Y. Çağatay SEÇKİN• Editor

This is the last issue of the A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture for 2016. With this issue, we mark twelve years of continuous publication. Our starting year was the year of many firsts.

• Zaha Hadid became the first woman to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize.

• Mark Zuckerberg launched Facebook from his Harvard dormitory room.

• The ASLA Medal bestowed upon Peter E. Walker, whose lifetime achievements and contributions to the landscape architecture profession have had a unique and lasting impact on the welfare of the public and the environment.

• Michael Schumacher won his seventh and final world championship with Ferrari by breaking the record of most races won in a single season – 13.

• The 9th Aga Khan Foundation Awards for Architecture, went to the B2 House designed by Han Tümertekin.

• Fahrenheit 9/11, directed by Michael Moore won the Palme d'Or at 57th Cannes Film Festival as first documentary in the history of the Festival.

• 30 St Mary Axe, designed by Norman Foster, was completed in the City of London.

• Former South African President Nelson Mandela called for commitment by the world to take action against AIDS.

• Forum Building, by Herzog & de Meuron, inaugurated in Barcelona during the opening ceremony of the 2004 Universal Forum of Cultures.

• Maria Sharapova, aged just 17 years, became the third-youngest Wimbledon women's champion ever by defeating two-time winner Serena Williams.

• Apple won 2 Gold (for the iPod Mini and the G5), a Silver (for the iSight) and a Bronze (for the Apple Wireless Keyboard) at the Industrial Design Excellence IDEA 2004 Awards.

• Another 17 years old, Lionel Messi made his league debut for Barcelona against Espanyol.

• Seattle Central Library, designed by Rem Koolhaas, was opened to the public.

• The Scream by Edvard Munch, was stolen at gunpoint from the Munch Museum in Oslo, Norway.

• The 9th National Architecture Grand Award (Sinan Prize) was given to Behruz Çinici.

And the first issue of A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture was published in June 2004.

Shortly after beginning its broadcasting life, in December 2004, A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture has started to be indexed by ICONDA International Construction Database. In the following years, the journal was indexed and abstracted by DAAI (Design and Applied Art Index), AVERY Index to Architectural Periodicals, DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals), GENAMICS JournalSeek and SCOPUS.

As well as increasing the recognition of the Journal, our first 10 years have seen many notable articles written by the doyens of the design and planning society. In those years, we were also delighted to have seen many younger scholars publishing for the first time.

Starting with the first issue of 2015, according to expanded visibility and outreach of the Journal, the number of good-quality submissions has increased dramatically and was left no choice but to move from biannual (spring & fall) to tri-annual publication (spring, summer & fall).

Beginning from the same issue, the logo, the cover and the page layout have been completely redesigned. This was done both to give the journal a brighter appearance and give the reader an opportunity to quickly identify and read the article that might be of immediate interest.

Finally, in 2016, the webpage of the Journal (www.az.itu.edu.tr) was renewed. Now, it is more appealing, easier to navigate, and more fun to use than even before, with its new fresh-look. At the same time, online manuscript management system (www.journalagent.com/itujfa/) was started to use for accelerating the submission, peer-review and correspondence processes. Additionally, accepted manuscripts in the journal started to publish with a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number to increase the accessibility and ease the calculation of the citations.

As it could be seen from the stepping stones at above, in 12 years, we have grown steadily and had a more significant position in the community of scholarly literature. In 12 years, the promise of the first words of the first editorial have been fulfilled, and more. Twelve years later, we stand on the shoulders of our founders as we celebrate our successes and see how remarkably far we have come. In brief, it has been a wonderful 12 years for the journal, but we have still more work to do, and it is time to introduce the present issue.

In this issue of A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture, we present the following:

Sema Alaçam and Gülen Çağdaş, in their paper argue that the aesthetic dimension of bodily experience is one of the key concepts in the effort towards a deeper understanding of today's crisis in architecture design and is needed to gain insights into the future of digital design environments.

Gülname Turan, in her article reviews the activities of the earliest industrial design society of Turkey established by a group of architects and designers in 1978 under the aegis of a private Turkish firm that is still pioneering in similar design activities today.

Ümit Arpacıoğlu, in his essay emphasizes the need to explore the properties of climate, material and building technology used in the traditional rural architecture and aim to resolve the characteristics of traditional Anatolian architecture, in order to adapt into modern architectural design and construction.

İlker Fatih Özorhon, in his paper discusses design in architecture education by generating notions and concepts and examines this issue through the design studio titled "Expo Pavillion Design".

Nazlı Taraz and Ebru Yılmaz, in their article determine the historical Tahmis Coffeehouse in Gaziantep as case-study, and combine both micro-historical and cultural studies to construct a connection between past and present by intertwining oral narratives of Coffeehouse regulars to written evidence.

Asutan Sarp Yalçın and Ayşe Balanlı, in their essay determine the sustainability of the healthy building and its criteria by the help of the definition of sustainability and associated criteria; and introduce the changes which prevent the building from sustaining its healthy status.

Abdeldjebar Layachi, in his paper brings us to an ancestral city of the Sahara Desert, which represents an inestimable source of reference with its ingenious durable architecture and specific landscape.

Emel Cantürk and Nurbin Paker Kahvecioğlu, in their article propose a 'micro-narrative of dwelling history' in which the spatial and social change of dwelling at the scale of neighborhood and city, via individual "apartments" and the personal stories of their inhabitants.

Pinar Irlayici Çakmak, in her essay aims to identify the primary causes of disputes which both pose serious risks for the project participants and prevent the completion of construction projects within the desired cost, time and quality.

Odeta Manahasa and Ahsen Özsoy, in their paper accept Post Occupancy Evaluation is an assessment method that involves the users to give clues to the building's performance; and collect users', designers' and implementers' thoughts about the Istanbul Technical University Lecture Hall Building to measure student satisfaction and behaviour within the designers' own predictions, by the help of POE.

Cermetrius L. Bohannon and Nikolus Henry, in their article examine food deserts in Roanoke, Virginia in the United States and explore ways to address food insecurity by utilizing vacant lots.

In their study, the authors envision a framework as an early component to a community engaged process that recognizes vacancy patterns and honors community agency and identity in the development of site-specific design strategies. In our essay with Başak Özer, we offer a methodology concerning the use of qualitative data analysis software (ATLAS.ti) to read landscape narratives in movies. To test our methodology, we selected a great movie that Gil and Inez are in love: Midnight in Paris.

Sevil Yazıcı, in her paper introduces a parametric landscape urbanism method, which includes defining the site constraints, generation of the computational geometry and the optimization process, which uses evolutionary algorithms.

The last article of this issue, written by Betül Orbey and Sinan Mert Şener, tries to exhibit the interactions between design variants in hand, the design tool and the design problem, at the scale of design phases in order to give a general sense of the impact that the tool and the task makes on the process.

Finally, I would like to thank all our readers for the support they provide to the Journal. We really look forward your comments, contributions, suggestions and criticisms. Please do not hesitate to share with us your feelings and especially, let us know if you have ideas or topics that we could be focusing on.

Enjoy your reading and meet with us again in next issue on March 2017.

Happy new year!

We would like to thank the following colleagues for reviewing manuscripts for which a positive or negative decision was reached during 2015 and 2016.

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