ADAPTIVE RE-USE

OANA BOGDAN
BOGDAN & VAN BROECK
23.11.2018
ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Universiteits Hallen, Leuven | credits - Toon Grobet



Grauwzusters, Antwerpen | credits - Toon Grobet



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MAD Faculty, Genk | credits - Hennie Raaymakers



Kanaal, Wijnegem | credits - Viktor Bentley













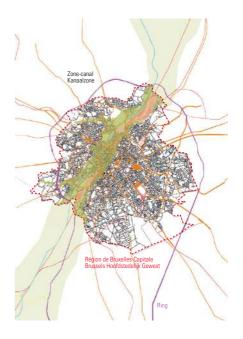
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bogdanvanbroeck We are thrilled to announce that our building COOP has been nominated for the @EUMiesAward 2019! photography by @beelluca | #architecture #bogdanvanbroeck #coop #EUMiesAward2019









Plan Canal - Alexandre Chemetoff & Associés

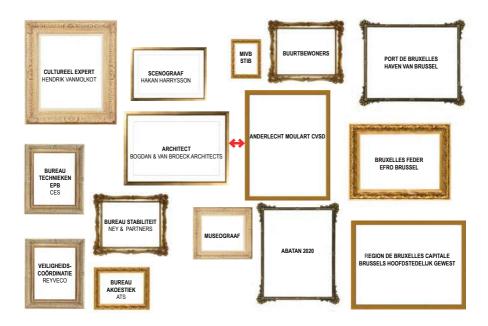


Plan Canal - Alexandre Chemetoff & Associés



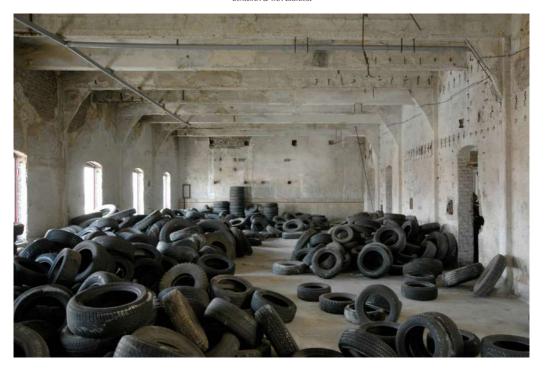


Preservation as a form of ecological recycling and cultural sustainability





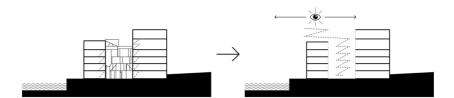


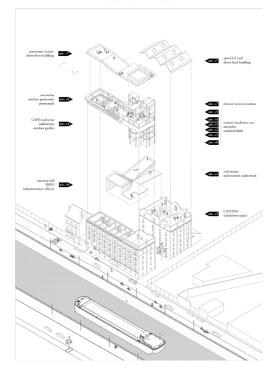


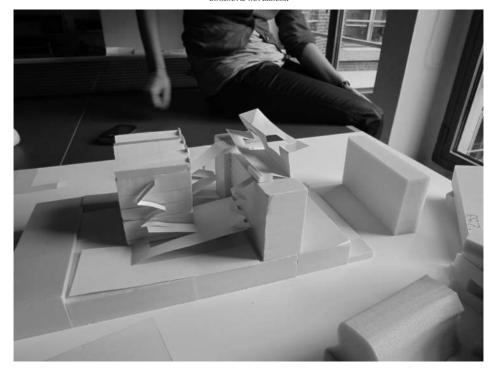




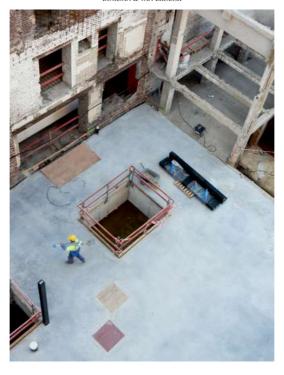












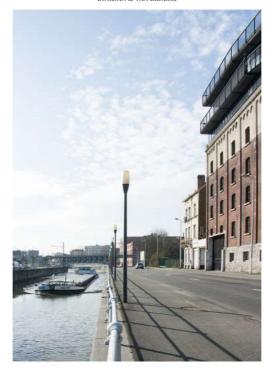


THE "LIGHTHOUSE" FROM THE COMPETITION PHASE



TO REALISATION







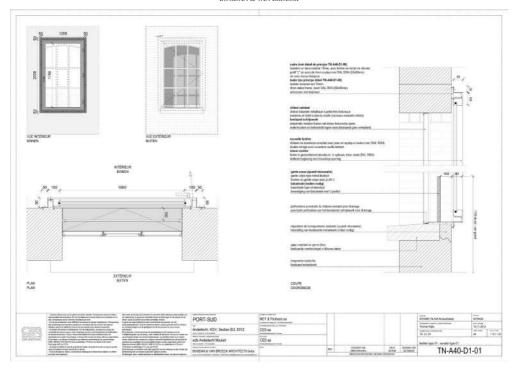






















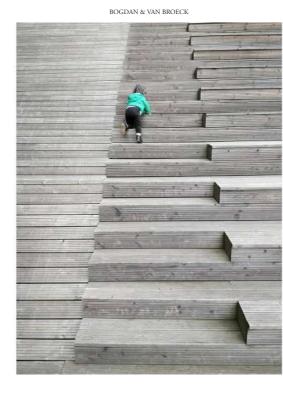


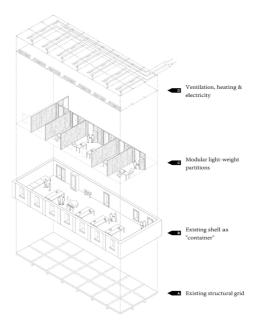




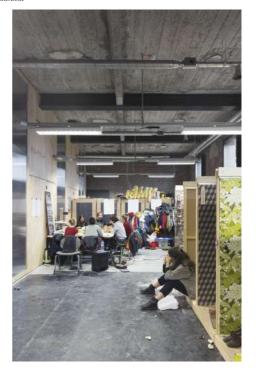














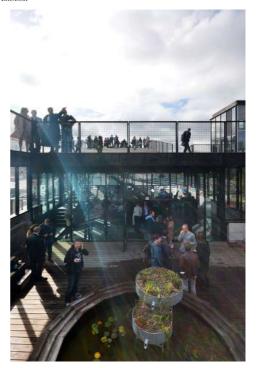










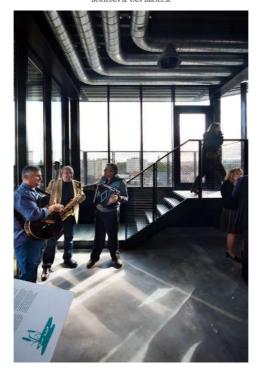






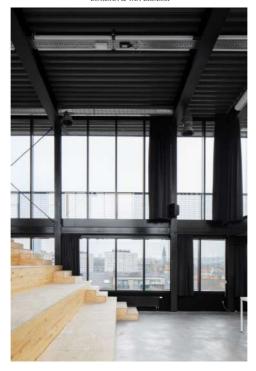


credits - BOGDAN & VAN BROECK





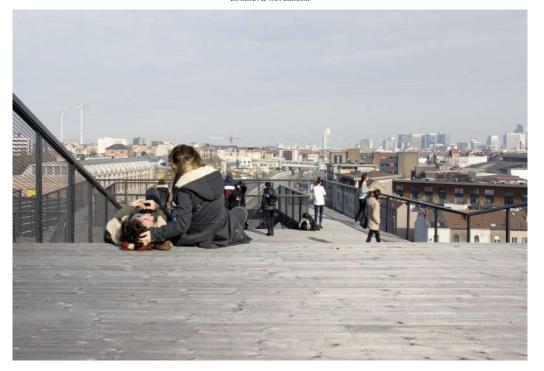




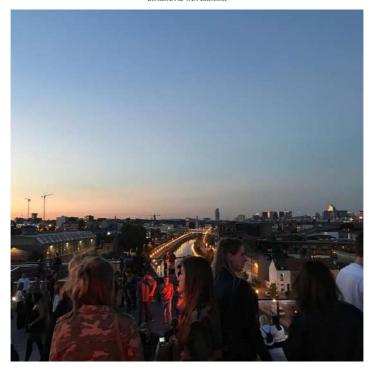








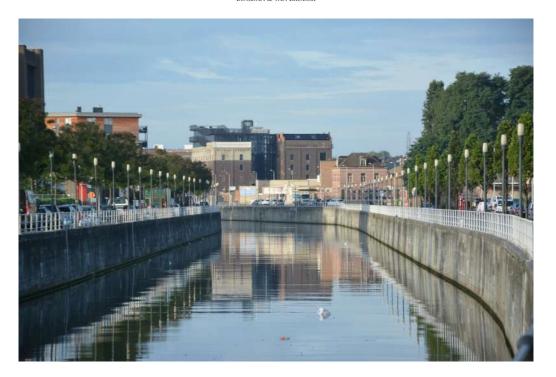






Le toit musical



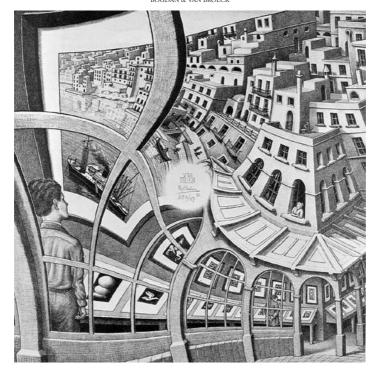












One of the singularities of the project Port-Sud probably lays in the will to place both the tangible and intangible legacy (the so-called heritage in English) of the area in the centre of the apparatus, to consider its preservation and renewal as a source of social, cultural and economic added value. We are aiming at nothing but to stress the learning potential, the attractiveness and the sense of poetry and wonderment carried by our heritage as the seeds of far-sighted dynamics. Heritage here is no constraint.

