

THE "CUBICLES"

A WAY TO LOOK AT ARCHITECTURAL SPACE IS NOT CONSIDERING IT SIMPLY AS A "VOID", MATERIAL FOR A SPECIAL KIND OF SCULPTURE, BUT CONSIDER IT AS A "CONTAINER" WITHIN WHICH SIGNIFICANT EQUIPMENT IS STORED AND USED.

MY PROPOSAL, IN THE 80-IES, OF WHAT I CALLED THE "MEUBLE + " CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY TO ASSOCIATE TO ALL KIND OF EQUIPMENT (FURNITURE, MEUBLE) A BOX CONTAINING IT AND THE PARTICULAR SPACE NECESSARY FOR ITS USE.

THUS A TABLE WITH PLACE TO SIT AROUND, A "DINER BOX", A BED WITH SPACE TO ENTER INTO, A CABINE WITH SHOWER AND SINK, A PLANE WITH COOKERS AND SINK, A "KITCHEN CABINE", ETC COULD BE PUSHED AROUND AS ORDINARY FURNITURE.

THESE "MEUBLES + " WOULD BE CONTAINED WITHIN A GENERAL "SCULPTURED" SPACE VOLUME, THEY COULD BE DISPOSED BY THE INHABITANT, WHO COULD CHANGE THE PATTERN ("FLOOR PLAN") WHICH DEFINED THE PLACE OF THESE "CABINES".

THE EFFECTIVE FLOOR AREA OF SUCH A "CABINE" WOULD BE NOT MORE THAN 4 m^2 EACH ($2 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m}$). FOR A GROUP OF INHABITANTS (I.E. A FAMILY OF 4) THE GLOBAL AREA OF $4 + 4 + 2$ CABINES WOULD BE ABOUT 40 m^2 . A "CONTAINING SPACE" OF ABOUT 80 m^2 WOULD EASILY PERMIT A LARGE "MULTI-USE" AREA OF 40 m^2 OF VARIABLE SHAPE - IT COULD ONE DAY FORM A LARGE "ROOM" (OR HALL), ON OTHER OCCASIONS SERVE AS ACCESS CORRIDORS TO THE CABINES AND INDIVIDUAL "NICHES" FOR EACH INHABITANT.

TRANSFORMATION OF ONE SUCH PATTERN INTO ANOTHER COULD BE EFFECTUATED WITH ABOUT 1 HOUR OF WORK FOR CHANGING THE PLACE OF DIFFERENT CABINES.

"MOBILE" ARCHITECTURE, ACCORDING THIS PROPOSITION, COULD BECOME EVERYDAY PRACTICE. IT WOULD ACHIEVE INHABITANT-HANDLING OF BOTH FOR THE "VOID-SCULPTURE" AND FOR THE FUNCTIONAL DISPOSITION OF EQUIPMENT.

TECHNICALLY, A "SPACE-CHAIN" CUBICLE (6 RINGS, ABOUT 15 kg THE WHOLE) COULD SERVE AS UNIT BOX FOR THE "MEUBLE + " CONCEPTION OF ARCHITECTURE.