

The Berlage Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment
Delft University of Technology

Nafsika Efklidou
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Thesis Project Plan

The Berlage.

PERSONAL INFORMATION	
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ABOUT THE THESIS PROJECT	
Thesis project title	Types and Stereotypes
Thesis advisor 1	Ido Avissar
Thesis advisor 2	Thomas Weaver

Thesis project description

Polykatoikia is the Greek version of the typical, modern, most generic, multi-storey, apartment building. Initially, designed by architects, in the 1930s, as a modern, bourgeois, urban dwelling type; in the post-war period, the polykatoikia was banalised, massively, uncontrollably reproduced all over Greece. The polykatoikia enables a shared culture of complete appropriation of space and entrepreneurship, related to private housing, to take over in the making of the city. This project intends to canonize the stereotype. It aims to celebrate this type of aggregated living, considered to be of no cultural and architectural value; Celebrate the polykatoikia, as an urban tool, regardless of the constant opinion shifts between utopian optimism and dystopian pessimism.

Thesis project site

A typical polykatoikia building.

Thesis project outcome

The project is a dollhouse, chosen as a critical tool that typically represents idealized views of domesticity, through the arrangement of rooms and the aesthetics of its interiors.

Relevance

For the Greeks, the ideal of the 'good life' has been linked to the development of the Greek post-war city and core social values, such as home ownership.

Bibliography of literature, precedents, and references

General Bibliography

Aesopos, Yannis, and Yorgos Simeoforidis, *Landscapes of Modernisation: Greek Architecture, 1960s and 1990s*, GR: Metapolis Press, 1999

Christ, Emanuel, and Gantenbein Christoph. *Typology: Paris, Delhi, São Paulo, Athens*. Zürich: Park Books, 2015.

Dragonas, Panos. *An Obituary for the Greek City of Repetition*. In MAS Context 21. Spring 2013. 82-97

Dragonas, Panos (ed.). *Made in Athens*. 13th International Architecture Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia. Athens: Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climatic Change, 2012.

Issaias, Platon. *Beyond the informal city: Athens and the possibility of an Urban Common*. PhD diss., Technische Universiteit Delft, 2014.

Moatsou, Olga. *Polykatoikia, 1960-2000: Entrepreneurial Housing, from Athens to Rethymno*. Lausanne: EPFL, 2014.

Perec, Georges. *Approaches to what?**, in Perec, Georges and John Sturrock. *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces*. London, England: Penguin Books. 1997

Perec, Georges. *Life, a User's Manual*. Boston: D.R. Godine, 1987.

Theocharopoulou, Ioanna. *The housewife, the builder, and the desire for a polykatoikia apartment in postwar Athens*. In Heynen, Hilde (ed.). "Negotiating Domesticity: Spatial Productions of Gender in Modern Architecture". London: Routledge, 2005. pp.65-82

Wei-Ning Chen, Nancy. *Playing with Size and Reality: The Fascination of a Dolls' House World*. In *Children's Literature in Education*. 2015. 46: 278-295.

Woditsch, Richard. *Plural: Public and Private Spaces of the Polykatoikia in Athens*. Phd Dissertation. TU Berlin. 2009

Structure and method

The typical 7-storey polykatoikia as a collection and miniaturization of the city's polarities, will be the testing ground, as well as the structuring device, for the development of the project. Its level of the building will be an autonomous chapter of a counter-narrative to the historical accounts of the polykatoikia, through the representation of room interiors, which for the first time will present the type with all its material qualities that allow for a good life.

Final schedule and time planning

WK 1.1 31 Aug–4 Sept

Compulsory kick-off workshop on presentation on Friday, 4 September 2015

WK 1.27–11 Sept

Thesis advisor meeting with IdoAvissar, Salomon Frausto, or Stefano Milani on Friday, 11 September 2015

Structure of the "Dollhouse". Working drawings of (stereo)typical interiors. Narrative revision.

