

Professional scientific sessions for art, architecture and urban planning Thursday evenings

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 20.01.2017

Title: The role of imagination on the architectural creation.

Speakers and panel members: Mr. M. M. Falamaki, Mrs. A. Youssefnejad and Mrs. S. Ravanshadnia.

The first speaker was Mr. Falamaki. He has begun his speech talking about two Iranian figures that even though were not architects but they opened the spiritual gates to architects that wanted to create. The Figures are A. Neishabouri and A. Nassafi, both of them believed that to reach the perfection it was necessary to complete the knowledge of the five principle senses. Mr. Falamaki added that these two theorists lived in two different eras, far 200 years from each other.

Mr. Falamaki told the story of a young man that aimed to reach the perfection. He went to meet A. Neishabouri, who shown him the way, that was the world of the sensations. When the young man came back he said that he followed the indication of the master, but still he wasn't satisfied. At this stage the master sent the pupil to the world of imagination, because this was the final stage to reach the spiritual perfection. The pupil continues his way following the instructions of the scholar, passing from the world of logic, to the world of heart. The route that the pupil follows brinks him from a stage to another, showing him that nothing in this world is certain and final, even the reality that continuously changes depending on the approach an position that we have in the life.

Mr. Falamaki talked about the Iranians that in their everyday life tried to reserve a particular attention to the verity in their material and spiritual life. Everybody has a personal and sometimes different interpretation on the matter, but what is clear is that it's a continuous research that characterizes our life, in all of its aspects. Also there is no guaranty that all of us can reach a final conclusion and answer to the question that we have posed to give a sense to the life that comes and goes.

The second speaker was Mrs. Youssefnejad. She has begun her speech talking about the substance and the transformation that characterize it. In the world that surrounds us every moment we assist to this transformation that is a challenge to reach the balance. Our life is characterized by a continuous activity of knowledge through which we try know and understand the phenomenon that we assist to. In this process the effects and influence of the experiences that we live have different impacts and results on our sensations and felling, that are individual depending on many factors.

Mrs. Youssefinejad continued her speech talking about the borderless time, in which all the phenomenon continue the process of completion and transformation. In this eternal entity man

has different receptions from the concepts that attract his attention and his mind. To better understand our way of understanding and approach of the material and spiritual worlds it would be enough to have a look to our literature, that reflects perfectly the Iranians' spirit of study and discovery.

Concluding her speech Mrs. Youssefinejad talked about the role and perception of the forms in general. Men in base of their mental perceptions realize a relationship with the substance and forms, using simultaneously the senses that help them to have a personal interpretation and perception of what surround and materialize their life. The last example was the case of the wheat, that in a small grain contains all the necessary to grow and complete the process of creation. In this apparently simple process we can identify and explain the essence of verity.

The last speaker was Mrs. Ravanshadnia presented a project that was realized in base of a spiritual and imaginary approach. The design of Azerbaijan square (that also won a third place prize in an international competition).

Mrs. Ravanshadnia explained that during the phase of design the group of designers experienced a combination of various sensations and interpretations, that brought them to reach the realization of the project, causing at the same time satisfaction but also discontent, because verity is not a stable reality and it can change in base of different situations and contexts.

She explained what the municipality of Tabriz pretended for Aerbaijan square. The aim was to have the biggest square not only in Iran, but in middle east, having a diameter of 450 meters. The designers had to solve the traffic problems, considering that it was in route of the airport, so there was the limitation of height (12 meters). After the presentation of different concepts the designers arrived to the conclusion that they had to present an outstanding architectural element, like what happened in Azadi square in Tehran. Mrs. Ravanshadnia explained that in Azerbaijan square the visitors can have and experience different sensations depending on the position they observe the square. This space is similar to what we could experience through our imagination.

Mrs. Ravanshadnia explained that the design group tried to keep the extent of the square, in a way that the observer from any point can feel the unity and continuity of the square. She said that the realization of the project permitted to obtain an urban space for the citizens, a characteristic of the Iranian architecture. In this project the designers tried to satisfy the material needs of the citizens and also their spiritual needs through the creation of museums and art galleries. This is a concrete example of the combination of material and spiritual interpretations in architecture.