

RETURNABLE MONTEVIDEO

Aims

Analysis and proposals for the recycling of the urban space, the reuse and recuperation of the urban voids, non-existent spaces or misused surfaces generated by the city's infrastructure

Introduction

Montevideo, natural harbour, is one of the most important docks of the Southern Cone. An amalgam, a yet unknown material, an aggregate of natural, artificial and immaterial elements and fluxes. Simultaneously porous and fibrous, loaded with memories and featuring vast unread extensions, the city now craves to be recycled imaginatively and pragmatically, in order to adapt itself to a culture whose concerns and settling habits have changed drastically.

Returnable Montevideo proposes the creation of a debate forum on the urban space, and, more precisely, on the recovery of certain spaces which have actually disappeared for the citizens' use, unveiling something which had always been hidden.

With the intervention of the agents which take part in the creation of the city, and the co-operation of those which are able to modify it through the contemporary thought, a new insight on the city is put forward, reaching a critical dimension.

The origin of the appropriation of a certain space, the reason for its deliberate change, is actually what gives birth to it and configures its identity.

As a consequence of its growth, Montevideo has developed some large-scale infrastructures which have occupied a part of the territory. These public works started under certain demographic conditions of density and pressure which have increased throughout the years. Thus, those spaces which were initially devoted to maintenance, reserves or servitudes have become residual spaces linked to those infrastructures, and hoard a great potential through their transformation.

Returnable spaces catalogue

Waterspace Harbour infrastructures and the potable water canalizations which supply the city occupy a space which features a wide range of strict servitudes that, in some cases, can turn these terrains into vast residual land extensions which might be recycled.

Ironspace Railway infrastructures are surrounded by a security –and sometimes storage- perimeter all along their routes. These residual land extensions could also be recycled, at least temporarily.

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Asphaltspace Wheeled traffic infrastructures are designed under certain density parameters which vary eventually. Montevideo keeps on growing, and therefore absorbing peripheral areas. In this way, the vast surfaces occupied by drive-ins, drive-outs, roundabouts or U-turns are earning a residual character and, furthermore, an increasing recyclable potential

Schedule

Thu 26.03

Presentation of the subject. Questions and suggestions

Fri 27.03 - Mon 30.03

Recognition of residual spaces throughout the city

Tue 31.03

View sharing on the residual spaces catalogue and intervention proposals

Wed 01.04 - Thu 02.04

Intervention proposals development.

Fri 03.04

Presentation: ***RETURNABLE MONTEVIDEO***