

- **12663 | Toward 'borderless architecture': a South American journey**

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This investigation is the result of a fourteenth months journey unrolled in South America, triggered by the Academic Mobility for Inclusive Development of Latin America Erasmus Mundus scholarship, which first took place at UNL-Santa Fe, Argentina.

The present paper focuses on the experimental investigation promoted by the Escuela de los grandes espejos (1), an informal research group headed by the Santa Fe's Architecture Faculty founder César Carli, promoting an alternative approach to Architecture within the School, under the proposition of 'borderless architecture'. It also addresses the question of thinking the Discipline from the social issues of today's housing under the advent of modern capitalism, discussing the scope of the architect's social role.

It was through this experience that I first became aware of the issue of limits within Architecture, as an operating concept. Based on this notion, and from César Carli's own writings and projects, this study intends to verify the importance of the housing typologies on constraining family's lifestyle dynamics.

The current analysis aims to inquire the validity of the explored paths and on how housing could/should better respond to particular issues of contemporary lifestyles, in the context of the current challenging and fast-changing social organization's logic.

This research is currently underway within the master thesis integrated on Master's Degree in Architecture, at FAUP, 2015/2016, under the supervision of Hélder Casal Ribeiro.

(1) Which could be translated as "School of the big mirrors", referring to the Santa Fe's water mirrors.