

Editorial

FROM A LIVABLE ENVIRONMENT TO THE LIVENARCH+ JOURNAL

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From A Livable Environment

On September 19, 1963, the Department of Architecture was established at Karadeniz Technical University.

On June 4, 2001, the Department of Architecture organized its inaugural international congress, named LivenARCH (LIVable ENvironments and ARCHitecture) Congress.

As of January 29, 2024, the Department of Architecture has launched its first international journal, titled LivenARCH (LIVable ENvironments and ARCHitecture)+ JOURNAL.

Beyond the department's contributions and within the LivenARCH theme, the Department of Architecture at Karadeniz Technical University represents a livable environment. While attempting to be encapsulated within three sentences, it is a living environment so deeply rooted that it defies confinement to mere sentences.

All the academic and administrative staff who have accompanied and supported this long history deserve a great deal of gratitude.

To The LivenARCH+ Journal

The realm of architecture plays a crucial role in adapting to the swiftly evolving dynamics of daily life, particularly in response to unpredictable changes in social, cultural, economic, environmental, and technological cases. It not only addresses its fundamental needs but also thrives on the exploration of new theories, discussions, designs, methods, applications, and creations that surpass the basics. In this context, the LivenARCH+ Journal aims to establish an academic platform for generating and disseminating thoughts, knowledge, practices, achievements, and experiences within both global and local contexts where the discipline of architecture intersects with the theme of "LIVable ENvironments and ARCHitecture".

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The primary objective of LivenARCH+ Journal is to bring diverse perspectives from various scales and cultures into academic discourse within a shared literary domain. The aim is to generate novel architectural insights geared towards shaping the future vision of architecture. With this purpose in mind, it is anticipated that professional endeavors and the information generated by those involved will be aligned with the overarching theme of “LIVable ENvironments and ARCHitecture”, along with its potential sub-themes.

In this context, this first issue of LivenARCH+ Journal presents a diverse selection of articles that not only remind us of the breadth of architecture beyond mere structures but also emphasize the necessity for architects to continually reassess their assumptions and adapt to evolving conditions and requirements. These alternative perspectives not only empower us to think and work with uncertainties but also demonstrate ways to adapt theories and practices that can go beyond dialectical oppositions, embracing possibilities for more nuanced, responsive, and ethical viewpoints and design processes.

In this first issue of LivenARCH+ Journal, a compilation is presented, comprising one discussion and six research articles that offer fresh insights across a broad spectrum of architectural discourse. These contributions cover various topics, ranging from spatial organization to the complexity of public space, from building information modelling to the socio-spatial transformation. Despite their apparent diversity, these articles coalesce around common themes that underscore the significance of interdisciplinary approaches and the critical reassessment of entrenched paradigms within architectural scholarship.

Şengül ÖYMEN GÜR discusses the place of “environment-behavior” issue based on a strong architectural theory titled as; “*Architecture As Spatial Organization*”, updating her theoretical framework with insights from Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Christian Norberg-Schulz and Juhani Pallasmaa. Drawing examples from figures like Zaha Hadid and Ignasi de Solà-Morales, she delves into the historical development of the “environment-behavior” process in an instructive and questioning manner, making transitions and comparisons over time. Adhering to the idea that architectural theory is a processual reality with an unchanging essence of firmitatis, utilitatis, venustatis, and denotatis, she presents the organizational concepts of space as standard semantic codes of behavior and space.

Semin ERDEM and Fatih TERZİ’s research highlights an “*Assessing Public Space Complexity*” over “*A Comparative Study of Waterfront Areas in İstanbul's Bosphorus District*”. They aim to evaluate the two waterfront side of İstanbul based on Carmona’s classification, based on land use data from the analysis by using Geographic Information System (GIS), and put forward the land property, multi-layered historical characteristics, non-comprehensive planning decisions, and transportation necessities lead to complexity in public spaces, which influence the nature and accessibility of public spaces, thereby contributing to the observed diversity along the waterfront. Their findings may also have implications for urban planning and the development of inclusive public spaces in coastal areas, so that the further works can improve public spaces classification on basis connectivity and continuity between public spaces on waterfront for urban design and planning strategies.

