NEXT MOVE
Jan-Apr 2022
Theme Four
ISSUES OF TOMORROW

Our world is changing fast, while ambitions and challenges match in importance. In this context design can play a huge role. How do we imagine the world to be? What range of possibilities we haven’t discovered yet? What could architecture become for a world in crisis? What is not architecture yet? In 2020 we started a second phase of competitions to address the issues of tomorrow.

In line with our style we propose 9+1 themes – ten critical topics to work on. They come with a framework to make sure that each theme is explored from different design angles. Rather than a program, a research ecosystem composed of various competitions running in parallel and exploring the same theme from multiple perspectives.

Our exploration journey continues now with theme four, a special step in our research program: Next Move.
Theme Four: NEXT MOVE

The contribution of transport to economic development and human capital is undeniable. Transport shapes our lifestyles and underpins everything that we do - the way people travel to work or leisure, how businesses send employees to meet customers, and how firms ship products to distribution centers. Our lives and livelihoods depend on mobility.

Since the 18th century, mechanization allowed each transportation mode to experience an evolution in motive methods and vehicles. The first most meaningful innovation was the steam engine that improved the performance of the maritime and railway modes at the end of the century.

Today the world around us is transforming rapidly, changing the way people and goods travel within and across cities, regions, and countries. People aspire to live in a mobile society where they can move easily from place to place, travel and relocate as needed, and have quick and easy access to a range of goods and services. With the trend toward increased physical movement of people and goods, new opportunities are emerging that allow the “virtual” movement of people and goods as well. Examples include e-commerce, which allows consumers to order goods online, and telecommuting, which enables employees to work away from traditional offices.

Mobility is undergoing one of the most transformational shifts of a generation, with far-reaching implications for the
way we live our lives. The way we get around is changing, and so are the services that places have to offer. Fixed institutions like universities and libraries need to be as agile as food trucks. Commerce can venture out from their flagship shops and literally “pop up” and sprout throughout the city and suburbs. Similarly, more will be expected from cars and automobile circulation, just as larger urban developments will need to be embedded with urban spaces. Mobility can augment the special powers of architecture to encompass greater experiences while contributing more to the urban whole.

In a future where mobility is sustainable, cities and remote communities in rural areas will all be connected to jobs, markets and opportunities, so that no one is left behind. Transport will become the lifeline for all, including vulnerable groups as transport services will reach them all.

Next Move series of competitions are in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) number 3, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 13. Transport does not have a dedicated SDG, yet it plays a critical role in enabling other SDGs and achieving growth and development.

Will the future of mobility be about striving towards environment-friendly, integrated, automated and personalized travel on demand? What impact the future of mobility will have on our lifestyle, on city design and on the very fabric that forms urban agglomerates? What are the considerations that designers need to make when rethinking the mobility landscape? What is the future of mobility?

Next Move is a compilation of design challenges that aim to approach the idea of transportation in different perspectives.
The question now is how to think the future of mobility in the context of the urban living. In view of this, we are promptly questioning our lifestyle and the framework designed to support it. Non Architecture and its partners want to play their part by involving the design community in a series of explorative initiatives. By reflecting upon specific topics, we aim at generating dialogue and mutual inspiration on ideas.

In particular, Non Architecture and all the supporting organizations collaborated in identifying a range of 30 design issues related to the theme of Next Move.

In relation to **Transportation Modes**:  
1. Slow mobility: Cycling & Pedestrians,  
2. Motorbikes and Scooters,  
3. Cars and larger vehicles,  
4. Railway transportation & Cable cars,  
5. Air mobility: Drones, helicopters, and planes,  
6. Space Travel & Satellites,  
7. Transportation on water: boats, ferries, and smaller watercrafts.

In relation to **Society & Lifestyle**:  
8. Shared Mobility,  
9. Public Transport,  
10. Autonomous driving,  
11. Emergencies and accidents,  
12. Travelling for leisure,
13. Travel heritage, historical vehicles and musealization,
14. Daily commutes,
15. Wide-range Transportation of goods,
16. Last Mile Delivery,
17. Traffic, congestions, and walkability,
18. CO2 emissions & energy consumption.

In relation to Public Space & Road Infrastructure:
19. Road construction and maintenance,
20. Road profile in relation to travelling speed,
21. Climate change & resilient road system,
22. Smart roads and urban installations system,
23. Public Space, pedestrianization and street front,

In relation to City Development:
25. Final destinations: Ports, Stations, Hubs of all sorts,
26. Intermediate Stops: Public transport, drop off, and short-term parking,
27. Urban regeneration through mobility nodes,
28. Smart cities, Smart roads & Smart vehicles,
29. Car driven urbanism: Sprawl & Parking Lots,
30. Multimodal travel: multiple transportation modes in one trip.

For more insights on these topics you can subscribe to our newsletter or visit our online journal.

Designers can address one or more of the aforementioned topics through 2 different competitions. Each competition frames a specific design approach. The Non Architecture Competitions for the theme of Next Move are the following:

- Street of Tomorrow
- Hong Kong Drone Port
In this competition, we encourage participants to reimagine the urban space by designing the street of tomorrow – Only 2 drawings, absolute freedom of scale, site or program. Participants are asked to propose conceptual ideas of a street that accommodates a new era of mobility and urban design.

With a new perspective on mobility it must come a new set of design principles for street management, street design, and mobility creation. However, streets are more than just that. They can act as biodiversity corridors, water management infrastructure, energy systems, urban installations and so much more. This competitions’ purpose is to carry streets forward by proposing a new paradigm on urban mobility and reimagining the urban space.

Street of Tomorrow is part of the “Cities of Tomorrow” competition series, developed to reimagine urban life through a variety of creative design concepts and ideas. What kind of role can we play as designers in reimagining urban life? How can we produce new inspiring visions to trigger a discussion around alternative models of living?

Deliverables: two images (presentation image + section)
Timeline:
Registration Period: 23 Jan - 31 March 2022
Submission Deadline: 31 March 2022
Winner Announcement: 18 – 22 April 2022
In this competition we encourage participants to come up with visionary concepts for a drone port – only 3 drawings, absolute freedom of scale or program.

Participants are asked to propose conceptual ideas for new architectural typologies in relation to air mobility, specifically in the city of Hong Kong, through the design of an urban drone port.

As cities become highly populated and technology evolves, it has become clear that air mobility it’s part of the city models of the future. In this scenario, drones become part of transportation networks in future cities, by replacing or supplementing existing ones. By imagining a world where the urban airspace is populated by drones and aerial vehicles, it is up to the participant to propose how the built environment may adapt to this new reality, by proposing new structures or adapting existing buildings.

As designers, what new perspective can we bring to the changes in the cities, new delivery systems and travel experiences resulting from aerial mobility?

Deliverables: three images (presentation image + concept image + functional image)

Timeline:
Registration Period: 23 Jan - 15 April 2022
Submission Deadline: 15 April 2022
Winners Announcement: 09 - 13 May 2022