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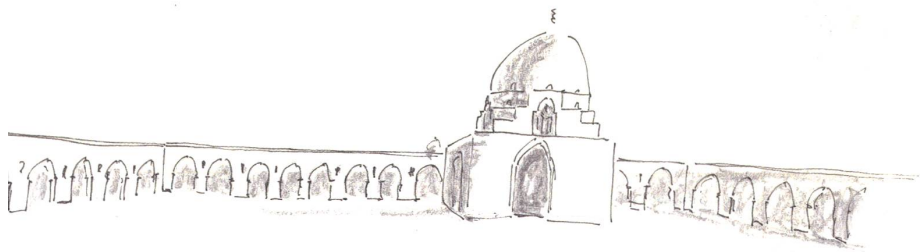
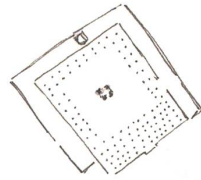
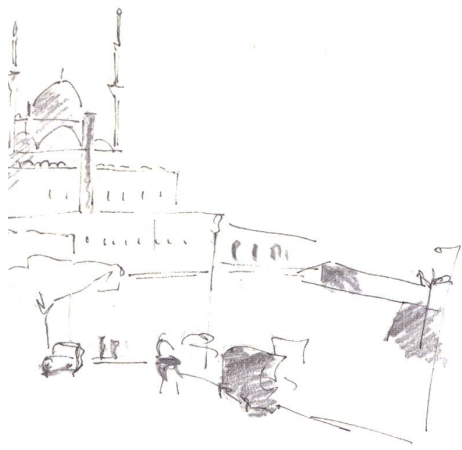
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Homme de Dessins
Francesco Tonnarelli

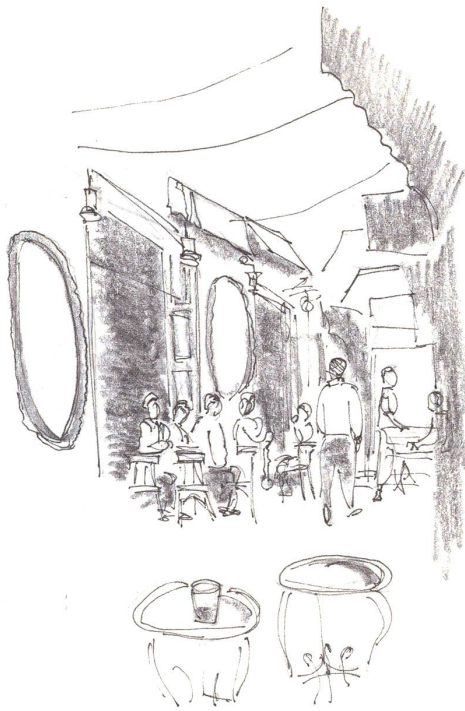
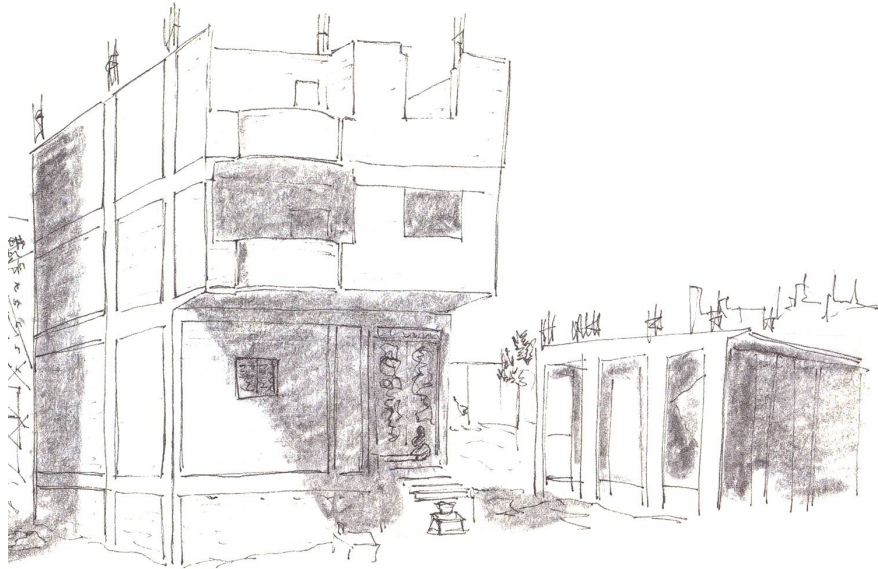


حاديدين



بن طلوع





Architects have always been inclined to cross the boundaries of their discipline, whatever they might be. But the growing effort towards conceptualization, in order to gain intellectual and perhaps scientific stance, has caused a loss of focus on what used to be their profession's cornerstone: drawing. Architectural and urban research has become increasingly affected by theoretical discourse; architects are becoming prisoners of words. Their practice has shifted to research and production, away from what once was creation and discovery (the order of which is not accidental). Drawing is the essential form of expression for architecture, and takes place in two different, yet reciprocal spheres: On the one hand there is conception, the subtle junction between the idea, the design, and the product itself. On the other hand, and more importantly, is exploration. In this category travel sketches stand out as real-time transcriptions of instinctive insights, capturing subjective qualities, renouncing rational control. More time is spent on talking about cities than looking at them. Sketching is not an abstract documentation but a moment of interpretation and invention. It is, indeed, the first form of urban research. It is difficult not to mention the «Croquis de Voyage», the epic amounts of visual documentations that a young architect made during a journey of discoveries through Italy, Germany and Turkey, before permanently moving to Paris and adopting the pseudonym Le Corbusier, «Homme de Lettres». To him, transferring something by hand was an act of profound involvement. And indeed, travel sketches entail a desire for materiality, for direct experience, expressing a form of hedonism, perhaps, bordering on enrapture, or even lust.

These sketches were produced on the occasion of a field trip to Egypt with the intent to reconsider the role of the architect as a «pure drawer».

Francesco Tonnarelli, born 1988, is an Italian architect and currently enrolled in the MAS Urban Design at ETH Zurich.