



INNOVACONCRETE KAUNAS WEBINAR

MONUMENT AND NON-MONUMENT: CONCRETE HERITAGE OF THE POST-WAR ERA 9th Forth Museum Kaunas, Lithuania

Friday, June 11th and Saturday June 12th

About the Conference

Formidable solids of exposed concrete and monotonous, utilitarian shapes of social housing have become one of the most recognizable and universal elements of post-war architectural language. Regardless of the different political systems, geographic conditions or local aesthetic traditions an architectural style now commonly referred to as “brutalism” (derived from the French “*béton brut*” or “raw concrete”) became a dominant expression of our shared architectural heritage and an inseparable part of many cities around the world. In Eastern European countries large-scale *mikro-rayons* vividly embody the pragmatic dimension of the socialism project. On the other hand, there was a striking part of Soviet modernism that was demonstratively irrational, focused not on a standardized function, but on a breath-taking emotion. A similar duality appeared in Western societies. Despite specific aesthetic values many of these buildings are seen by some as not fitting into the contemporary context. Even though the rising interest around the architecture of brutalism is growing, these monuments and buildings are too often being demolished, unrecognizably altered or simply left to deteriorate. ICOMOS ISC20C initiates this InnovaConcrete workshop as a field for debate whether these structures – monuments, apartment buildings or other functional types – can and should remain for future generations as a relevant part of our history.

REGISTRATION <http://innovaconcrete.zoomtv.lt>

AGENDA KAUNAS WORKSHOP

First Day – Friday June 11th | From 2.00 to 7.00 pm (CEST)

2.00 pm ► **Opening of the Workshop**
Maria J. Mosquera UCA University of Cadiz, Innova-Concrete project coordinator
Gunny Harboe ICOMOS ISC20C
Marius Pečiulis Director of the 9th Forth Museum

2.30 pm ► **Innova Concrete Update**
Maria J. Mosquera University of Cadiz, Innova-Concrete project coordinator

3.00 pm ► **Keynote Speaker**
Catherine Croft 20th Century Society

3.45 pm ► **100 of the 20th Century Concrete Heritage**
Susana Landrove DOCOMOMO Ibérico

4.15 pm ► **Benchmark Document Guidelines for Conservation of 20 Century Concrete Heritage**
Kyle Normandin / Stefania Landi

4:45 pm ► **BREAK**

5:00 pm ► **The Study Cases in INNOVACONCRETE**
Gunny Harboe ISC20C-ICOMOS

5.15 pm ► **El Instituto Torroja**, by Eduardo Torroja, Madrid, Spain
The Work of Eduardo Torroja and the Modern Architecture
María Teresa Blanco

5.30 pm ► **The Zarzuela Hipodrome**, by Eduardo Torroja, Arniches y Domínguez, in Madrid, Spain
Jerónimo Junquera

5.45 pm ► **El Elogio del Horizonte**, by Eduardo Chillida, in Gijon, Spain
The Work of Eduardo Chillida and Concrete Sculpture & Art Heritage
Luis Chillida

6:00 pm ► **Flaminio Stadium**, by Pier Luigi and Antonio Nervi, in Rome, Italy
The Concrete Architecture in the Mediterranean Areas and the Work of Pier Luigi Nervi
Gabriela de Carlo

6.15 pm ► **The Centennial Hall**, in Wroclau, Poland
Protection of the Concrete Heritage from the Beginning of the 20th Century
Krzysztof Raszczuk

6.30 pm ► **The Train Station**, in Warsaw, Poland
Post-War Concrete-Based Cultural Heritage in Central and Eastern Europe
Blazej Ciarkowski

6.45 pm ► **The Fallen Monuments**, in Torricella Peligna, Abruzzo, Italy
Maria Isabella Pierigè

7:00 pm ► **Conclusions of the First Day**
Vaidas Petrulis

Second Day – Saturday June 12th | From 2.00 to 6.00 pm (CEST)

2.00 pm ► **Opening of the Workshop**

2.10 pm ► **Kaunas Case Study**
Vaidas Petrulis History of the 9th Fort
Marius Pečiulis Director of the 9th Fort Museum
David Lopez INES (investigation and treatments)

3.15 pm ► **Round Table Cases Studies**
During these three years in which we have developed the InnovaConcrete project, seven workshops have been held, which, developed around different themes, have all revolved around a common issue: concrete heritage in the twentieth century. This heritage, in general, are not well considered, very abandoned and poorly preserved. As far as its protection is concerned, it has needed a greater effort, making it known, generating its consideration and studying the best systems and techniques for its conservation. All this, around very different typologies, different built systems, located in varied climates and with very different cultural meanings, but all of them with two issues in common: concrete and its heritage value. This last workshop held in Kaunas, gives us the opportunity to share the results of all of them and perhaps draw some important conclusion to include in the Benchmark that is being prepared around the criteria of conservation of the concrete heritage of the 20th century.
Moderator: **Gunny Harboe**
Maria Teresa Blanco; Jerónimo Junquera; Luis Chillida; Gabriela de Carlo; Krzysztof Raszczuk; Blazej Ciarkowski; Maria Isabella Pierigè; Marius Pečiulis

4:15 pm ► **Reinforced concrete monuments: intentions and consequences**
Generally, the reinforced concrete structures can be regarded as a symbol representing 20th-century architecture. However, many of the most important examples of reinforced concrete of the 20th century were specifically constructed as symbols. These include museums and monuments of political significance, buildings to commemorate various anniversaries and other places of ideological meaning. Today these monuments are being perceived as a source for multifaceted narratives. On the one hand, they perfectly represent the aesthetic potential of reinforced concrete as a material. On the other hand, close links with political ideologies frequently provoke harsh public reactions. As a result, many of these monuments have been destroyed, relocated or simply abandoned in recent decades. The aim of the session is to present these monuments as a specific phenomenon of 20th-century architecture.
Moderator – **Kyle Normandin**
Jörg Haspel (ICOMOS Germany)
Sigrid Brandt (Universität Salzburg, Austria)
Sandra Uskokovic (University of Dubrovnik, Croatia)
Panel discussion: **Vaidas Petrulis, Sigrid Brandt, Jörg Haspel, Sandra Uskokovic**

5.15 pm ► **Conservation strategies and reuse of concrete heritage.**
Reinforced concrete represents strength and durability. Paradoxically, the survival of this architecture faces various economic, technological, and cultural challenges. Brutalist architecture is often perceived by the public as "ugly". Some of the structures, and in particular the monuments, relate to the painful political past. Finally, monumental forms of concrete structures not always easy to adaptable to present needs. Evening discussion will concentrate on recent conservation and knowledge sharing initiatives on concrete architecture. Representatives of ongoing or recent projects will be invited to discuss the possible future scenarios for reinforced concrete architecture.
Moderator – **Gunny Harboe**
Antoine Wilmering (The Getty Foundation);
Aušra Černauskienė (Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania).
Barnabas Calder (University of Liverpool)
Panel Discussion: **Catherine Croft, Antoine Wilmering, Aušra Černauskienė, Barnabas Calder**

6.00 pm ► **Closing of the Workshop**
Vaidas Petrulis, Maria J. Mosquera

PROJECT PARTNERS