WELCOME

YONA FRIEDMAN

FOND DENISE ET YONA FRIEDMAN

I AM OFTEN ASKED BY YOUNG ARCHITECTS: WHAT ROLE RESTS FOR PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS WITHIN THAT LARGE SCHEME?

MY ANSWER IS SIMPLE: THAT OF THE ARTIST. ARCHITECTURE, AS ART, IS – IN MY MIND – THAT OF "SCULPTING THE VOID".

MOST AVANGARD PROJECTS TODAY ARE SIMPLY MEDIOCRE SCULPTURE BLOWN UP IN SCALE. MEDIOCRE SCULPTURE IS NOT NECESSARILY GOOD ARCHITECTURE. REAL ARCHITECTURE IS LOOKING AT A SCULPTURE FROM INSIDE. IT IS THE SHAPING OF THE VOID WHAT COUNTS.

ARCHITECTS ARE: SCULPTORS OF VOID.

IN CONSEQUENCE, THERE IS NO WAY TO PRESENT, IN PHOTOGRAPHY OR DRAWING, THE INTERNAL SPACE OF AN ARCHITECTURAL OBJECT. "VOID" IS NOT A MATERIAL EASY TO VISUALISE. SO, DON EXPECT ARCHITECTURE IS NEVER SHOWN IN SPECALISED PRESS ON ARCHITECTURE, THE SAME AS WITH MUSIC, THAT IS UN-PRESENTABLE ON PAPER.

THE BEST ONE CAN DO, IS TO DESCRIBE YOUR EMOTIONS LISTENING TO MUSIC, OR ENTERING INTO ARCHITECTURAL SPACE.

THAT IS, MAY BE, THE COMMON TRAIT BETWEEN ARCHITECTURE AND MUSIC.

SORRY FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESS.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO EDIT A SITE, PARTICULARLY THIS ONE, WHICH HAS NO OTHER UNIFYING TREAT THAN THE ACT OF DOTATION.

THERE ARE VERY DIVERSIFIED FIELDS OF TOPICS SURELY, ARCHITECTURE IS A PRINCIPAL ONE. BUT EVEN THEREIN THERE IS THEORY, IN FORM OF SLIDE-SHOWS, OF INTERVIEWS, AND FILMS ON TECHNIQUES. THERE ARE DRAWINGS, MODELS, EXHIBITIONS, PUBLIC TALKS, ON BUILDINGS AND BUILDING PROCESSES. AND, ALSO OTHER TOPICS, COMMUNICATION, PHYSICS AND COSMOLOGY.

WE TRIED TO GROUP THEM LESS ACCORDING TOPICS THAN SUPPORT VEHICLES: PHOTOS, SLIDE SHOWS, INTERVIEWS, FILMS. BIOGRAPHY, BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DATES ARE PRESENTED SEPARATELY.

BY ORGANISING THUS THE MATERIAL, WE THOUGHT THAT PEOPLE CONSULTING THE SITE HAVE THEIR PERSONAL POINTS OF VIEW, AND WILL ORGANIZE THEIR RESEARCH ACCORDINGLY, FOLLOWING THEIR OWN PRINCIPLES.

CATEGORIES TOO MUCH PREDETIRMINATED ARE THE PRINCIPLE OF BUREAUCRACY. BUREAUCRACY IS OFTEN PRACTICAL, BUT IS A DEAD END IN ITSELF. LIFE IS FUZZY, UNDETERMINIST, AMBIGUOUS.

BEING AMBIGUOUS IS A NEGATIVE APPRAISAL, IN THE SAME TIME A POSITIVE ONE. RESEARCH IS ALWAYS AMBIGUOUS.

PRACTICALLY ALL PHOTOS AND MOVIES CONTAINED IN THIS SITE ARE THE WORK OF JEAN-BAPTISTE DECAVELE, WHO STARTED TO WORK WITH ME IN 2006.

ALL DATES ARE THOSE OF THE PHOTOS TAKEN, OFTEN OF MODELS AND DRAWINGS MADE 40 YEARS EARLIER.

THE MOST RELIABLE DATING OF MY MODELS AND DRAWINGS IS THE ONE CONTAINED IN THE BOOK "YONA FRIEDMAN, STRUCTURES FOR THE UNPREDICTABLE" PUBLISHED BY NAI PUBLISHERS, ROTTERDAM 1999. THIS BOOK IS THE FIRST DOCUMENTED MONOGRAPH ON MY WORK. ALL DATES INDICATED THE FIRST DATES OF A PUBLICATION OF EACH WORK, EXCEPT THAT OF "PANEL CHAINS", THE DATE OF WHICH IS THAT OF MY EXILE IN BUCAREST, ROUMANIA, AT THE END OF WORLD WAR 2.