WK 1.314–18 Sept

Super pin-up with Atelier Bow-Wow on Thursday, 17 September

Thesis advisor meeting with Thomas Weaver on Friday, 18 September 2015

the "Dollhouse" _ Working Drawings. Narrative. Film revision

WK 1.421–25 Sept

Thesis advisor meeting with IdoAvissar, Salomon Frausto, or Stefano Milani on Friday, 25 September 2015

"Dollhouse" (generic) drawings (plans, section, facade, 3d model). Apartment layouts. Structures of the dollhouse.

Proposal section-draft. Working drawings of interiors. List of characters (stereotypes).

W 1.528 Sept–2 Oct

Thesis advisor meeting with Thomas Weaver on Friday, 2 October 2015

"Dollhouse" model - scale 1:20-(the structure). Narrative revision. Working drawings of interiors. Polykatoikia Sections catalogue.

WK 1.65 Oct–9 Oct

Drawing workshop with Atelier Bow-Wow on Monday and Tuesday, 5 and 6 October 2015

Thesis advisor meeting with IdoAvissar, Salomon Frausto, or Stefano Milani on Friday, 9 October 2015

"Dollhouse" (Staircase/Elevator shaft + Walls/floor + Street/ Building Entrance + Test furniture making). Working drawings of interiors-Final. Narrative.

WK 1.7 12–16 Oct

Compulsory midterm presentation with thesis exam committee and thesis advisors on Friday, 16 October 2015

WK 1.819 Oct–23 Oct

Thesis advisor meeting with Thomas Weaver on Friday, 23 October 2015

"Dollhouse" (Window/Door frames + Floors/ Ceilings/ Wallpapers). Narrative. Study Perec as a precedent.

WK 1.926 Oct–30 Oct

Thesis advisor meeting with Ido Avissar, Salomon Frausto, or Stefano Milani on Friday, 30 October 2015

"Dollhouse" (Common individual infrastructure items - the mechanization of everyday life). Reflection on the dollhouse in section, plan, elevation.

WK 2.02 Nov– 6 Nov

"Dollhouse" (Window/Door frames + Floors/ Ceilings/ Wallpapers + Everyday Mechanics). Develop plans/ Sections of the architectural model side.

WK 2.19 Nov– 13 Nov

"Dollhouse" (The Street/ Next building silhouette+Balconies (full) + Handrails (stairs/ balconies). Photo Documentation of Interiors. Finish the architectural model.

WK 2.216 Nov– 20 Nov

MSc1 and MSc 3 midterm presentations with Atelier Bow-Wow on Monday and Tuesday, 16 and 17 November 2015

Super conversation dinner with Atelier Bow-Wow on Tuesday, 17 November 2015

Thesis advisor meeting with Ido Avissar, Salomon Frausto, or Stefano Milani on Friday, 20 November 2015

"Dollhouse" (Furniture). Narrative.

WK 2.323 Nov– 27 Nov

"Dollhouse" (Furniture). Photo Documentation. Film storyboard.

WK 2.4 30 Nov–4 Dec

Dress rehearsal with thesis advisors on Friday, 4 December 2015

Due Thursday, 3 December 2015, 4pm.

WK 2.5 7 Dec–11 Dec

E2 presentations with thesis exam committee and thesis advisors on Thursday and Friday, 10 and 11 December 2015

Super pin-up with Atelier Bow-Wow on Monday, 7 December 2015

WK 2.6 14–18 Dec

Postproduction workshop 1

WK 2.7 4–8 Jan
Postproduction workshop 2

WK 2.8 11–15 Jan
Postproduction workshop 3

WK 2.9 18–22 Jan
Postproduction workshop 4
MSc1 and MSc 3 final presentations with Atelier Bow-Wow on Monday and Tuesday, 18 and 19 January 2016
Super conversation dinner with Atelier Bow-Wow Tuesday, 16 January 2016

WK 2.10 25–29 Jan
E3 on Thursday–Friday, 28–29 January 2016