



FILARCH 2021

PHILOSOPHY AND ARCHITECTURE
FILOSOFIA E ARQUITECTURA

SYMPOSIUM

Porto, Portugal

Dear Participants,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Porto for what will surely be a stimulating symposium on *Philosophy and Architecture*. The city of Porto is one of the most beautiful cities of Portugal and Europe and its known for its contribution to the world of Architecture. Home of portuguese beauty and charm, its also ground where tradition meets novelty and innovation. FILARCH pretends to become the symposium where collaboration aims to make academic discussions transcend the strict institutional (and physical) boundaries of academia and fertilize a broader intellectual context. In addition, the conference program will be followed by gatherings, where the exchange of ideas can continue on a more informal note. We hope you enjoy taking part in the conference as much as we enjoyed organizing it – and that you have the time to discover some of the marvels that the city of Porto has to offer.

The organizing committee
Constantino Pereira Martins, Eduardo Queiroga and Paulo Reyes

A FUNDAÇÃO / THE FOUNDATION



FIMS is a private foundation, established by the University of Porto and legally recognised in an order published in the Diário da República nº 139, dated 21 July 2009. FIMS' mission is the scientific, cultural, educational and artistic promotion, and in particular the classification, preservation, conservation, investigation, study and dissemination, of the entire artistic and architectural heritage of the architect José Marques da Silva, and of the literary, artistic, architectural and urban planning collection of the architects Maria José Marques da Silva Martins and David Moreira da Silva, as well as the collection or incorporation of other documents of a heritage-related, historic, scientific, or artistic value, preferably relating to the architecture and urban planning of Porto and Portugal.

FIMS seeks to be a reference institution in the fields of architectural and artistic culture, in heritage project intervention, in the study, treatment, conservation and dissemination of architectural documents, both at a national and international level, cooperating with other institutions or organisations with similar purposes. In addition to the initial endowment for the public institution, the University of Porto was bequeathed all the movable assets and rights of the architect Maria José Marques da Silva and her husband David Moreira da Silva, resulting in the decision to transform the José Marques da Silva Institute into this Foundation.

Within the inheritance as a whole should be noted the varied collection of documents in different media endowed by these architects, with items of undeniable value, of a cultural, artistic, architectural and social nature. This collection is characterised by the professional archives of the architect Marques da Silva, and also of the architects Maria José Marques da Silva and David Moreira da Silva. These archives are unified by the archive of the Lopes Martins family, to which is added that of the wife of Marques da Silva, giving a social context to the two architectural archives, as well as an important art collection, particularly of contemporary paintings. This complex collection of information is held in the architects' own Atelier and Residence which forms part of the mansion of the Lopes Martins family, in a unique building in the Praça Marquês do Pombal (Marquês do Pombal Square), a key location in the city of Porto.

(<https://fims.up.pt/index.php?cat=1&subcat=13&lang=2>)

THE SYMPOSIUM

Vision, possibility, virtuality

One of the greatest beauties of Architecture is its work with what does not exist, with what is not yet seen, with what is not there. As in sculpture, the lines of this work draw precisely that effort to show, to unveil the thought, and its images, in the eyes of the other. The sharing of a vision is a stripping of the act of creation, an exhibition, an interior that becomes exterior. A movement of the sketch, in the notepad, in the plan, to the realized. As a crime, and perhaps more than in any other art, architecture allows you to collect all the crumbs and find the thread from the headspring to the mouth. This movement is far from easy, although it can be simple, and the work of understanding and describing it is vast and multiple. What holds us here and constitutes the proposal of FILARCH 2021 symposium is the challenge of showing what a vision consists of, a possibility that rises in reality as a shadow of the imagination over things. Baudelaire warns us about this fight, between night and day, and in the gap, he encounters the phantasmagoria where “*an artist (...) is then as if assaulted by a mob of details, all claiming justice with the same fury. of a crowd eager for absolute equality*”, all asking for salvation from the dark abyss of oblivion. In the dilemma between the fixation and the shapeless, in this interlude of creation, loving the freedom and the anticipated melancholy of the crystallized, of which will never come to show its total strength and all its affluents, the vision of a work is a prisoner of the future, of the futures, without a redeeming gesture that saves it from the long and arduous path from potency to act. If Aristotle saw this with the utmost clarity regarding the potentiality, the possibility is played today in the virtuality of an infinite fold. If, from a technical and execution point of view, the management of the project is today at the mercy of the beacons of technology and information technology that subjugate the art to the performer, it may be necessary to re-consider the vision as a free horizon, in its entirety problematic while rooted in a projection-vision movement, of an idea that is drawn more than a postcard that can be seen in a certain light. Under the rule of imagination, focusing on the visions of possibility entail an understanding of Architecture as art, an art more than a technique. Vision, transformation and transfiguration as a mirror of the free play of the faculties that Kant immortalized.

Thus, the symposium FILARCH 2021, focused on the relation between Philosophy and Architecture, also aims to open the field of reflection to different areas of knowledge, intending to provide the opportunity to think freely.

Visão, possibilidade, virtualidade

Uma das maiores belezas da Arquitectura é o seu trabalho com o que não existe, com o que não se vê ainda, com o que não está lá. Tal como na escultura, as linhas desse trabalho desenham precisamente esse esforço de dar-a-ver, de desvelamento do pensamento, e das suas imagens, ao olhar do outro. A partilha de uma visão é um desnudamento do acto de criação, uma exposição, um interior que se torna exterior. Um movimento do esboço, no bloco de notas, na planta, ao realizado. Como um crime, e talvez mais do que em qualquer outra arte, a arquitetura permite recolher todas as migalhas e reencontrar o fio desde a nascente à foz. E esse movimento está longe de ser fácil, embora possa ser simples, e o trabalho da sua compreensão e descrição é vasto e múltiplo. O que aqui nos prende e constitui a proposta do FILARCH 2021 é o desafio de mostrar em que consiste uma visão, uma possibilidade que se ergue no real como uma sombra da imaginação sobre as coisas. Baudelaire avisa-nos para essa luta, entre a noite e o dia, e no intervalo o embate com a fantasmagoria onde *“um artista (...) encontra -se então como que assaltado por uma turba de detalhes, todos reclamando justiça com a mesma fúria de uma multidão ávida por igualdade absoluta”*, todos pedindo salvação do abismo escuro do esquecimento. No dilema da fixação e da liberdade do informe, nesse intervalo da criação amar a liberdade e a melancolia antecipada do cristalizado, do que nunca chegará a mostrar a sua força total e todos os seus afluentes, a visão de uma obra debate-se prisioneira do futuro, dos futuros, sem gesto redentor que a salve do longo e árduo caminho da potência ao acto. Se Aristóteles viu isto com a máxima clareza da potencialidade, a possibilidade joga-se hoje na virtualidade de uma dobra infinita. Se do ponto de vista técnico, e de execução, o gesto do projecto se encontra hoje à mercê das balizas da tecnologia e da informática que subjagam a arte ao executante, talvez seja necessário re-considerar a visão como horizonte livre, na sua totalidade problemática enquanto radicante num movimento de projecção-visão, de uma ideia que se desenha mais do que um postal que se dá a ver sob determinada luz.

Sob o reinado da imaginação, as visões da possibilidade entroncam uma compreensão da Arquitectura como arte, uma arte mais do que técnica. Visão, transformação e transfiguração como espelho do jogo livre das faculdades que Kant immortalizou.

Assim, o simpósio FILARCH 2021, focado na relação entre Filosofia e Arquitectura, visa também abrir o campo de reflexão a diferentes áreas do conhecimento, pretendendo proporcionar a oportunidade de pensar livremente.