



In 1911 Le Corbusier undertook his formative *Voyage d'Orient*, which has been considered a reversed Grand Tour. The English translation turned the original title into *Journey to the East*. In the course of the 17th century the tour from the North to the South to experience the original sites of classic antiquity had been established as an eminent educational model. Charles Edouard Jeanneret, who called himself Le Corbusier in the 1920ies, chose a very different Grand Tour. His personal route à la bildungsroman took him from Berlin via Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest to Istanbul, Athens, Pompeii, Naples, Rome, Florence and back home to La-Chaux-de Fonds in Switzerland. The travelling resulted in a number of documents such as sketches, texts, photographs, collections of postcards. Shortly before his death in 1965 he prepared a manuscript of these very first texts for a publication to be published only after he died.

Le Corbusier's Voyage Re-orient-ed 1911:2011

Elke Krasny and David Bergé
Opening: November 23, 2012

kunsthau muerz
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In 2011 curator Elke Krasny and photographer David Bergé chose the five cities Athens, Belgrade, Istanbul, Rome and Vienna, which were part of the original tour, as starting points into urbanistic research processes. The Baedeker travel guide and the descriptions of the French orientalist served as orientations for Le Corbusier's travels. Krasny and Bergé followed the information provided by local experts in the five cities. Each of these cities chosen stands for a specific model of contemporary urbanism: Athens for archaeology and crisis, Belgrade for postsocialism and neoliberalism, Istanbul for a global capital and informality, Rome for the eternal city between mass tourism and gentrification, Vienna for multiethnicity and the need for a new definition of welfare state urban planning.

The basis of the exhibition are conversations with architects, artists, activists, researchers and intellectuals in Athens, Belgrade, Istanbul, Rome and Vienna. The cities' distinct qualities, their architecture and their monuments, and the two terms of the *Orient* and the *East* triggered the dialogical exchanges. The shift from the *Orient* to the *East* which took place when translating *Voyage d'Orient* into *Journey to the East*, led to a critical rereading of this terminology and its inherent geographic and ideological contradictions.

Special thanks to all the participants in the conversations and interviews in Athens, Belgrade, Istanbul, Rome and Vienna:

Athen: Phoebe Giannisi (architect, poet, curator, teaches at the University of Thessaly), Zisis Kotionis (architect, curator, professor at University of Thessaly), Iris Lykourioti (architect), Alexandros Maganiotis (architect and artist), Georgios Mostratos (archeologist), Panayotis Tournikiotis (architect, professor for architectural theory at the University of Athens), Christina Vasileiou (dancer)

Belgrade: Dragan Protic (artist and curator, member of Škart), Zoran Erić (curator at the Centre for Visual Culture at the Museum for Contemporary Art Belgrade), Dušica Parezanović und Nebojša Miličić (Cultural Centre Cinema REX), Milena Dragičević Šešić (author, head of the UNESCO Chair Interculturalism, Art Management and Mediation, professor at the University of Arts in Belgrade), Milena Putnik (artist), Mia David (director of the Belgrade Cultural Centre), Boba Mirjana Stojadinović (artist), Dijana Milošević (founder and artistic director of the DAH Theatre Belgrade), Ana Dubljević (choreographer), Dragan Živković (architectural historian, professor at the Academy of Fine Arts Belgrade), Veronika Isabel Spaljoković Vegas (artist), Lenka Zelenović (activist), Milica Ivčić (artist), Jovana Lutovac (cook), Jovana Rakić (dancer), Milica Ilić (cultural manager)

Istanbul: Aykut Köksal (architectural historian, Mimar Sinan University Faculty of Architecture), Didem Daniş (sociologist, Galatasaray University), Cynthia Madansky (film maker), İrmak Kantar (artist), Ece Pazarbaşı (curator), Michel Quére (cultural manager), Meriç Öner (curator, Associate Director of Research and Programs SALT), Jean-François Perouse (anthropologist, director of the Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, Galatasaray University), İdil Kemer (dancer, yoga instructor), Nafiz Akşehrioğlu (curator and anthropologist), Pelin Derviş (architect, independent curator and editor), Tulay Atak (architectural historian, Rhode Island School of Design)

Rome: Antonello Alici (architectural historian, assistant professor at the Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona), Francesco Garofalo (architect, curator, Professor at the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Pescara), Pippo Ciorra (Senior Curator of Architecture MAXXI, professor for design and theory at the Faculty of Architecture Ascoli Piceno University of Camerino), Luca Lo Pinto (curator, editor Nero magazine), Marida Talamona (architectural historian, curator, professor at the Università degli Studi Roma Tre), Antonella Perin (architect)

Vienna: Daniel Aschwanden (performer and choreographer), Carla Bobadilla (Künstlerin), Hermann Czech (architect), Antonia Dika (architect), Jack Hauser (artist), Sabina Holzer (dance performer), Sushila Mesquita (works in queer-feminist, antiracist and popcultural contexts, office of Gender Studies at the University of Vienna), Sandra Noeth (dramaturg, Tanzquartier Vienna), Luisa Piatt (praedoc research assistant, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna), Hansel Sato (artist), Angelika Schnell (architectural historian and theorist, professor at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna), Anna Soucek (journalist and curator)

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