



## Report of the Jury

The second call of the Manuel Solá-Morales Award 2019 has received 49 entries based on doctoral theses from 25 universities located in 10 European countries: Spain (26), Portugal (11), Italy (3), Switzerland (3), France (1), Sweden (1), Belgium (1), Norway (1), Germany (1), and Turkey (1).

The composition of the jury of the Second Manuel de Solá-Morales European Prize was as follows: prof. Marcel Smets (chairman of the jury), prof. Matthew Carmona and arch. Montserrat Nogués (vocal), and prof. José González-Cebrián (secretary of the jury). The jury was assisted by prof. Alvaro Clua from Laboratori d'Urbanisme de Barcelona (ETSA Barcelona).

In the first stage, the jury thoroughly analysed the abstracts of the 49 theses submitted to the on-line platform until 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018. A joint-session of the jury was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 and the jury agreed to highlight the high interest raised by the initiative, based on the high number on entries; to highlight the quality of the submitted theses and to emphasise the varied range of research topics, many of which are references for current urban design practice. Each of the thesis was discussed following each jury member's individual assessment and concluded with the selection of 7 shortlisted theses (alphabetical order):

- *The social condenser II. An archaeology of housing in the Parisian banlieue based on the housing projects of Ricardo Bofill and Taller de Arquitectura.* **Anne Kockelkorn**
- *Cartagena y su campo. Historia y proyecto. (Cartagena and its hinterland. History and Project).* **Celia Martínez Hidalgo**
- *Understanding accessibility in cultural landscapes sites. The case of Parques de Sintra, Monte da Lua.* **Carolina Mónica Gonçalves Martins**
- *La alargada huella de la plaza de la pelota. (The persistent footprint of Ball Squares).* **Juan Antonio Chávarri Sarasua**
- *Public space design for flooding: facing the challenges presented by climate change adaptation.* **María Cabral Matos Silva**
- *Hacia la metamorfosis sintética de la costa. Diseñando paisajes resilientes. (Towards a synthetic metamorphosis of the coastline. Designing resilient landscapes).* **Miriam García García**
- *Interfaces urbanas en los nuevos centros lineales. El caso de la Avenida Paulista. (Urban Interfaces in new linear centers. Paulista Avenue case study).* **Renata Priore Lima**



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The shortlisted theses were analysed in full detail by the jury members during the period ranging from October through January, using both the complete digital versions and the hardcopies of the theses as presented for their respective VIVAS. In a joint session held at Laboratori d'Urbanisme de Barcelona on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019, the jury unanimously selected a winner and three theses that were granted a special mention. Based on the remarks of the four members, the following statements reflect their shared positions.

First of all, the Jury would like to acknowledge the outstanding value of the three shortlisted candidates (alphabetical order):

**Celia Martínez Hidalgo**, who wrote her doctoral thesis under the co-supervision of Prof. Dr. José Luis Gómez Ordóñez and Prof. Dr. Rafael Reinoso Bellido, Universidad de Granada. Her thesis, entitled "*Cartagena y su campo. Historia y proyecto*" (*Cartagena and its hinterland. History and project*), successfully presents an outstanding research based on exuberant graphic analysis -mainly elaborated by the author- as a tool to develop a mature description of the physical evolution and the intellectual, political and socio-economic footprints of the city of Cartagena. The thesis successfully analyses the city through five key interventions, a methodology that could be potentially applied to inform the study of other cities in the Mediterranean context.

**María Cabral Matos Silva**, who wrote her doctoral thesis at the Universitat de Barcelona, under the co-supervision of Prof. Dr. João Pedro Costa, (Universidade de Lisboa, Faculdade de Arquitectura) and prof. Dr. Cristina Castel-Branco (Universidade de Lisboa, Instituto Superior de Agronomia). Her thesis, entitled "*Public space design for flooding: facing the challenges presented by climate change adaptation*" presents a detailed analysis on the challenge of flooding, through the detection of up to 40 categories and new tools for a resilient public space design. The thesis reviews a wide number of strategies adopted in different countries in an attempt to build up a wider conceptual framework and apply those impact mitigation strategies in the context of Lisbon.

**Carolina Mónica Gonçalves Martins**, who wrote her doctoral thesis under the co-supervision of Prof. Dr. Teresa Frederica Tojal de Valsassina Heitor, Prof. Dr. António Ressano Garcia Lamas, and Eng. Nuno Miguel Rodrigues Marques Oliveira and was defended at the Instituto Superior Técnico – Universidade de Lisboa. Her thesis, "*Understanding accessibility in cultural landscapes sites. The case of Parques de Sintra, Monte da Lua*". The thesis follows a research model based on the analysis of two case studies: Park of Montserrat and Park of Pena. While acknowledging the interest of the topic due to its importance in today's society, and the correct methodological development, addressing the current difficulties to adapt accessibility and Cultural Heritage, the research becomes too narrative and the graphic material is too abstract.



