



## Call for Papers: Shuffling the canon

Submissions: April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 – June 15<sup>th</sup> 2022

We believe that decolonising the architecture of the Americas is an urgent task. It is our responsibility to train architects who understand the profession more diversely. For this issue of *Dearq*, we are looking for articles proposing novel concepts to analyse architecture and the city from the theoretical framework of decolonial studies.

Currently, there is a disciplinary consensus that the traditional North Atlantic canon is insufficient (albeit fundamental), therefore we should try to fill its conceptual gaps. This expansion has clear limitations because the architect's job is to select which pieces should be part of the discourse and which should not. Jorge Luis Borges synthesised this in *Funes el memorioso*, which describes a man whose memory clings to every little thought.

As with curricular conversations, the discussion becomes intense when one proposes to set parts of canonical knowledge aside, making room for new ideas. As Ariella Aïsha Azoulay eloquently argued in *Potential History*, there are many things we need to unlearn.

Architectural knowledge has yet to be reorganised. We have not yet selected the categories and concepts through which we should read our spatial history. Buildings and sites that we consider valuable have been viewed as such because of their links to European concepts.

Beyond the unidirectional influences of the European and North American “great masters”, shuffling the disciplinary canon implies proposing South to South relations. This includes examining connections such as Niemeyer and Testa, Villanueva and Ramírez-Vásquez, Salmons and Dieste, and Porro and Scrimaglio. To advance our knowledge, we must shuffle and deal the cards again.

This issue of *Dearq* titled *Shuffling the Canon* seeks articles that challenge traditional ways of looking at the architecture of the Americas and help us unlearn what is already saturated in our current debates to learn about other phenomena not yet sufficiently discussed. We are looking for articles that help to promote regional concepts and explain buildings and sites, but we are also open to texts that question the decolonial approach to architecture.

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