



GENDERED PERSPECTIVES IN DESIGN / Turkish and Global Context

An International Conference

DATE

May 9-10, 2013

VENUE

Yaşar University, İzmir

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Hilde Heynen, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

BACKGROUND

The Turkish Design History Society (4T= Türkiye Tasarım Tarihi Topluluğu) has scrutinized various themes concerning Turkish design since its first conference in 2006. In recent congresses, researchers were encouraged to make presentations in English although themes were still to focus mostly on Turkish issues. This year, taking a step further, the Turkish Design History Society (4T) is exploring national issues (both in Turkish and English) within a global context. The purpose is to investigate issues relating to local and regional design history in a broad perspective, to evaluate these issues in terms of and in relation to contemporary theoretical frameworks with the collaboration of international researchers, who wish to participate in discussions concerning the conference theme in general as well as the specific situation in Turkey.

THEME

Despite being a constituent element of any social practice, gender often remains an excluded issue from design discourses and practices, yet it plays a significant, and at times transformative role at almost all levels of design, ranging from the identity of the designer and the designed object to the systems of representation and users' perceptions.

Seeing gender as a constituent element of design disciplines raises questions regarding the construction of the very boundaries of those disciplines. Contemporary gender debates, which can no longer be reduced to the woman/man binary, problematize the articulation of the concepts of femininity and masculinity with specific subjects, objects and power relations. Questions regarding the place of design in this web of complicated relationships involve such issues as the modes of articulation of different design areas with various aspects of gender constructs, and critiques of founding assumptions of design disciplines.

The aim of the eighth meeting of Turkish Design History Society is to discuss design theories and practices from gendered perspectives and to share comparative work involving different cultures, not necessarily limited to Turkey. Contributors are invited to address the following issues.

Subjects of design

The designer as a gendered identity

Designers' negotiations with gender codes of given societies

Users' positions in the design field as gendered subjects

Objects of design

Modes of gender coding in design objects

The role of gender codes in the use of design objects

The changing meanings of design objects in different contexts of gender relationships

Praxis of design

Gender relations in design practices and business

Gender issues in design Education

Issues of representation

Analyses of design discourses from gendered perspectives

Gender issues in visual representations (film, advertisements etc.)

The role of gender in contemporary forms of representation (digitally based representations)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Those who are interested in contributing papers to the eighth 4T Congress are invited to submit a title and an abstract of 250-300 words (in English or Turkish) through **EasyChair** [an on-line conference organizing system <http://www.easychair.org/>] by January **14th 2013**. Registration to **EasyChair** is essential in order to submit abstracts for the 5T*. For any questions please contact Instr. Bahar Emgin (bahar.emgin@yasar.edu.tr). The selected proposals will be announced on February 14th, 2013.

CONFERENCE FEES

The conference fee of 200 TL covers lunch, tea and coffee services throughout the event, the conference dinner (May 9), the closing reception (May 10).

* 5T Refers to the Congress of Turkish Design History Society (=Türkiye Tasarım Tarihi Toplantıları)

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