TAKE CARE TO USE THE PROJECT DATE OF THE NAI PUBLICATION FOR ALL REFERENCE

PARIS, 20.6.19

YONA FRIEDMAN

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

I THOUGHT HERE TO WRITE UP IN A FEW PAGES A SHORT GUIDE FOR SOME OF THE THOUGHTS RECURRENT INTO THE SITE.

IT WAS NOT EASY TO DO SO, BUT I THOUGHT IT MIGHT HELP THE READER CONSULTING THE SITE.

INDEED, HOW COULD THE "WELFARE STATE" LINKED TO COSMOLOGY, OR WHAT CAN RELATE "NATURAL DEMOCRACY" TO THE "EQUILIBRIUM PRINCIPLE"!

I BETTER ENUMERATE THE FIELDS MENTIONED IN THESE REMARKS:

MOBILE ARCHITECTURE
AMBIGUITY OF SCIENCES
THE EQUILIBRIUM PRINCIPLE
THE COSMOS
ARTIFICIAL IMAGINATION
WELFARE STATE
BIOLOGICAL MODEL
NATURAL DEMOCRACY
ECONOMY
CONSUMER SUBSIDY

PICTOGRAMES (A TENTATIVE)

FRENCH INTRODUCTION

AMBIGUITY
ARTIFICIAL IMAGINATION
ARCHITECTURE AS PACKING

BIOSPHERE
BIOLOGICAL MODEL
BUREAUCRATIC MODEL
BRIDGE TOWN
BARTER ECONOMY
BUBBLE DIAGRAM

CRITICAL GROUPSIZE
COMPLEXITY
COMPLICATED ORDER
COMMUNICATION
CONTINENT CITY
CRUMPLED SHEETS

DISPERSED CITY

EQUILIBRIUM PRINCIPLE
EGALITARIAN SOCIETY
ERRATICITY
EFFORT DIAGRAM

FLATWRITER
FLUCTUATING VOID
FILM-ANIMATION

GRIBOUILLI

HIERARCHIC SOCIETY

LAMELLAR STRUCTURE
LOCALISATION
LOCALISE

MEWS
MOBILE ARCHITECTURE
MEGA-T PLUS
MERZ STRUKTUR
MOEBIAN STRUCTURE

NATURAL DEMOCRACY

PARKING
PAVILLONARY ARCHITECTURE
PROBABILITY

ROD NET

SPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBSIDY TO CONSUMERS
SHORT-TIME PRIORITY
STATISTICS
SPAN-OVER STRUCTURE
SLIDE-SHOWS
SPACE-CHAIN
STREET MUSEUM

QUATERNARY-SECTOR

TRIEDRIC STRUCTURE
TRISS MUSEUM

URBAN MECHANISUS
UTOPIAS
URBAN VILLAGE
URBAN CARPET

VILLE SPATIALE

WELFARE STATE

GLOSSARY

MOBILE ARCHITECTURE ADMITS CONCEPTION OF HIS HOME TO THE INHABITANT, THROUGH TRIAL AND ERROR METHODS (SELF-PLANNING)

MEUBLE + PLUS BOX CONTAINING A PIECE OF FURNITURE (EQUIPMENT) PLUS THE SPACE NECESSARY FOR ITS USE

URBAN MECHANISM PRESENTATION OF A CITY PLAN AS SCHEME OF MOBILITY. IT LEADS TO DRAW UP THE EFFORT DIAGRAM OF THE PLAN

FLATWRITER A COMPUTER FACILITATING SELF-PLANNING BY THE INHABITANT

FLUCTUATING VOID IMAGE OF COSMOS AS A CONFIGURATION OF VOID

SPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE A SPACE-FRAME STRUCTURE THE VOIDS OF WHICH ARE USED AS INHABITABLE SPACE

INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICAL DEVICE FACILITATING SUPPLY OF ENERGY, WATER, DISPOSAL

BIOSPHERE THE GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE

CRITICAL GROUPSIZE SIGNALS THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP, A LIMIT TO DIFFERENT KINDS OF SOCIAL ORGANISATION (EGALITARIAN OR HIERARCHIC)

EQUILIBRIUM PRINCIPLE STATES THAT SYSTEMS STAY NECESSARILY IN CONTINUOUS EQUILIBRIUM

NATURAL DEMOCRACY SOCIAL ORGANISATION OF HIGHER ANIMALS BASED ON AUTONOMY OF INDIVD WITHOUT A DIRECTORY

ARTIFICIAL IMAGINATION POSSIBILITY OF MACHINE INVENTING NEW ORGANIZATION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MACHINES LEARNING THROUGH ANALOGY ORGANIZATION OF A PROGRAM