Erkan AYDINTAN, Selen Rumeysa ÜNLÜ, Merve TÜRKKÖYLÜ and Seda YAZICI lead us to the intersection point of an architect and an artist in their research titled; *“A Monograph on Space: Kahn Architecture and Turrell Installation”*. They initiate a discussion, arguing that while the architecture creates space, the installation art presents spatial narratives. From this point of view, they put forward a hypothesis that the multidimensionality of space can be read through the architecture of Louis Kahn and the installation of James Turrell, and a monographic examination is carried out through their own discourses and publications on the works of these two influential figures.

In the context of Veli Mustafa YÖNDER and Hasan Burak ÇAVKA’s research; *“A Case Study of Clash Detection for Early Design Phases in Building Information Modelling”*, an examination of the available literature is conducted utilizing bibliometric approaches to gain insight into the theoretical underpinnings of clash detection. The modeling of the architectural design and structural project design for a two-storey Architecture Student Center (ASC) project, spanning roughly 1200 square meters, is undertaken. The clashes, both soft and hard, are categorized and examined based on the achieved outcomes.

With their research on the *“Interpreting Collingwood’s Artistic Approach through the Design Philosophies of Arata Isozaki, James Corner and Karim Rashid”*, Kübra İlkiz KURT, Erkan AYDINTAN and Aslı İNCİ posit a hypothesis that the essence of art can be understood through the perspectives of influential figures in architecture, planning, and design. Beginning with an analysis of Collingwood’s “The Principles of Art”, the research focuses on architectural, interior design, landscape architecture, urban planning, and industrial product design, over the figures such as; Arata Isozaki, James Corner, and Karim Rashid. The research concludes that design approaches in different disciplines draw from various dimensions of art, contributing to significant richness within the design discourse.

In their research; *“Spaces in Flux: Documenting Migration, Belonging, and Socio-Spatial Transformation in Basma[Ha]Ne, İzmir”*, Perin ÇÜN and Leman ÖZGÜR recognize an urban space shaped by a multifaceted history of migration, where each migrant’s experience contributes to interconnected socio-spatial, socio-cultural, and socio-economic layers, prompting the need for novel spatial interpretations. They acknowledge migration as a transformative socio-spatial force, and seek to explore how migrants contribute to the spatial fabric in regenerating a sense of home in the area. Their research draws on field research that involves semi-structured interviews conducted with relevant actors in the area; Basma[Ha]Ne, İzmir.

Pelin DURMUŞ HOCAOĞLU put forwards a different point of view from the origin of architectural education. In her research; *““SCAMPER” as a Supportive Model for Transferring Design Studio Learning Outcomes”*, she addresses a supportive teaching model, aiming to enhance learners understanding and ability to generate diverse solutions to contemporary problems. This is achieved by actively utilizing and experiencing the learning outcomes acquired through traditional teaching models. The research focuses on the sustainability of learning outcomes in architectural design studios and the potential of the “SCAMPER” applications to improve the design process.

As a whole, these explorations and inquiries illustrate that theory and practice do not exist as the previously assumed dichotomy defining the discipline. Instead, they show that architectural processes engage in a necessary adaptation, intertwining ways of thinking and doing. Thus, the researches presented in the first issue of LivenARCH+ Journal demonstrate the potential of architecture to reclaim its role as the dynamic foundation through which our collective environments and interconnected ecologies can be comprehended, expressed, altered, and shared.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I extend my invitation to esteemed researchers and academicians to contribute to the LivenARCH+ Journal family for our second issue, scheduled for publication in July 2024.

I express my utmost respect and look forward to your valuable contributions.