

SILENT
SERVANTS



too good to demolish
not good enough to preserve



studio theme

After a quiet existence of about 50 years in the city, the question arises as to what future there is for numerous buildings erected in the 60s and 70s which, as anonymous constructions, cannot naturally legitimize their continued existence. The qualities they possess are rather latent and hidden.

As silent servants of the economy, they were inscribed in the grey background of the city. Now that free plots of land are becoming increasingly scarce, they come to the attention again. Unadapted to all sorts of standards and not protected as heritage, they are vulnerable constructions whose future is unclear. Too good to demolish and not good enough to preserve.

If the simple path - demolition - is not taken, generic upgrades often lapse, prolonging the neutral and anonymous existence.

Starting from the hypothesis of (partial) preservation as an ecologically sound choice, the studio searches for an architecture that is built from the residue of qualities that are determined without avoiding the objectively measurable performance expected of each transformed building.

How quiet should the silence be? Do these buildings remain in the background or do they stand out? Does the silence persist in the interior or do the façades remain silent over the specific spaces inside.

Urban gestures, spatial qualities and tectonic development are explored using representation methods adapted to the specificity of transforming buildings in search of an adapted presence in the city.

Tutors

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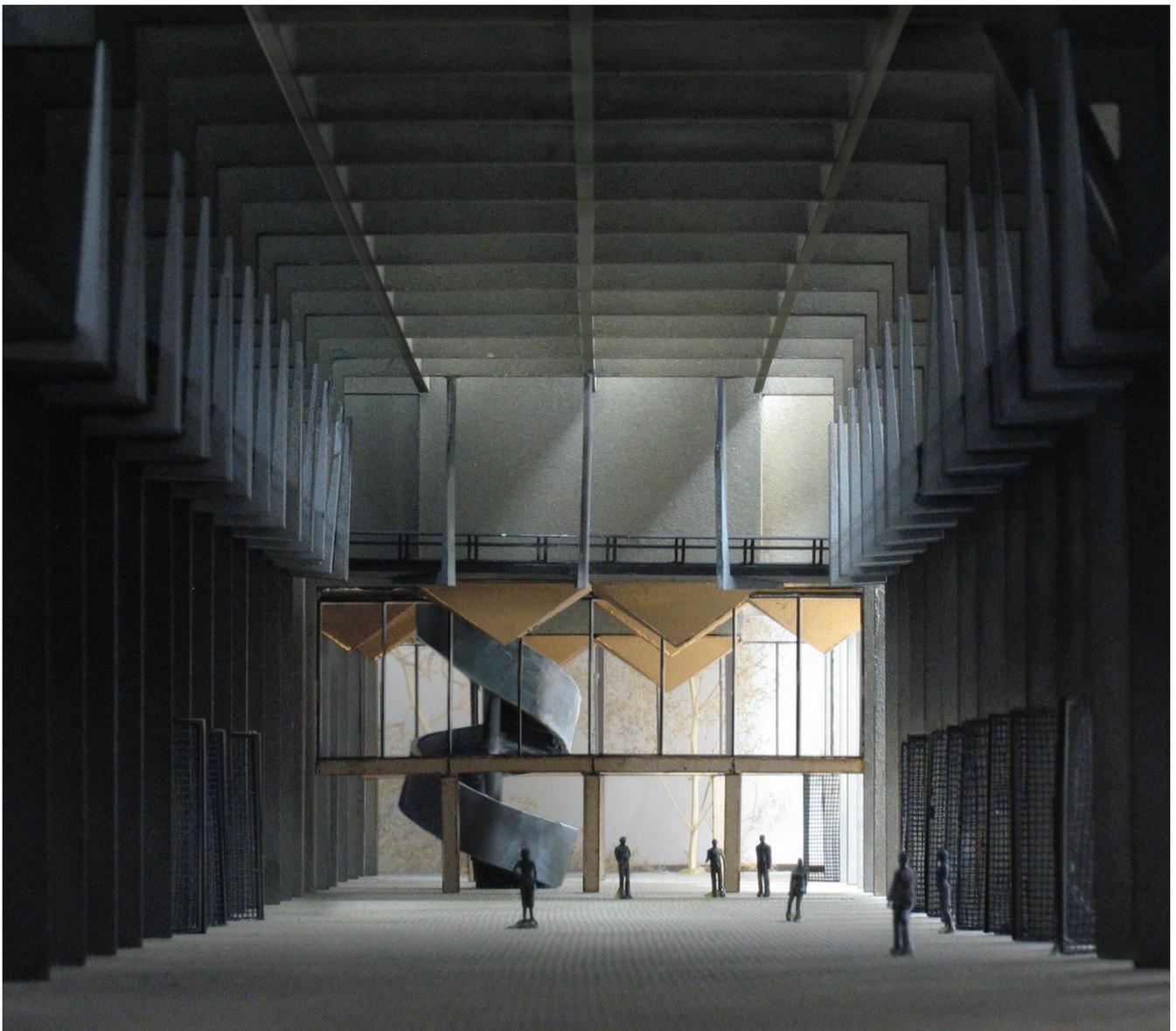
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method