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The Jury agreed to nominate three special mentions for the Second Manuel de Solà-Morales European Prize. There is no hierarchy among them, who are:

**Anne Kockelkorn**, who wrote her doctorate under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Philip Ursprung, ETH Zurich, Department of Architecture.

Entitled “*The social condenser II. An archaeology of housing in the Parisian banlieue based on the housing projects of Ricardo Bofill and Taller de Arquitectura*”, the thesis gives a thorough and close-up view reading of a not well-known period of time of social housing in France, how they changed the social policy to integrate the liberal attitude trying to create a settlement for the whole society. Through an in-depth study and personal living in Ricardo Bofill’s projects, the thesis gives an innovative perspective to the in-between field between ‘microubanism’ and ‘macroarchitecture’, thus enriching the understanding of the megastructures and bringing together views from the sociology, the economics, the psychology and architecture. The thesis is also a valuable and complete contribution to the literature review on that topic.

**Juan Antonio Chávarri Sarasua**, who wrote his doctorate under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Xabier Unzurrunzaga Goikoetxe, Universidad del País Vasco - Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea.

His thesis, entitled “*La alargada huella de la plaza de la pelota*” (The persistent footprint of ball squares) presents a mature research on the Basque Country’s medieval cities from the perspective of the Juego de la Pelota (*Ball Game*) and its evolution over time. The thesis combines a sound theoretical background with a professional understanding of the city, including clear written arguments and thorough graphic documentation. Sketches, elevations, cross sections, precise photographs, textures in redrawn, recreated and re-elaborated plans are combined in a proper format and layout and effectively presents both a global analysis of the historic settlements and the detailed reading of the transformation of the squares. The thesis also is exemplary in its potential for transversal reading and demonstrates the capacity to read the city with an educated eye: its observation is based on reflection and thought, its thinking on observation.

**Miriam García García**, who wrote her doctorate under the supervision of Prof. Dr. José María Ezquiaga Domínguez, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

Her thesis, “*Hacia la metamorfosis sintética de la costa. Diseñando paisajes resilientes*” (*Towards a synthetic metamorphosis of the coastline. Designing resilient landscapes*), makes use of a planning approach to coastlines to describe and categorize the current state of the art in addressing the upcoming challenges imposed by the climate change. The author, with a broad experience in coastal planning, reconsiders the current practise through case studies selected from the entries to the



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international competitions conducted in USA in the aftermath of the hurricanes Katrina (2005) on Louisiana's coast, and Sandy (2012) on New York and New Jersey. The thesis uses a "research through design" methodology in order to analyse the landscape phenomena, model future scenarios and enhance the theoretical framework written on that topic.

Finally, the Jury is honoured to announce that **The Second Manuel de Solà-Morales European Prize** has been given to **Renata Priore Lima**, who wrote her doctorate under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Estanislau Roca, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya.

Entitled "*PLUGIN. Interfaces urbanas en los nuevos centros lineales. El caso de la Avenida Paulista*" (*Urban Interfaces in new linear centers. Paulista Avenue case study*), the thesis stands out by the choice of topic of collective space and linear centrality, which are timely and relevant in the current urban debate. The thesis describes the urban evolution of São Paulo, which allows to understand the determining factors of the Paulista Avenue's current urban form, as well as the different strategies enforced by the urban bylaws and the design criteria which contribute to a stronger integration between buildings and the city. This linear centrality of the Paulista Avenue is analyzed through its different layers (anthropological, activities, territorial aspects, infrastructural flows, and the architecture of the urban form, buildings and collective spaces). The work successfully addresses the topic in five chapters: *The collective space as urban interface; Contemporary city axes and the linear centrality; Paulista Avenue and its transformation into a linear centre; Rules of new urban form in the Avenue; Paulista Avenue's collective spaces architecture*. The thesis combines clear written arguments with a wide graphic display including numerous plans, interpretative sections, conceptual diagrams, and original drawings, to conclude with the depiction of the ideas of "plugin" -the collective spaces that bring together buildings and public space- and the "urban interphase" -the contact surface mediating between the built form and the urban realm.

Such designerly form of analysis clearly fits in Manuel de Solà-Morales' intellectual legacy.

Barcelona, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018

*Prof. Dr. Marcel Smets*

*Prof. Dr. Matthew Carmona*

*Arch. Montse Nogués*

*Prof. Dr. José González-Cebrián*