Cross Reflections:
Architecture, Photography and Text

Le Corbusier’s work through Cemal Emden’s camera and further commentary...

“The photograph itself is in no way animated..., but it animates me: this is what creates every adventure.”
Roland Barthes, Camera Lucida

A new exhibition is coming out of the Le Corbusier portfolio of architectural photographer Cemal Emden who has been working on the master architect’s oeuvre for the last five years. The exhibition that will be inaugurated in Işık Art Gallery (Istanbul) in March 2016, will put in display a number of the major works of Le Corbusier, spanning over a period of half a century. Apart from Emden’s photographs, texts by Turkish and international scholars who studied Le Corbusier’s work will also be featured in the exhibition. Emden started photographing Le Corbusier’s work in 2011, for an exhibition at SantralIstanbul commemorating the centenary of the architect’s Voyage d’Orient. Since then, he continued to explore Le Corbusier’s work through numerous shootings in Europe, Asia and America. As the architect-photographer who built the most comprehensive and up to date image portfolio of Le Corbusier’s buildings, Emden has been working in collaboration with Fondation Le Corbusier and exhibited his photographic work in various venues and media. Among these, exhibitions he realized in Ankara, Marseilles and Paris can be cited. This upcoming exhibition that will be inaugurated in March 2016 in Istanbul, with Burcu Kütükçuoğlu as curator, Fondation Le Corbusier and Association of Independent Architects-Istanbul Branch as collaborators and Seranit as the sponsor, will be an opportunity to view the current state of some of Le Corbusier’s works. In addition, the photographs and texts that form the content of the exhibition will be published in book form and a panel discussion will be organized on the opening day of the event, with the participation of a number of scholars who contributed to it with their texts.

The exhibition aims to commemorate Le Corbusier’s work just after the 50th anniversary of his death and to reflect upon the interactions between architecture, photography and text. A group of photographs by Cemal Emden will be sent to selected scholars who either work on Le Corbusier’s architecture or in the fields of Visual Culture or Visual Arts. They will be asked to choose a single photograph from this group, write a caption and a short text (around 500 words) that express the reason why this specific image “attracts” or “animates” them. This format (photograph-caption-short text) is inspired by Roland Barthes’ approach in his book Camera Lucida and offers a ground for a spontaneous and subjective reflection on architecture and photography at once. The authors of the texts and captions are invited and encouraged to write their personal commentary on the images they select in a free style that clarifies the striking aspect they see in it, be it architectural or photographic or both. Apart from contributing to the exhibition with their texts, these scholars will also be part of the curatorial process as the photographic content will be formed by them to a certain extent.
EXHIBITION DATA

PHOTOGRAPHS
Cemal Emden
www.cemalemden.com
cemal@cemalemden.com

CURATOR AND EDITOR
Burcu Kütükçüoğlu
burcu.kutukcuoglu@gmail.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR AND TRANSLATOR
Nafiz Akşehirlioğlu

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Emre Çıkınoğlu

OPENING DATE
9th of March, 2016

PERIOD
4-6 hafta

VENUE
İşik Art Gallery (Teşvikiye-Istanbul)

CONTENT
15-20 large scale photographic prints
(Cemal Emden’s photographs of Le Corbusier’s work)
A caption and a short text for each photograph (by scholars)

SCHOLARS WHO WILL BE INVITED
To CONTRIBUTE TO THE EXHIBITION
Atilla Yücel / Beatriz Colomina / Daniel Naegele / Doğan Kuban / Emre Altürk /
Günkut Akin / Hashim Sarkis / İhsan Bilgin / Jacques Sbriglio / Jale Erzen /
Jean-Louis Cohen / Mary McLeod / Pedro Bandeira / Sibel Bozdoğan / Stanilaus von Moos /
Tim Benton / Tülay Atak / Uğur Tanyeli / Zeynep Çelik

COLLABORATORS AND THE SPONSOR
Fondation Le Corbusier
Association of Independent Architects-Istanbul Branch
Seranit (Sponsor)
CEMAL EMDEN
Born in 1967 Cemal Emden completed his undergraduate and post-graduate degrees at Yıldız Technical University's Department of Architecture in 1992. His interest in photography led him to combine it with his education, thereby specializing in architectural photography. Emden has participated in many magazine, book, exhibition and other projects both in Turkey and abroad. Currently he is continuing his photographic and architectural work at Stüdyo Architects.

BURCU KÜTÜKÇÜOĞLU
Graduated from Middle East Technical University, Department of Architecture in 1995 and earned two Masters Degrees at Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya, Barcelona and Middle East Technical University between 1996-1999. She worked at Teğet Architectural Office between 2000 and 2004 and started her doctoral studies at Istanbul Technical University in 2005. She was at Columbia University during 2007-2008 term as Fulbright PhD Research Fellow and at Getty Research Institute with a Library Research Grant during summer 2009. She finished her PhD study in 2012 and joined Istanbul Bilgi University Faculty of Architecture as an assistant professor, where she has been teaching since 2010. History and theory of Modern architecture, cultural and architectural history of the Mediterranean Region, visual culture and photography are among her topics of research and interest.
Antwerp, Maison Guiette (7)

Berlin, Unité d’Habitation (1)

Berlin, Unité d’Habitation (2)

Berlin, Unité d’Habitation (3)

Berlin, Unité d’Habitation (4)

Berlin, Unité d’Habitation (5)
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Paris, Maison du Brésil (6)

Paris, Maison du Brésil (7)

Paris, Maison du Brésil (8)

Paris, Pavillon Suisse (1)

Paris, Pavillon Suisse (2)
Zurich, Centre Le Corbusier (4)

Zurich, Centre Le Corbusier (5)

Zurich, Centre Le Corbusier (6)

Ahmedabad, Mill Owners' Association Building (1)

Ahmedabad, Mill Owners' Association Building (2)

Ahmedabad, Mill Owners' Association Building (3)
Ahmedabad, Sanskar Kendra City Museum (3)  Ahmedabad, Villa Shodan (1)

Ahmedabad, Villa Shodan (2)  Ahmedabad, Villa Shodan (3)

Ahmedabad, Villa Shodan (4)  Chandigarh, Architecture Museum (1)
Chandigarh, Architecture Museum (2)

Chandigarh, College of Architecture (1)

Chandigarh, College of Architecture (3)

Chandigarh, Architecture Museum (3)

Chandigarh, College of Architecture (2)

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Chandigarh, Museum 1 (6)

Chandigarh, Open Hand Monument (1)

Chandigarh, Open Hand Monument (2)

Chandigarh, Open Hand Monument (3)

Chandigarh, Sector 17 (1)

Chandigarh, Sector 17 (2)