stage 1: diorama

- output:
 - a high-end diorama box of a specific space
 - exhibition plinth
 - one high-end picture printed on A3 landscape
 - one line (20 words)
- deadline:
 - October 6: upload to Toledo (20:00)
- exhibition:
 - October 7: in a park in Ghent! Zero Covid.
- groups
 - two students



stage 2: fragments

- output:

- big model
 - picture in context
 - picture of the section
 - picture of a space
 - picture of another space
- 1/2 model of a fragment
 - picture of that fragment

- deadline:

mid review:

- November 3: upload pictures to Toledo (20:00)
- November 4: presentation

general rehearsal:

- December 15: upload panels to Toledo (20:00)
- December 16: upload panels to Toledo

jury:

- January 5: upload panels to Toledo (20:00)
- January 6: presentation & exhibition & debate

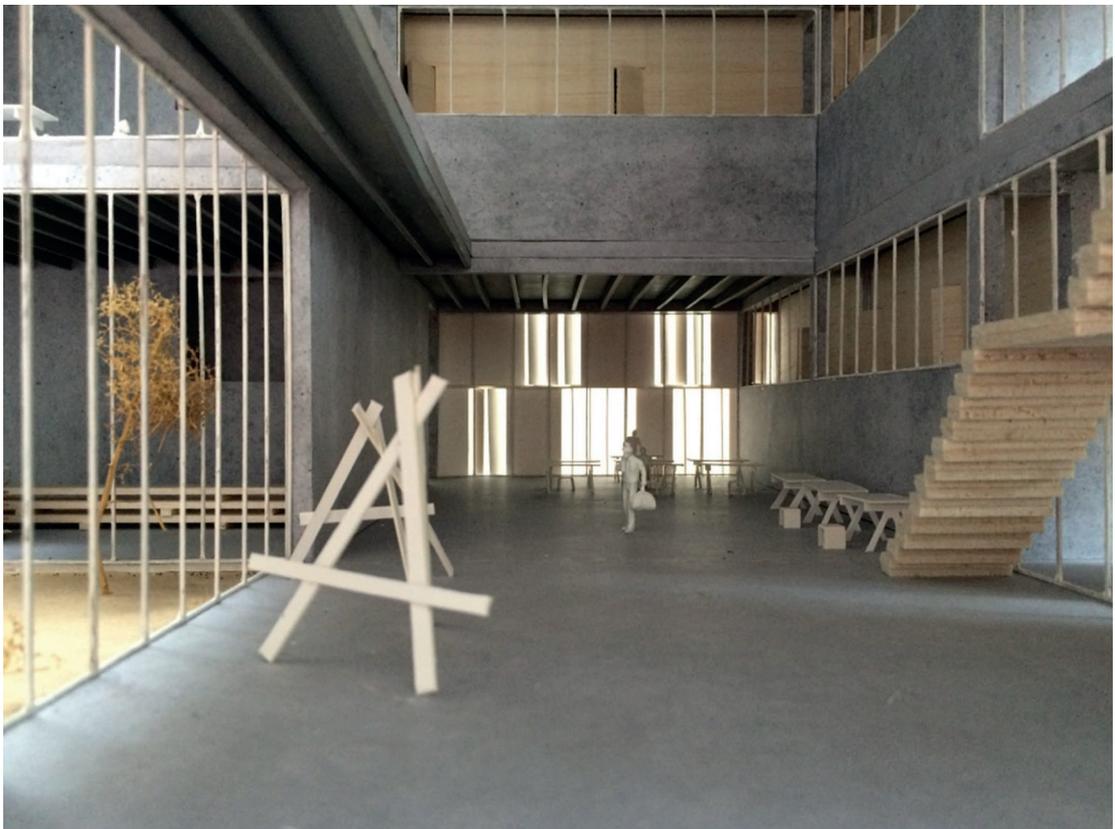
- groups

- two students







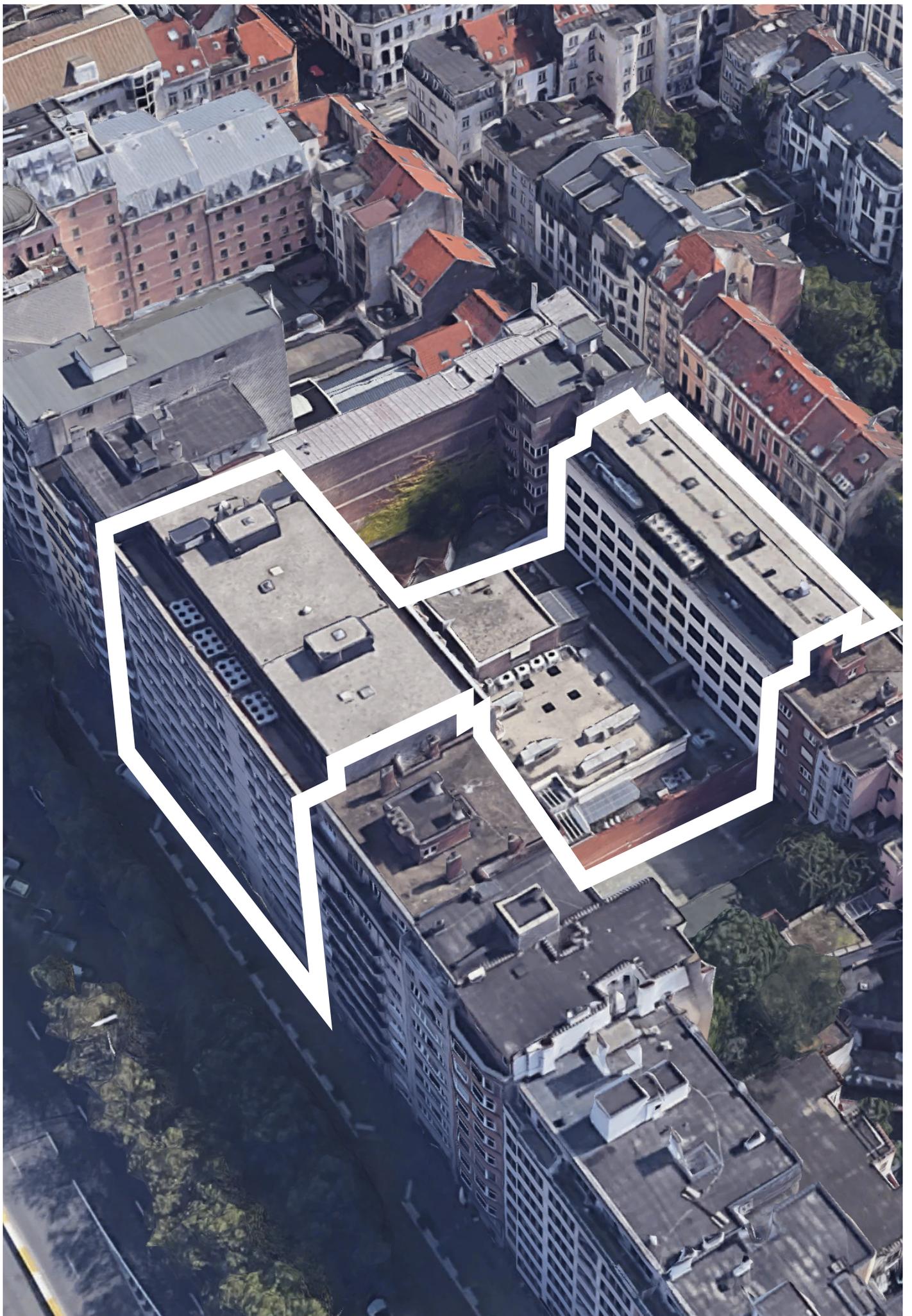




site

Guldenvlieslaan Brussels





important considerations

The drawings and models you produce will have to be self-explanatory and should do justice to the design effort that has been taken.

Practical:

- Presence on Wednesday is obligatory
- Please respect the following schedule:
 - 8.30h: pin-up
 - 9.00h: start of the studio
- Presence at the lectures is obligatory
- Toledo hand-in: respect the deadlines
- Timetable of photo shoots of the models
- Presence at the reviews and jury is obligatory.

Pay extra attention to:

- Weekly progress and presentation of the progress
- Templates

Method of evaluation

- Continuous evaluation
- Evaluation at review sessions
- Final jury

Output

The required output is to be presented on the respective review. For the final review, this output should be refined to a consistent design.

Criteria of evaluation and output demands:

- Coherence, precision and richness of the design
- Urbanity
- Spatial qualities
- Tectonic intelligence and development
- Design process and progress
- Graphic representation
- Oral presentation



KULeuven
Faculty of Architecture
Masterstudio sem 1 2020-2021
Campus: Ghent
Engagement: Craftsmanship

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