Tales Only Architecture Can Tell
Bridging reality and fiction

Ludwig Engel

Future Architecture Festival
Museum of Architecture & Design (MAO)
Ljubljana, 28.09.2017
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To think about tomorrow we need a sense of what could happen and ideas about what should happen. Futures help us deal with uncertainty and complexity. Utopias uphold the capacity to imagine that things could be different.

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**Utopias** uphold the capacity to imagine that things could be different.
To think about tomorrow we need a sense of what could happen and idea(l)s about what should happen. Contemporary Futures help us deal with uncertainty and complexity. Utopias are built upon the history of bygone futures and utopias, on past imaginings of tomorrow. uphold the capacity to imagine that things could be different.
Contemporary Futures and Utopias are built upon the history of bygone futures and utopias, on past imaginings of tomorrow.
While many Futures and Utopias are (rightly) forgotten, some continue to claim relevance beyond their time of creation, as they have developed narratives that connect to the real world and thus resonate with us until today.
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Ridley Scott: Blade Runner (1982)
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What are the tales only architecture can tell?
Fiction
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Reality

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Reality
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Architecture transcends the narrative productions of the arts through their sheer power to be a house and a critique of "the house" at once
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Transformation de la Tour Bois le Prêtre
Druot, Lacaton & Vassal
Paris, 2011

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A map of the world that does not include Utopia is not worth glancing at, for it leaves out the one country at which Humanity is always landing. And when Humanity lands there, it looks out, and, seeing a better country, sets sail. Progress is the realisation of Utopias.

Oscar Wilde: The Soul of Man under Socialism, 1891