AMBIGUITY OF SCIENCE PREDICTIONS FOLLOW ARBITRARY CRITERIA

AMBIGUITY OF MATHEMATICS DIFFICULTY TO RECONSTRUCT HOW A NUMBER WAS OBTAINED

WELFARE STATE ORGANISATION OF AUTOMATIC SUPPLY OF MEANS FOR SURVIVAL

BIOLOGICAL MODELS DIFFER FROM PHYSICAL ONE BY NOT BEING COMPLETELY ARITHMETISABLE

SUBSIDY TO CONSUMERS DIRECTLY, INSTEAD OF SUBSIDIZING THE PRODUCER

LAND OCCUPATION FOR SHORT INTERVALS: PARKING

ARCHITECTURE AS PACKING: ENVELOPE FOR ACTS OF LIVING THAT'S VALUE SHOULD BE PROPORTIONAL TO THAT OF ITS CONTENT

COMPLEXITY ORGANISATION OF SYSTEMS ALL MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE RELIED BY RULES

COMPLICATED ORDER A NOT-MATHEMATIZABLE ORGANISATION

UTOPIAS ARE REALISABLE WHEN ACCEPTED BY GENERAL CONSENSUS

PROBABILITY TENTATIVE TO MATHEMATIZE ERRATIC SYSTEMS

STATISTICS SERVE TO FORMULATE PROBABILITIES

BRIDGE TOWNS INHABITABLE BRIDGES

URBAN VILLAGE SOCIAL GROUPS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF CRITICAL GROUPSIZE

COMMUNICATION IS NECESSARILY DIALOGUE : IMPULSE FOLLOWED BY EFFECT (OBSERVABLE)

VILLE SPATIALE TECHNICAL ASPECT FOR MOBILE ARCHITECTURE MATERIALIZED WITHIN SPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE EVENTUALLY IMPLEMENTING MEUBLE + PLUS APPROACH

SPAN-OVER STRUCTURES BRIDGE-TOWNS AND SPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CAUSING MINIMAL DIRECT IMPACT ON SITE

URBAN CARPET PAINTED ORNEMENTATION OF LAND SURFACE (PAVEMENTS ETC)

CONTINENT CITY A FAST (RAIL) SYSTEM UNITING A LARGE NUMBER OF EXISTING CITIES

SLIDE SHOW (OR MANUAL) A SEQUENCE OF DRAWINGS WITH SUBTITLES EXPLAINING VISUALLY IDEAS

QUATERNARY SECTOR SOCIALLY NECESSARY ACTIVITIES STAYING OUTSIDE OF MONETARY ECONOMY (FOR EX-HOUSEWIVES)

LAMELLAR STRUCTURES MADE WITH IRREGULARLY PLIED RIBBONS OF STATICALLY RESISTING MATERIAL

MOEBIAN STRUCTURES ROOF STRUCTURE MADE WITH MOEBIUS-BANDS OF RESISTING MATERIAL

GRIBOUILLI (SCRIBBLE) STRUCTURES MADE WITH IRREGULARLY PLIED WIRE OR TUBE MATERIAL

SPACE CHAIN SPACE-FRAME MADE WITH CIRCLES

ROD-NET IRREGULAR SPACE-FRAME ASSEMBLED WITH TANGENTIAL JOINTS

STREET-MUSEUM DISPOSITIVE FOR EXPOSING CHOSEN BY INHABITANTS OF AN URBAN VILLAGE

CRUMPLED SHEETS MADE WITH IRREGULARLY DEFORMED MATERIAL

MERZ-STRUKTUR STRUCTURES MADE WITH MATERIAL FOUND THROUGH RANDOM (SCHWITTERS)

RUBBISH IS BEAUTIFUL OPERATION I PROPOSED IN 70-ies MAKING MERZ-STRUKTUREN FROM JET-A MATERIAL

TRIEDAIC STRUCTURES SPACE FRAMES MADE WITH SOLIDS OF 3 PLANES (TRIEDRA)

FILM ANIMATION WITH "CUBES" CONSISTS IN DECOMPOSING MOVEMENTS INTO 4 PHASES PACTED ON CUBES

EGALITARIAN SOCIETY WHEREIN INFLUENCES EMANATING OF MEMBERS ARE ROUGHLY THE SAME (ORIENTED GRAPHS)

HIERARCHIC SOCIETY WHEREIN INFLUENCES FOLLOW ONE EXCLUSIVE PATTERN (TREES - GRAPHS)

BUREAUCRATIC MODEL A HIERARCHIC STRUCTURE WHEREIN ITEMS ARE LOCALISED

LOCALISATION A MENTAL PATTERN LINKING IDENTITY WITH ADDRESS

ANIMAL SOCIETY A NATURAL DEMOCRACY

DISPERSED CITY WITHIN BIOSPHERE AS UNIQUE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE

PAVILLONAR ARCHITECTURE CONSISTS OF ASSEMBLIES OF MEUBLE + PLUS

BARTER ECONOMY BASED ON QUATERNARY ACTIVITIES

GRANULATED SPACE-TIME GENERALISATION OF DISCONTINUITY

ERRATICITY EVENTS FOLLOW O PROBABILITY