

Dinner Dedicated to the White Dove

Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre - KÉK

2016 / Budapest / Hungary

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The Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre has started to organise a thematic dinner series at the intersection of architecture and gastronomy.

One example was the Dinner Dedicated to the White Dove. The event was commemorating the work of Hungarian modernist architect, Csaba Virág (1933-2015). The momentum for this was created when one of its buildings in the castle district of Budapest was threatened by demolition. The currently unused former electrical transformer building is a valuable example of the Hungarian modernist tradition. Even though the architect community joined forces to express concerns against the demolition, the general public did not value the building and it was under serious threat.

Our centre has chosen an unusual format to showcase the building's significance and to inspire discussion on its potential reuse. We organised 2 walks to the building itself followed by a special dinner party. We collaborated with Hungarian food designer, Angéla Góg to design the menu inspired by the work of the architect. We have asked Angéla as many of her food projects are concerned with collective memory. Each of the 5 courses and the corresponding way of serving was inspired by one of the architect's buildings. Each course was introduced by a talk exploring the building's significance, followed by an explanation on how this was translated into the design concept.



About the team

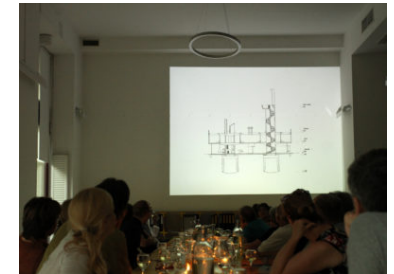
The Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre (KÉK, kek.org.hu) is an independent architectural cultural centre operated by young Hungarian architects, artists and civilians. The centre aims to open new perspectives in architectural and urban thinking in Hungary through its fresh, provoking and focused programs, relevant also in international context. This organisation is currently the only internationally acknowledged professional platform representing contemporary architecture in Hungary. Its activities of KÉK receive intensive local and international attention and acknowledgement. KÉK also collects data on the Hungarian architectural scenery for international architecture databases.

Project team: Angéla Góg, Daniella Huszár, Rita Keresztesi, Monika Kertész, Samu Szemerey...

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1. Careful lobbying / Annarózsa Mészáros
2. Preparation of the first course / Annarózsa Mészáros
3. Soup inspired by a port house / Annarózsa Mészáros
4. Main course inspired by a housing block design concept / Annarózsa Mészáros
5. Presentation before the course / Annarózsa Mészáros
6. Cake inspired by the building threatened by the demolition / Annarózsa Mészáros

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Space typology Community Space

Intention Celebrating / Educating / Enjoying / Exchanging / Gathering / Raising awareness

Action Cooking food / Eating food / Serving food