Archipelago

a Landscape of social spatial opportunities.
In case of Petrzalka, South of Bratislava, Slovakia.

The graduation plan Archipelago is part of the Flowscapes, Landscape Architecture graduation lab. The lab theme is focusing on landscape as a form of infrastructure.

“The studio explores infrastructure as a type of landscape and landscape as a type of infrastructure, and is focused on landscape architectonic design of transportation-, green- and water infrastructures. These landscape infrastructures are considered armatures for urban and rural development. With movement and flows at the core, these landscape infrastructures facilitate aesthetic, functional, social and ecological relationships between natural and human systems.” (Nijhuis, Jauslin, & De Vries, 2013, p.1)

In this project, it is focusing on water management related with existing urban condition. The approach is implementing urban theories of Place Attachment and Radical Contextualism combining with lessons learned from River, space, design methodologies. The graduation process is taking the step further to deal with the Contemporary society that we are living. In case of Petrzalska, Bratislava, the location is at delta area of Danube River which is a floodscape area. The project is creating the adaptive framework for the contemporary city relate with the flood solving solution in order to prevent the flood of downstream city of Bratislava.

Aspect 1  The relationship between the theme of the graduation lab and the subject/case study chosen by the student within this framework (location/object)

The choice of Bratislava was derived from its location and my personal interest of the urban landscape. The southern city conditions are dealing with an uncertainty of changes in landscape, infrastructure, ecological development, sense of community and city expansion. These problems are commonly found in late developed Eastern European cities. By dealing with the spatial framework throughout different scale (small - neighborhood, middle - city spine and big – region), It positions firmly the core of Flowscapes.

Aspect 2  The relationship between research and design.

In the beginning the project research studied on relationship of urban tissue to the Danube River, in order to find the ability to solve flood problem and create sustainable landscape. Later on the research is developing toward the existing relationship of social aspects and landscape. The main research structure is based on both physical and psychological landscape interventions. The sense of community became important in design aspect. The final research is aimed to explore the relationship of Contemporary City - Neighborhood (Collectivism) – Individualism throughout the framework of water landscape.
Aspect 3 The relationship between the methodical line of approach of the graduation lab and the method chosen by the student in this framework

My graduation project is focused on Spatial territory which defined by water landscape. The Archipelago is derived from this principle combined with city arrangement both in ecological and infrastructure system. The design framework explores through the biggest scale until the smallest scale. The Archipelago framework emphasizes separation of the neighborhood which purposed the uniqueness in each area. The inner courtyard is enclosed to generate collective usage.

By combining urban contexts in social aspect and physical floodplain, the city has a potential to transform itself and generate new opportunities relate to its new conditions.

Aspect 4 The relationship between the project and the wider social context

Nowadays, the city is made by objects. The commute spaces are scattered with no relation. The contemporary city has changed the society structure, people become self-center. However, the future is the sharing society. The idea of defining and recreating the neighborhood can generate these prospect opportunities. The archipelago framework can transform these notions where a multi-layered understanding of the landscape is being advocated.
Reference