

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910796691503321
Titolo	Re-scaling the environment East West Central re-building Europe 1950-1990 . Vol. 2. : new landscapes of design, 1960-1980 // Akos Moravanszky, Karl R. Kegler (Eds.)
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Basel, [Switzerland] : , : Birkhauser, , 2017 ©2017
ISBN	3-0356-0808-3 3-0356-0823-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (320 pages)
Collana	East West Central ; ; Volume 2
Disciplina	724.6
Soggetti	Architecture - Europe - History - 20th century Architecture and society - Europe
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Foreword. East West Central: Re-Building Europe -- Introduction. On Systems and System Change -- Zooming In: The Powers of Scale, 1960–1980 -- The Choreography of the Console: Electronic Environments and their Operators -- Rittel’s Riddles: Design Education and “Democratic” Planning in the Age of Information -- Nested Utopias: GEAM’s Large-Scale Designs -- On Bees and Bolts: Školka SIAL – An Architects’ Commune in Czechoslovakia -- Le Corbusier’s “Geo-Architecture” and the Emergence of Territorial Aesthetics -- Projective Geographies Between East and West -- Towards the Functional Society: Paradigm Shifts in the Regional Planning of West and East Germany -- Vacationing within the Walls. The Design and Development of Holiday Resorts in the GDR -- Urbanism and Academia: Teaching Urban Design in the East -- Architectural Intelligence and Scarcity-Driven Design in the 1960s Yugoslavia -- From New Empiricism to Structuralism. The Swedish National Board of Public Building (KBS) -- Courtyards, Corners, Streetfronts: Re-Imagining Mass Housing Areas in Tallinn -- “Complex Projects”: Landscape Architecture as the Integrating Discipline -- UIA, R. Buckminster Fuller, and the Architectural Consequences of “Total Environment” -- New Agencies: Convergent Frameworks of Research

Sommario/riassunto

From 1960–1980, both eastern and western Europe experienced a construction boom of new dimensions. Cybernetics, the science of planning, and sociology, as well as the new possibilities offered by technology and production, paved the way to large-scale processes and systems in architecture and urban design, which favored technocratic and utopian concepts. Increasingly, architects and planners saw themselves as designers of comprehensive infrastructure and mega-structures in a technology-focused world. The authors assesses these developments on the back of a knowledge transfer between East and West. It confirms a change in attitude that can still be felt today – recession, social changes, and environmental problems led to criticism of the then contemporary concepts of modernity.

Von 1960 bis 1980 erlebten Ost- und Westeuropa eine Bauproduktion von bis dahin unbekanntem Ausmaß. Kybernetik, Planungswissenschaft und Soziologie sowie neue Möglichkeiten von Technologie und Produktion eröffneten in Architektur und Raumplanung ein Denken in Prozessen, Systemen und großen Maßstäben, das technokratische und utopische Konzepte begünstigte. Architekten und Planer verstanden sich zunehmend als Gestalter umfassender Infra- und Megastrukturen einer technisierten Lebenswelt. Das internationale Autorenteam behandelt diese Entwicklungen vor dem Hintergrund des Wissenstransfers zwischen Ost und West. Es konstatiert einen bis heute nachwirkenden Umschwung: Rezession, gesellschaftliche Umbrüche und Umweltprobleme führten zur Kritik an bisherigen Konzeptionen von Modernität.

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