

Pouillonism

Seminar Week

Fernand Pouillon was foremost a political and politicized character. He liked to play, and played hard. He made deals no other architect could imagine. He built fast, big and unimaginably cheap. As a self-proclaimed pioneer (and ditto genius) Pouillon claimed to have reconfigured the architectural discipline in a radical manner. Not so much through “architectural” architecture, or “good taste” for that matter, but through a mindboggling re-reading of the discipline’s basic components: design, lobbying, deal making, financial calculations, engineering and the act of just-in-time building. In *Mémoires d’un Architecte* Pouillon infamously stated: ‘Ce métier ne m’intéresse qu’en fonction d’une exécution possible’. All the rest was noise to his ears.

It is of no surprise that the permissive city that is Marseille was one of the first real-time laboratories to test the “Système Pouillon”, with *La Tourette* and the *Vieux-Port* as the prime exhibits of this architectural mercenary’s practice. Our trip to Marseille will critically question whether there is such a phenomenon as “Pouillonism” and how we can link this back to contemporary city making, architecture and policy whispering.

Studio Swinnen

France, Marseille
March 20-24, 2017

Category D, max. 25 students
The costs include transportation, accommodation, 1 dinner, entrances and reader.

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