



BUILT IDEAS EXHIBITION AT FAMAGUSTA GATE, NICOSIA 2013

THEOHARIS DAVID BUILT IDEAS ΔΟΜΗΜΕΝΕΣ ΙΔΕΕΣ

The exhibition **“Built Ideas: A Life of Learning, Teaching and Action”**, celebrating the work of architect and educator Theoharis David FAIA during a period of 43 years, was presented at Famagusta Gate in Nicosia from February 28th 2013 until March 31st 2013.

The opening of the exhibition on Thursday, February 28th, was preceded by the lecture **“Talking About YOU”** given by Theoharis David, as part of the Cyprus Architecture Lectures organized by the Architecture Department of the University of Cyprus, the professional associations CAA, CCEAA and ETEK.

“Talking About YOU” reflects on Prof. David's 43 years as a teacher through the work of his former students, many of whom have gone on to become accomplished architects and teachers. It also highlights the work of students who studied with Lebbeus Woods, John Johansen, Giuliano Fiorenzoli and Michael Webb, while Prof. David was Chairman of Graduate Architecture at Pratt.

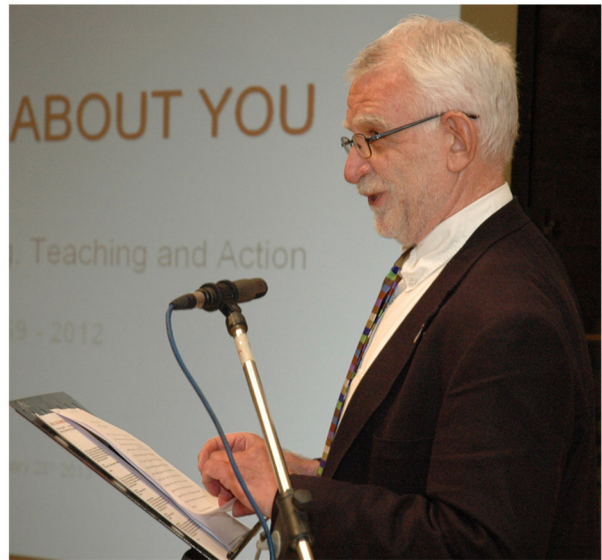
“Built Ideas”, curated by architect Christoph a. Kumpusch PhD, was first presented at Pratt Institute's School of Architecture in March 2012 with great success. The opening of the exhibition at Pratt was introduced by the late visionary architect Lebbeus Woods. It was also presented at the New Benaki Museum in Athens between December 13th 2012 and January 13th 2013, in cooperation with the Hellenic Institute of Architecture.

These “built ideas” include significant works of architecture in Cyprus such as sports stadia and arenas, private residences, urban housing, educational facilities and hybrid corporate structures. Executed projects in New York are recognized religious buildings and a study for a Greek Orthodox Church at the WTC site.

In a prologue to the exhibition catalogue, the visionary architect Lebbeus Woods says: “working with the known building types, he (Theo) has transformed their conventions into inventions animated by new readings of their traditional meanings and purposes – all are unique interpretations of ideas vital to contemporary living that seem at the same time both familiar and, in these works of architecture, wholly original. It is their unforced unpretentious character that gives them strength and poetry, a naturalness that imparts to us a sense of well-being and enablement.”

“Ideas can become buildings and buildings can sponsor ideas. The exceptional thing about Theo's work is that he works in both directions—simultaneously,” said exhibit curator Christoph a. Kumpusch, PhD.

Also on view is the work of Prof. David's students, which date from the start of his teaching career in 1969 at Pratt, as well as in Nicosia, Athens and Rome and that have been developed in parallel with his own work.



"TALKING ABOUT YOU" LECTURE BY THEOHARIS DAVID
ATTENDED BY FORMER MAYORS OF NICOSIA,
VICE MAYOR OF NICOSIA,
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT,
UNITED STATES EMBASSY OFFICIALS,
AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