Every day, in the process of designing and communicating the COOP project, the dense and intense legacy of the area and the mill is asserted as a **breeding ground** — whose evocative character and ability to fascinate are our best asset. Both the civic and educational purposes of the Interpretation Centre and the more financial goals of the Incubator require to be able to carry this **material and immaterial heritage** through time, to make it accessible to the majority, seamlessly.

The agenda rooted in the project is to dynamise the economic life of this zone of Brussels, by attracting new activities.

And let there be no mistake: there is no heresia in believing in the combination of working activities and the accommodation of a population deeply embedded in its neighborhood heritage. On the contrary, the recipe has proven to be fruitful both for its social added value and the economic balance it provides.

There is a way that can't be found in the real estate developer textbooks, but that is still valid by the means of experience: public partnerships, local actors, unique architectural projects, combination of economic activities and social functions, a sense of distrust towards real estate's extravaganza and the search for authentic human relationships on the site are a few of its ingredients!"

Conference of Ministers of Culture

Baukultur

Baukultur, as an aspect of cultural identity and diversity, holistically embraces every human activity that changes the built environment, including every built and designed asset that is embedded in and relates to the natural environment. Baukultur calls for contemporary creation and the existing buildings infrastructure and public space, including, but not limited to, monuments of cultural heritage, to be understood as a single entity. Thus, Baukultur refers to both detailed construction methods and large-scale transformations and developments, embracing traditional and local building skills as well as innovative techniques.

The objective of high-quality *Baukultur* is to create and maintain a high-quality built environment. This quality promotes crucial societal values such as improvements in the quality of life, wellbeing, social cohesion and social integration. High-quality Baukultur provides affordable, decent housing, including vibrant and habitable neighbourhoods, and creates the conditions for the generation of positive economic added value.

With its vision, that encompasses the entire built environment and is geared towards the common good, the concept of high-quality *Baukultur* adds a crucial aspect to the idea of sustainability.

