990). Prizes at competitions in Japan in 1984, 1990, 1995, 1996, 1999 and 2001. A number of projects of various architectural typologies. Silver medal at INTERARH World Biennale in Sofia, 1987. Grand Prix at Belgrade Salon of Architecture in 1988. Viktor Kovačić and Bernardo Bernardi Awards in 1997 and Vladimir Nazor National Award for Architecture in 2002. Croatian representatives at the Venice Biennale 2000 with exhibition Transparency of the Hyperreal. Invited to participate at the Venice Biennale 2004 by director Kurt W. Forster with exhibit Absolute Internet. Also taking special interest in architectural theory and critics.

LOCATION

Ohrid (Macedonian: Охрид) is a city in the Republic of Macedonia and the seat of Ohrid Municipality. It is the largest city on Lake Ohrid and the eighth largest city in the country with over 42,000 inhabitants. It is located southwest of Skopje, close to the border with Albania.

Ohrid and its historic-cultural region are located in a natural setting of exceptional beauty, while town's architecture represents, with its old typical streets and houses and its particular atmosphere around old squares, the best preserved and most complete ensemble of ancient urban architecture of this part of Europe. Ohrid is notable for once having had 365 churches, one for each day of the year. Today Ohrid and Lake Ohrid, are a leading tourist center in Macedonia. Since 1979 Ohrid and Lake Ohrid were accepted as Cultural and Natural World Heritage Sites by UNESCO.

The international summer school of architecture and design will take place in the premises of the Ohrid high school “St. Clement of Ohrid”. The four floor building, built at the beginning of the 20th century, is located in the center of the city. The building is fully renovated at the end of the 20th century.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Students who have completed the sixth semester of architecture/design studies.

APPLICATIONS

Attached to the application form, applicants should submit a max. 5 A4 pages Portfolio + CV (including photo) in pdf format to the following e-mail address: **ohridss@uacs.edu.mk**

Portfolios should be designed and formatted for on-screen viewing. Maximum file size is 3 MB.

The deadline for applications is 20 may 2014. Selected participants will be notified before 31 may 2014 by e-mail.

A certificate will be awarded on completion of the summer school, as well as 2 ECTS points.

Please note that places are limited!

PARTICIPATION FEE

Participation fee for the Summer School is 200 euros per participant.

Participation fee includes workshop, accommodation, meals and transportation Skopje – Ohrid – Skopje.

Students need to bring their own laptop computers.

CONTACT

For any other questions for the event itself feel free to contact us at: **ohridss@uacs.edu.mk** or visit:

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