

Conversations: traditional architecture, building, and urbanism

panel discussion series

Date & Time | Thursday 9, 16, and 23 May 2024, 4:30 – 6:30 pm

Location | Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, 45 Kraljice Natalije Street

Conceiving tradition as an essentially current phenomenon, the 'Conversations' panel discussion series is organized with the idea of exploring, developing, and promoting traditional architecture, urbanism, and built heritage. The goal is to deepen the understanding of traditional architectural solutions, investigate their applicability to contemporary design challenges, and circulate the results among the members of the academic, professional and general public. Recognizing tradition as fluid, flexible, ever-changing, and inextricable from everyday life – after all, the present is the continuation of the past – the 'Conversations' series strives to establish links between the academics, practising architects, and the wider public that will help preserve and shape our built environment for the generations to come.

The participants of the 'Conversations' series are invited to present their current work. Enabling dialogues between architectural practitioners, historians, and heritage preservation specialists, the event series will facilitate a critical examination of existing narratives about traditional architecture, building and urbanism in Serbia. The event series will also discuss to what extent traditional architecture is accepted by the public and to what extent by the architects and design professionals in Serbia in order to, ultimately, tackle the question what is the current position of tradition in Serbian architectural discourse.

What level of interest and understanding of traditional architecture and the importance of its preservation do the communities in Serbia have? What educational opportunities have been offered so far to support and enhance this knowledge in Serbia, and which of these can be developed further? How can we together address the problem of neglect of traditional values on one hand, and the appearance of pastiche on the other by using the classical language of architecture on facades without a fundamental understanding of traditional principles on which the style of classical architecture is based? What are the most relevant and urgent issues related to traditional building, architecture, and urbanism in Serbia?

Eminent experts - heritage professionals, practising architects, conservator-architects, and architectural historians - will discuss the questions listed above through the format of a series of panel discussions that will be hosted by the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade. Three other partner institutions on the project are INTBAU Serbia, the Cultural Heritage Preservation Institute of Belgrade and the Digital Heritage Research Centre, Unitec Institute of Technology, and the School of Architecture (New Zealand). The three panel discussions will take place in front of the audience, who will be encouraged to join the conversations and share their views. The lasting project output is a thematic volume that will be published in Serbian and English.

PROGRAM

Moderators:

Rade Mrlješ, *Cultural Heritage Preservation Institute of Belgrade*

Milica Mađanović, *University of Belgrade*

Ana Kontić, *University of Belgrade*

Thursday, May 9

Participants:

Renata Jadrešin Milić

Unitec Institute of Technology

Sanja Iguman

University of Belgrade

Nebojša Antešević

Institute of Architecture and

Urban & Spatial Planning of Serbia

Thursday, May 16

Participants:

Nađa Kurtović Folić

University of Novi Sad

Marina Pavlović

Academy of Arts - Novi Sad

Cultural Heritage Preservation

Institute of Belgrade

Ana Radivojević

University of Belgrade

Thursday, May 23

Participants:

Jelena Bogdanović

Vanderbilt University

Magdalena Dragović

University of Belgrade

Vladana Putnik Prica

University of Belgrade

Jelica Jovanović

Technische Universität Wien

