

## Estudo Prévio 3 – Domestic architect - Editorial

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Villa Rotonda, Villa Savoye, Farnsworth house, Malaparte house, Rietveld Schröder house, are names of houses as well-known as any international museum. The design of a house has always been, for the architect, a space for research and freedom in the field of exploring new spaces and new correlations between them, new programmatic organizations, new materials and new ways of building the *Habitar* (inhabiting).

*Habitar* is closely linked to the beginning of architecture and the house has always represented the possibility of working on a program that questions all the values of the discipline as well as the problems each person values in their daily well-being.

Currently, we live in a moment without universal dogmas, but it can be said that, in terms of house designs, we observe a Japanese-influenced fashion that paints everything white and frees spaces for hybrid uses, functionally disaggregated from everyday reality. On the other hand, with the growing remodeling market in “Crisis Europe”, there is a critical inertia that uses the same imagery for all projects: light gray wooden or self-leveling floors, walls, ceilings, kitchen and bathroom. white bathrooms, 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, 2 or 3 bathrooms...

Surveys and investigation works such as the Popular Architecture Survey or the studies on Social Housing carried out by LNEC under the coordination of the architect Nuno Portas or, internationally, studies on housing carried out by authors such as Engels, Alison and Peter Smithson, contributed to understand the different domestic



architectures in specific territories, cultures and populations. On the other hand, the global dissemination of architectural projects added the number of possible references, prone to the uncritical use of collages and transposed influences. for the house project. At the same time, paradoxically, there is a growing interest in local materials and techniques and in their integration into contemporary architecture works. Currently, we live in an age without universal dogmas, but it can be said that, in terms of house designs, there is a Japanese-influenced fashion that paints everything white and frees spaces for hybrid uses, functionally separated from everyday reality. On the other hand, with the growing remodeling market in the “Europe of Crisis”, we are witnessing a critical inertia that uses the same imagery for all projects: wooden floors or light gray self-leveling, walls, ceilings, kitchen and bathroom. white bathrooms, 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, 2 or 3 bathrooms...

Presently, the growing mobility and the impact of globalization on contemporary life allow individuals to experience, directly or in a mediated way, different housing experiences – in contrast to what used to happen in traditional societies. In this context, a set of new questions emerge from the old themes:

- Will contemporary houses be adapted to new forms / rhythms of life?
- Are architects wasting opportunities to rethink and make the Habitar evolve?
- What other knowledges and disciplines are thinking about inhabiting? What conclusions are they reaching to? How is this knowledge absorbed and integrated into architecture?
- Are we all reducing our well-being by adapting ourselves to the existing homes?
- And, finally, what house should the contemporary house be?

In this issue we have the opportunity to publish papers dedicated to this theme, with contributions that go beyond the restricted field of architecture. The first, by the anthropologist Maria Assunção Gato, approaches the House as a privileged space for identity expression and social representation, from its location to the decorative objects that the house exposes to restricted visits. The second one, by the architect Sérgio Silva and mathematician Francisco Blasques, develops the possibility of incorporating, in the process of creating a project, a public consultation through an online questionnaire format, to map the individual preferences of possible users before materializing them. The house appears in this mapping project, Archimetry, as an experimental example of a system still in process that combines Statistics with Research in Architecture and, potentially, with the practice in Architecture.