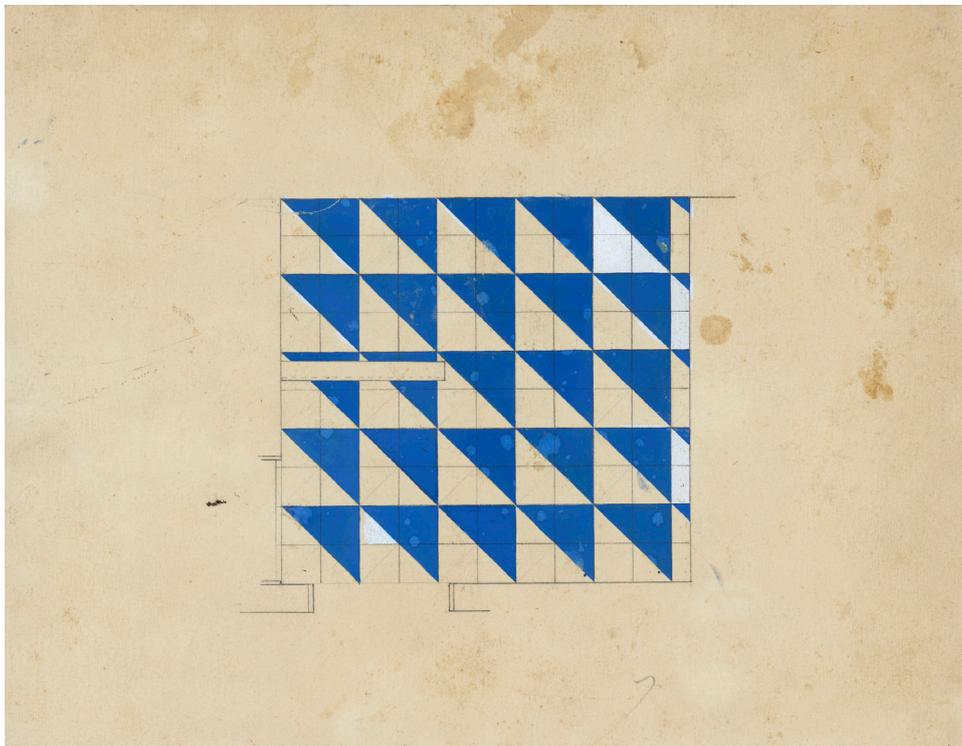
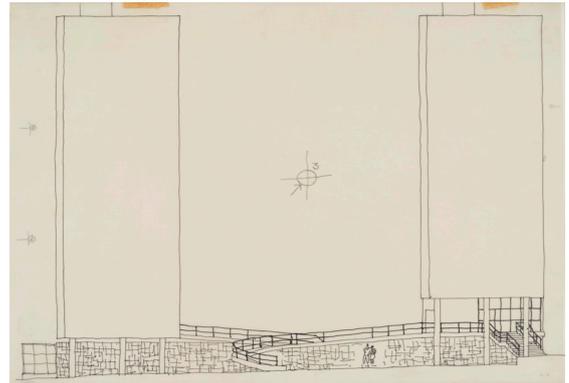
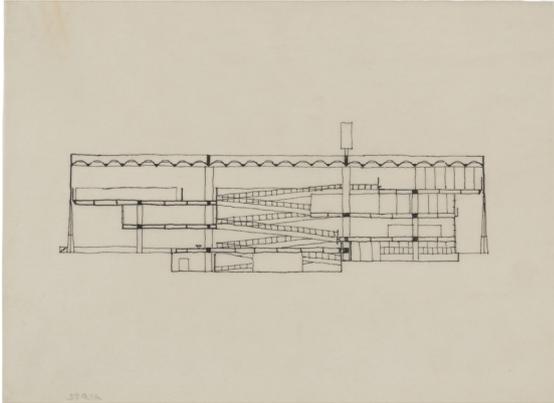




TEN, an association of architects and researchers based in Zurich, together with Architekturforum Zurich, are seeking sponsorship and support for an architectural exhibition titled 'Vilanova Artigas: Drawing Models', to open at Architekturforum from Fall 2019. This new exhibition in Zurich will showcase, for the first time outside Brazil, the architectural drawings and sketches of the great Brazilian mid-century modernist architect João Batista Vilanova Artigas (1915–1985), designer of the Sao Paulo School of Architecture and numerous other celebrated works of

Brazilian 'Paulista' modernism. Through a showcase of original working drawings and sketches by the architect, accompanied by a series of reconstructed full-scale building prototypes; we will reveal how Artigas harnessed the drawing not only to imagine the world, but also to transform it. The exhibition will furthermore be accompanied by a 'Drawing Models' public platform encompassing lectures, workshops and events that will directly relate questions raised by Artigas' work to current considerations in Swiss art and architecture practice.

'As a tool for transforming the world, architecture has its own methods.'

