EXTRATERRITORIAL SITE SPECIFIC RESEARCH
INTERVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCE

29 JUNE - 5 JULY 2017 at Agios Georgios island, Salamina

The concept of extraterritoriality designates certain relationships between space, law and representation. Extraterritoriality regulates the function and circulation of people and things in space and across borders, sometimes by exclusion, sometimes by exemption. Under conditions of extraterritoriality, people and things acquire a special status according to spatial, political, economic and juridical implications. Extraterritoriality brings us face to face with the the refugee crisis, national state system and its complicity with capital e.g. tax-heavens and trade markets. It also highlights the complex spatiality of environmental crises, the mechanisms of cyber surveillance, the changing shape of contemporary war, maritime boundary disputes over resources, all that reside in states and corporations expanding their control over vast portions of territories, urban and rural spaces, waters, persons, communities. Rather than being a static conceptual form extraterritoriality can be experienced and studied site specific. Extraterritorial research is always a practice with its own logic of representation, of knowledge production and documentation. It presupposes the confrontation with legal databases on specific territories, it is shaped through accessibility and restriction. Within the framework of a 5-days-program we seek to work on an extraterritorial place, the island Ag. Georgios in Greece. Located in the Gulf of Elefsina between Salamina and Perama, Ag. Georgios is a small island which currently belongs to the Greek Navy and operates under military camp security rules. Ag. Georgios island has been firstly used in 1865 as a quarantine place for people with virulent diseases and it has been a spot for treating cholera in the epidemic of 1892, 1900, 1911 and 1913. The island hosted more than 100,000 refugees and soldiers that arrived 1923-1924 after the defeat of the Greek Front in Asia Minor. Part of the hospital facilities on the island remain abandoned, others are being used by the naval station. The goal of the Extraterritorial site specific research is to bring together art and architecture students, as well as art practitioners and scholars which are interested in the notion of extraterritoriality and its implications, focusing on suburban geographies and landscapes, people and physical spaces under specific legal status.

A special emphasis would be made on extraterritoriality in relation to cases of image exclusion and attempts to restrict representation while citing territorial laws. Extraterritoriality may help understand current endeavours of those in power to control visibility by deploying mechanisms of censorship, privatization or nationalization of images. In the course of the program at Ag. Georgios island in which image production is legally forbidden, we will discuss and experiment with the ways in which images can also make exempt the arbitrary constraints of territorial regimes and explore the ways the extraterritorial image may enable us to rethink the current limits of both space and law from an ethical point of view.

Exterritory Project in collaboration between the affiliated universities:
- Technical University of Munich, Department of Architecture
- National Technical University of Athens, Department of Architecture
- University of Halle, School of the Arts, Department of Fine Arts
- Zurich University of the Arts, Department Art and Media
- Architecture Department of Patras // University of Thessaly, Department of Architecture
- HaMidrasha - Faculty of Arts, Bet Berel College

Organization:
The Extraterritorial site specific research program is a collaboration between Maayan Amir & Ruti Sela (Exterritory Project), Sofia Dona (artist/architect, Technical University of Munich), Sofia Bempeza (artist, Zurich University of the Arts), and Giorgos Arachovitis (Architect, Head of Domortinthos Architects).

Program
29.6. arrival
18h first meeting and presentation of the week program

30.6. 1st visit-Ag. Georgios island
input on the island’s background and site specific work on possible documentations

01.07. Piraeus
Conference on extraterritoriality, inputs/lectures by invited scholars and artists

02.07. Piraeus
workshop in groups
presentations of students works/interests/concepts

03.07. 2nd visit-Ag. Georgios island
on site actions, performances, installations

04.07. visit Athens

05.07. departure