



CRITICAL CONCRETE

MISSION

Critical Concrete aims to promote a new model of urban rehabilitation and recover abandoned buildings for social housing and cultural initiatives, through innovative and sustainable architecture summer programmes



in collaboration with

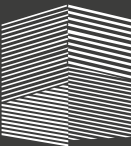


MitOst urbanlab **EVN**
Robert Bosch Stiftung
CENTER FOR ART AND URBANISTICS
ZENTRUM FÜR KUNST UND URBANISTIK

ParaArtformations
constructLab
POLIGONO
ZK/U REFUNC

mail@criticalconcrete.com
T: +351 910620643

www.criticalconcrete.com





Critical Concrete was founded with the ambition of promoting a new model: the refurbishment of abandoned places for social housing and cultural initiatives through summer camp programmes centered around sustainable architecture and art in context.

We want to conceptually reconnect the artist to the amateur and foster the sharing of skills and knowledge between experienced practitioners and surrounding communities, material reuse and sustainable, ecological constructions.

In 2016, in tight collaboration with the Junta de Freguesia do Bonfim (district municipality), we will hold a summer school in Porto, through its new program Habitar. This programme helps owners to rehabilitate degraded houses in exchange of placing these in the social housing circuit.

In the Summer Course, we offer a completely unconventional and cutting edge program. We will work on innovative solutions for social housing, while simultaneously developing new working methods. Both students and young professionals will explore models of cooperative planning in interdisciplinary groups, design and build their projects, and engage with the surrounding communities.





Practice & Theory of Sustainable and Social Architecture

Practical Workshops

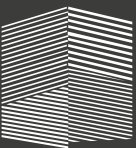
Monitored by senior architects and designers, the students will build during the day, experimenting with the reality of a construction site that aims to be their conceptual playground. They will have the chance to discuss and argue the development of the building, through a participatory design process, and thus leave a tangible trace in their first construction experience.

The groups of 5-10 students work with one practical mentor on a project. Every week, groups switch mentors, so that each student has the chance to work with all of them.

Theoretical Workshops

Almost every late afternoon will be dedicated to discussions, lectures and presentations, screenings, complementing the practical activities. Some of these moments will be open to the public, and will have thus a chance to engage with the surrounding communities. This theoretical workshops will take then the form of public events, such as a cutting-edge summer movie programme, public lectures and discussions, so that the neighbourhood and visiting students can benefit from each other's presence.

The students will enrich their experience, learn with experts in their fields and, similarly to a crowd funding campaign, finance the initial phase of an ambitious production space in Porto.





Colectivo Warehouse + Ateliermob© FG+SG

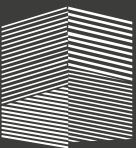


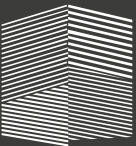
Patrick Hubmann + Alexander Römer (ConstructLab)



Bellastock

- ① *Participate in the refurbishment of three houses that will become part of a social housing programme*
- ① *Collectively design and build. Participatory processes in social architecture*
- ① *Contribute to the neighbourhood's cultural life, by opening our doors for some theoretical courses, evening and screenings*
- ① *Construct the basis for a new production space in Porto, playing with popular formats (summer screening, markets, balls, etc.) filled with critical content*
- ① *Development of high quality furnitures and architecture with a restricted budget and time.*
- ① *Offer the students a new language of skills and techniques, both in community engagement and building strategies.*
- ① *Offer the students a supportive network for their future project and their promotion, opening new professional perspectives*
- ① *Offer a good mix of practical work, monitored by international and local mentors, and theoretical work, all this working in the frame of a social work engagement.*





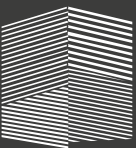


Students of the summer school

Local and international impact

- ① *Architecture and design professionals, graduates, students and PhD-students, engineers, makers, DIYers, builders, artists in their respective fields.*
- ① *People who want to engage with the practice and learn how to build and meet people with inspiring background and know-how.*
- ① *People who want to get a first experience in building with a theoretical input, so to start their own projects, with the support of our network.*
- ① *In general, all people interested in sustainable construction and social engagement.*

- ① *People in the need for social housing*
- ① *Neighbourhood cultural network, associated to the project*
- ① *Local inhabitants who will participate in the open sessions and benefit from the screening programme, popular events developed in collaboration with the existing cultural network*
- ① *Networks of the participating students and teachers, who will report their experiences in their respective working environments*





TEACHING TEAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2016



Alexander Römer, constructLab



Bellastock, experimental
architecture collective



Pedro Cavaco Leitão, architect



Cultour, architectural tours



Matthias Einhoff, KUNSTrePUBLIK,
artist



João Pedro Rosa, 4iS, platform for
social innovation



Polígono, architecture collective



Saskia Hebert, Subsolar', architect



Patrick Hubmann, designer



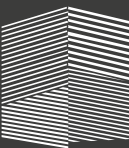
Jan Körbes, REFUNC, architect



Miodrag Kuč, urbanist



Colectivo Warehouse, architecture
collective





- ***Set up the next Summer School in Armenia***
- ***Set up a strong network of partners and funders to secure the future international summer school programmes***

We're currently setting up partnerships for the next summer school in Armenia, with Impact Hub Yerevan-Urban Lab, Ecolab Program, A S B A Foundation, AUA Acopian Center for the Environment.

We hope to receive Armenian students and a mentor from the ISIFA (French Engineering Institute Superior of Armenia), NUACA (National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia), AUA (American University of Armenia) in our first edition in Porto, in order to prepare the ground for the next edition in Armenia.

- ***Continue our Summer Programme in Bonfim***
- ***Refurbish and open a production space in Porto, creative hub for the neighbourhoods of Campanha-Bonfim.***

This coworking and production space (for metal/wood work, silkscreen printing, etc.) aims to be a hub for associations of the areas and host of popular events, twisted with critical content.

The building, privately bought, will be a sustainable place for critical thinking and popular events (screenings, dance courses, small markets, etc.). Opening in October 2017, you will be able to find us Rua do Freixo, 1806-1810, 4300-215 Porto.

urbanlab  EVN
506511