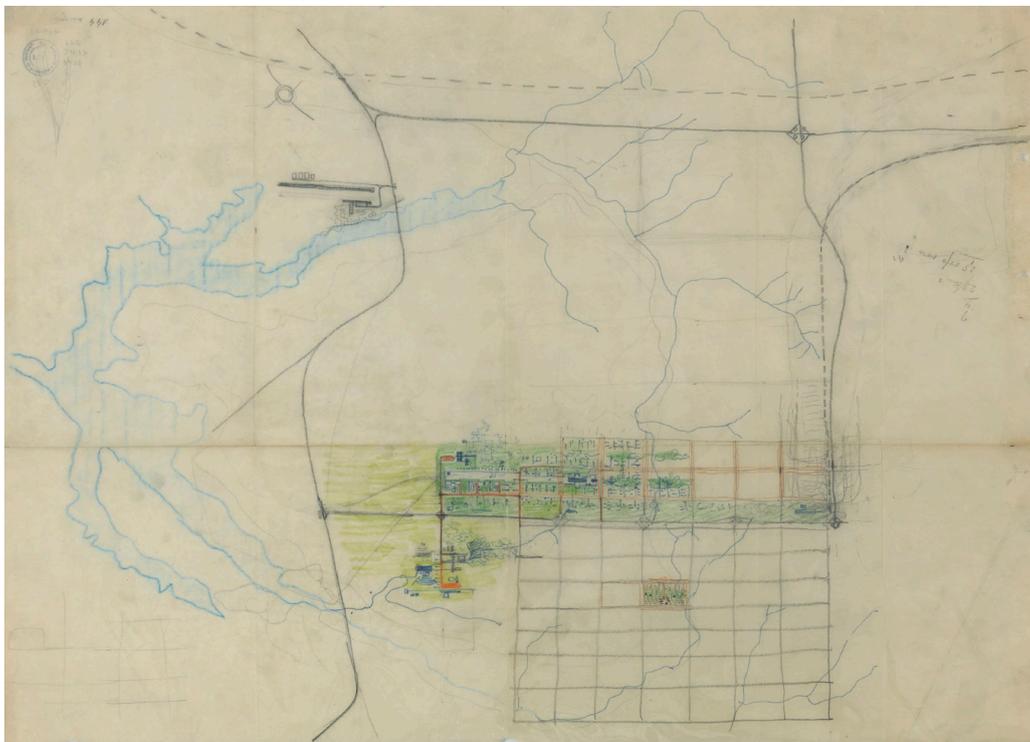
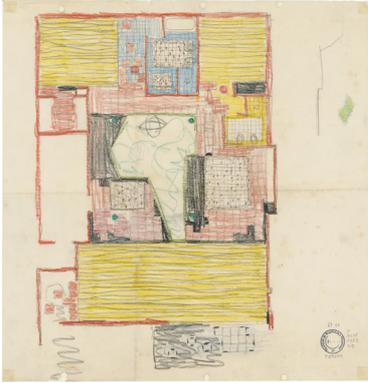


The works for this exhibition are all drawn from the private archive of Vilanova Artigas, held by the Artigas family, and currently being housed in Sao Paulo. Permission has been granted from the family for their transportation to Europe, and the exhibition will be formed in close collaboration with Marco Artigas, the architect's grandson. Artigas asserted the autonomy of design in the face of politics, believing that architecture stands apart from social and political forces, even as it develops its own modes of relation with them. In his inaugural address to the students of the Sao Paulo School of Architecture

in March 1967, just before he was dismissed from his Professorship for his political activities, Artigas spoke of design ('desenho') as both a practice and an intention.

For Artigas, it was therefore the concept of desenho that would lead directly to economic and political emancipation, holding the key to the relevance of architecture in everyday life. Taking Artigas' definition of design as a model, we present his architectural drawings through their technique and materiality, alongside their role as speculative documents for transforming the social and material conditions of the present.

'We must train, educate and honour the architects so they will take on the most diverse missions. Ranging from construction, photography and music, to administrative and political positions... Design is the most profound and complex tool.' Vilanova Artigas



Through a focus on the architectural drawing, this exhibition seeks to address increasing dissatisfactions with the role of the architect in contemporary existence – not only in Brazil but also across Europe. Are architects still able to affect real change in our cities and environments? Can architects still employ new technologies and materials in order to transform our environments for the better? We believe these questions can be effectively addressed by placing the architect's drawing, once again, at the centre of a socially engaged, visionary and transformative architectural practice.

Artigas' work is now more relevant to the architecture profession than ever – not only in Brazil but across Europe. As a mode of practice, Artigas' work transcends cultural and geographical boundaries, allowing the exhibition to propose, in the face of current political and economic crises in Europe, a more universal question: is now the time, once again, for architects to draw a new world?



TEN is a group of individuals made up of architectural historians, architects, designers, writers and makers from leading international research institutions. We come together outside the frame of our institutional research to develop interdependent and collaborative projects across the broad spectrum of cultural production, with a specific focus on self-initiated and non-profit design by research. Our research output includes public events and symposia, teaching programs resulting in related publications and exhibitions, and a socially engaged architecture and design practice encompassing both theory and making.

'Vilanova Artigas, Drawing Models'

Exhibition runs at Architektur Forum Zürich, from Fall 2019

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