



Architecture and Representation

When considered in a historical perspective, it is essential to architecture that it is capable of expressing the value that society assigns to the individual and the social. The PhD scholarship is required to unfold this theme as a reflected proposal.

In architectural culture, the relationship between artistic practice and theory formation is essential for the development of new architecture. This form of innovative and reflecting practice in the architectural field is characterised as development work that has its own history - a history that runs like an undercurrent through the history of architecture, and which is prominent when an architectural style establishes itself.

This sort of development work in architecture may be considered artistic work with parallels to basic research. The objective is to form independent role models that are not necessarily contingent on the market, on a functional or rational approach, but aim solely at the development of an architectural expression of relations that can be described as architectural issues – whether these are new, the result of altered societal conditions, or whether they are foundational issues that need to be considered in a new context.

Artistic development work is an integrated part of the creating architects' work. Examples form part of the architectural programme's knowledge basis, and work forms are tested through assignments. The work takes up a central position in the architectural degree programme's legal foundation, where artistic development work is ranked alongside architectural research in the phrasing of the institution's tasks. However, in spite of this, no generally accepted concept exists of what can be termed artistic development work, how this work should be limited to other forms of architectural practice, and what influence the work has on the development of architecture.

It is therefore of great significance to direct focus on the organic connection between research, artistic development work and architectural proposal practice, which are characteristic of many creating architects' practice, and to unfold such a connection in the course of a PhD programme.

The intention is that, by having the architectural project as its object, the PhD scholarship as a reflected proposal with equal weight on analysis and synthesis, on text and drawing, should develop architectural material. Material that is based on the conventions of the

architectural degree programme, but which takes the studies further to a higher level as regards the reflection on the meaning content of architecture, the connection with cultural and societal context and to a more precise and balanced architectural proposal.

Institute 1 is in the process of establishing a research environment that will examine how architecture can articulate values in the public sphere – in the zones and interfaces between private and public space, where architecture articulates value notions about the relationship between the individual and the social. This research environment will constitute the framework for the PhD position in architecture and representation, and the PhD project will be expected to be anchored concretely and programmatically within this field.