Step 7: Let's get involved in policy making!

Today modern architecture's social mission defined by the Modern Movement in the last century – the effort to establish a decent standard of living for all – has been replaced by wealth, speculation and marketing. Architecture has become a tool of capital. If before the 1970s buildings were primarily regarded as a public expenditure, after the 1970s buildings became more a mean of revenue, something to own in the hope for increased asset value instead of actual use value. This contributed to the increasing pressure on construction budgets and led to an architecture based on short-term profits. Through the general deployment of the term "real estate", the economist replaces the role of the architect,the logic of a building serves mostly to promote desirability in economic terms and architecture is worth whatever others are willing to pay for it.

The state is increasingly taking a reactive approach to planning and is placing more responsibility on private partners, research institutions, financial groups and non-government associations. As the influence of the public sector is steadily declining, initiatives to construct the city increasingly reside within the private sector. Designing a city becomes a strategic exercise driven by economic considerations, rather than a planning effort driven by spatial parameters, leading to the collapse of an adequate, comprehensive system of planning.

As we have entrusted in the market economy so much power to decide how cities come out, cities are confronted with a fundamental problem, which calls for a political change and is an opportunity for architects to get involved in policy making.

"If you really want to change the city, (...) then it would require re-engaging with things like public planning for example, or re-engaging with government, or re-engaging with large-scale institutionalised developers. I think that's where the real struggles lie, that we re-engage with these structures and these institutions, this horribly complex 'dark matter'." – Wouler Vanstiphout, 2010

Oana Bogdan has 16 years of experience in the private sector, mainly as a founding partner in the award-winning architecture firm BOGDAN & VAN BROECK (bogdanvanbroeck.com). In 2016, she worked as a Secretary of State in charge of Heritage at the Ministry of Culture in Romania.

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