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The Parasite

A pseudo-organic structure, the parasite, defines the new city landscape. It crawls over the footbridge, penetrates the interior of the museum and ends there with a suspended, angular egg. The jury appreciated the careful choice of materials and the detailed character of the presentation.

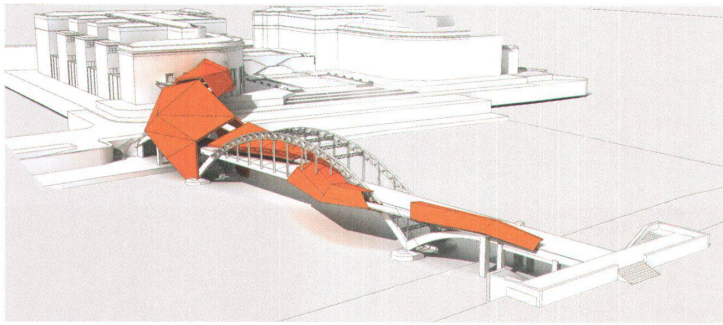
• This project proposes an almost violent intervention in the city landscape. A colorful pseudo-organic structure, the parasite, crawls over the Passerelle Debilly and penetrates the façade of the Palais de Tokyo, only to gut out its inside and replace it by an angular egg hanging in a three-dimensional steel spiderweb. The title of this proposal, "Parasiting Short Cut", indicates the authors' intention of destroying the monumentality of the Palais de Tokyo. They succeed in this, replacing it by another new and dominant gesture.

The ambiguity of two architectural languages is further explored through the careful selection of materials. Transparent polycarbonate, thermohardened plastics with rubber surfaces, crystalline yet malleable materials, steel and concrete combine to form a breathtaking composition. Inside the Palais, an egg-shaped auditorium marks the end of the parasite's path. Drawn in great detail and presented with striking visualization techniques, it becomes a metaphor for a zeppelin. The adjacent areas accommodate the exhibition and define different zones where visitors can learn about different sensorial disabilities. This workshop concept is, however, not new, although the construction is detailed and suggests the use of the most recent technologies and materials. The jury was impressed by the careful drawings, the unusual density of information and the complexity of the presentation. •

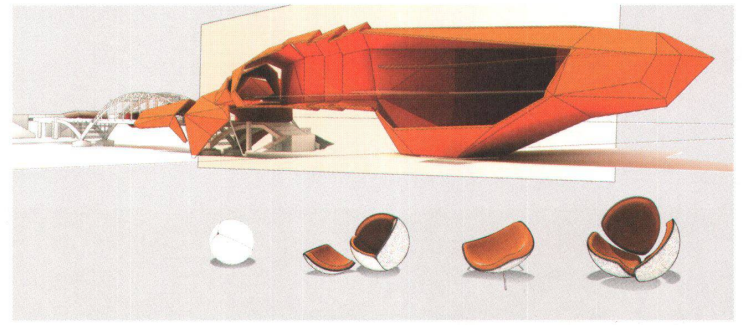
--> Students: Gheorghe Bratu, Florin Cobuz

--> Professor: Dan Serban

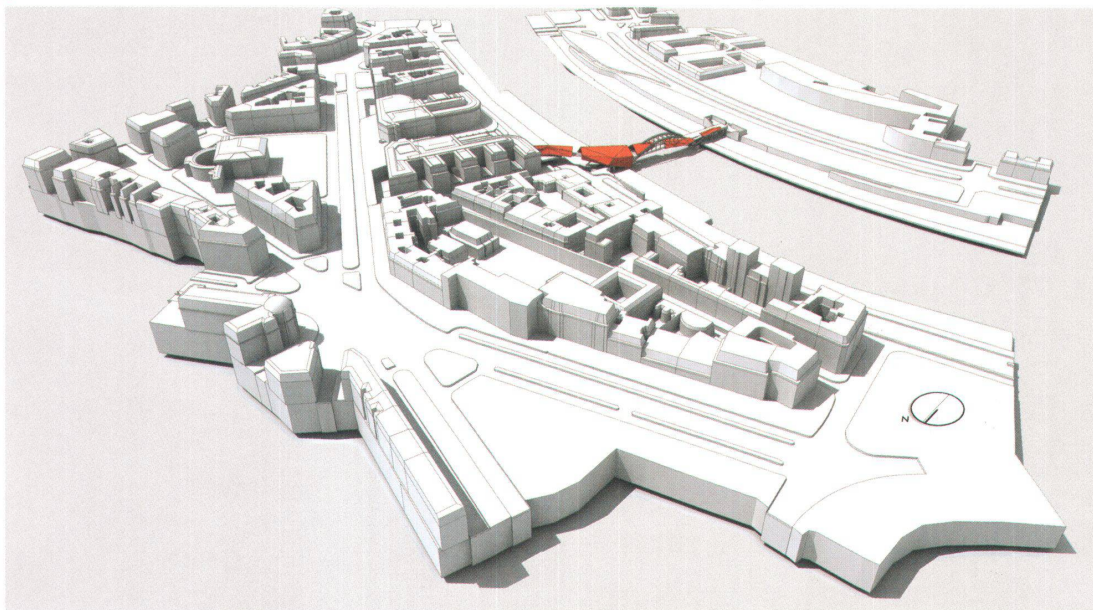
--> School: Ion Mincu University of Architecture, Bucharest, RO



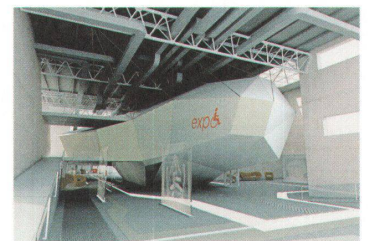
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1 A pseudo-organic structure, the parasite, crawls over the Passerelle and penetrates the interior of the Palais de Tokyo.

2 Inside the Palais, the parasite changes into an angular egg suspended in a spiderweb of steel cables.

3 The parasite is a protest against the rigid axuality, replacing it by a different dominating signal.

4 The angular egg changes into a zeppelin hovering in the gutted hall before flying off.