

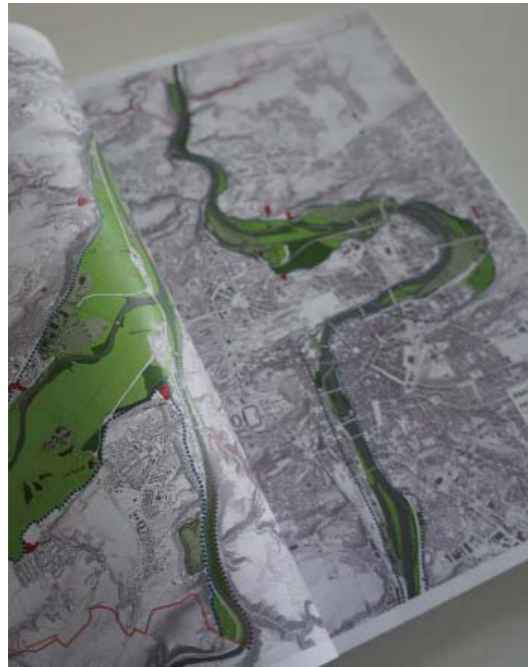
# The Role of the Library in Public Space of the City

Pavla Melková

Prague, Czech republic

Wien 18. 04. 2018

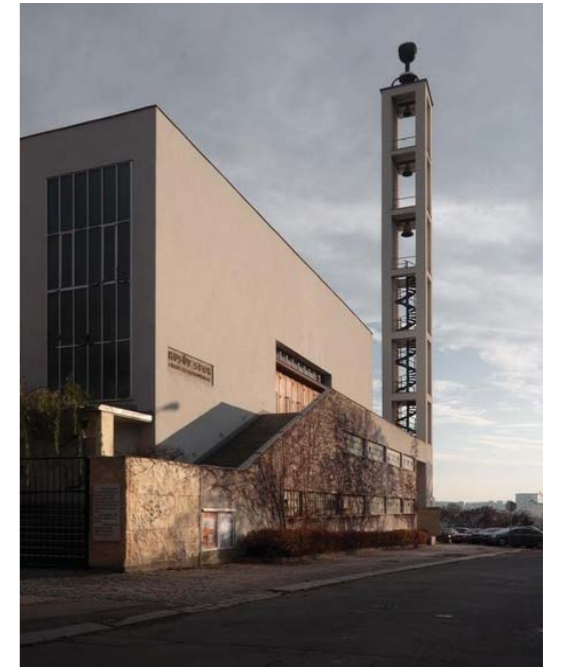
# City



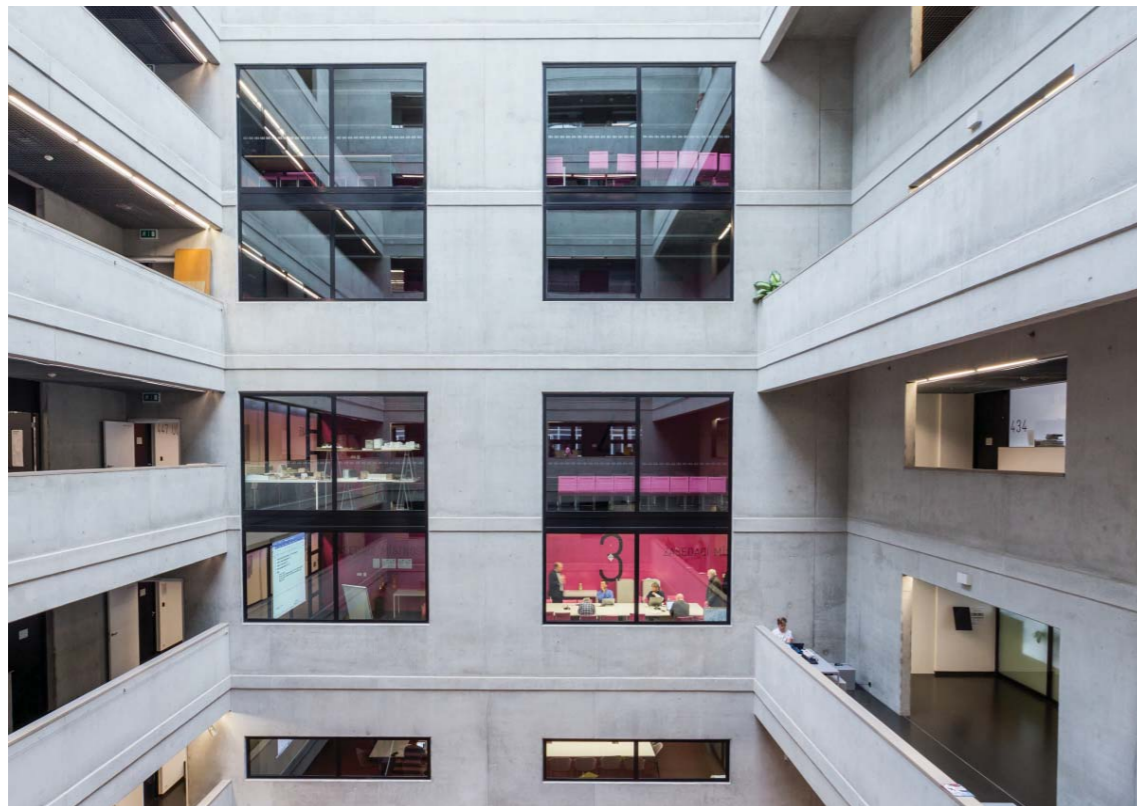
# Public space



# Building



# Education



# Books



# City - public space - building - detail (book)

As a strategist and planner of the greatest scale of the city, I have to know and be able to imagine - at every moment - a place and life - for which I create preconditions, initiations and determinations in my plans and decisions.

As the creator of the detail, I have to know and be able to imagine - at every moment - its role in the overall space and life of the city.

# Concept of Campus Public Space Development

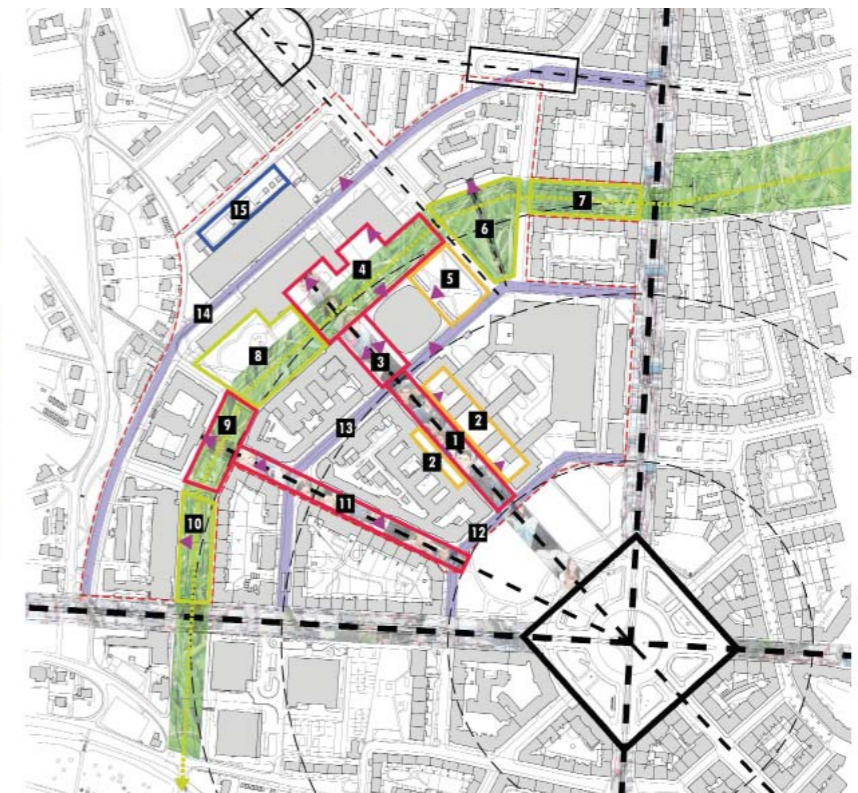
MCA atelier, Pavla Melkova, Miroslav Cikan



## 220 Urbanistické řešení

Specifikování charakteru jednotlivých prostorových prvků kampusu

- 1 ulice Technická
- 2 předprostory FS, FEL a VŠCHT
- 3 prostor mezi NTK a VŠCHT
- 4 kompozové „náměstí“
- 5 park u NTK
- 6 Fleminogovo náměstí
- 7 park Nicolaj Tesly
- 8 park Indiry Gándhiové
- 9 náměstí Žikova
- 10 park Thákarova
- 11 ulice Žikova
- 12 ulice Šolínova
- 13 ulice Studentská + Veličkova
- 14 ulice Kolejni + Zelená
- 15 sportovní areál



# The role of Technical Library in public space of University Campus in Prague Dejvice

Core - Attractor - Initiator



# Prague Public Space Office

Prague Public Space Design Manual

Prague Public Space Development Strategy



# Key role of public buildings – cultural and educating – in quality and life of public space

One of them - if we concentrate on a library building, it can be:

The importance of knowledge present in public space



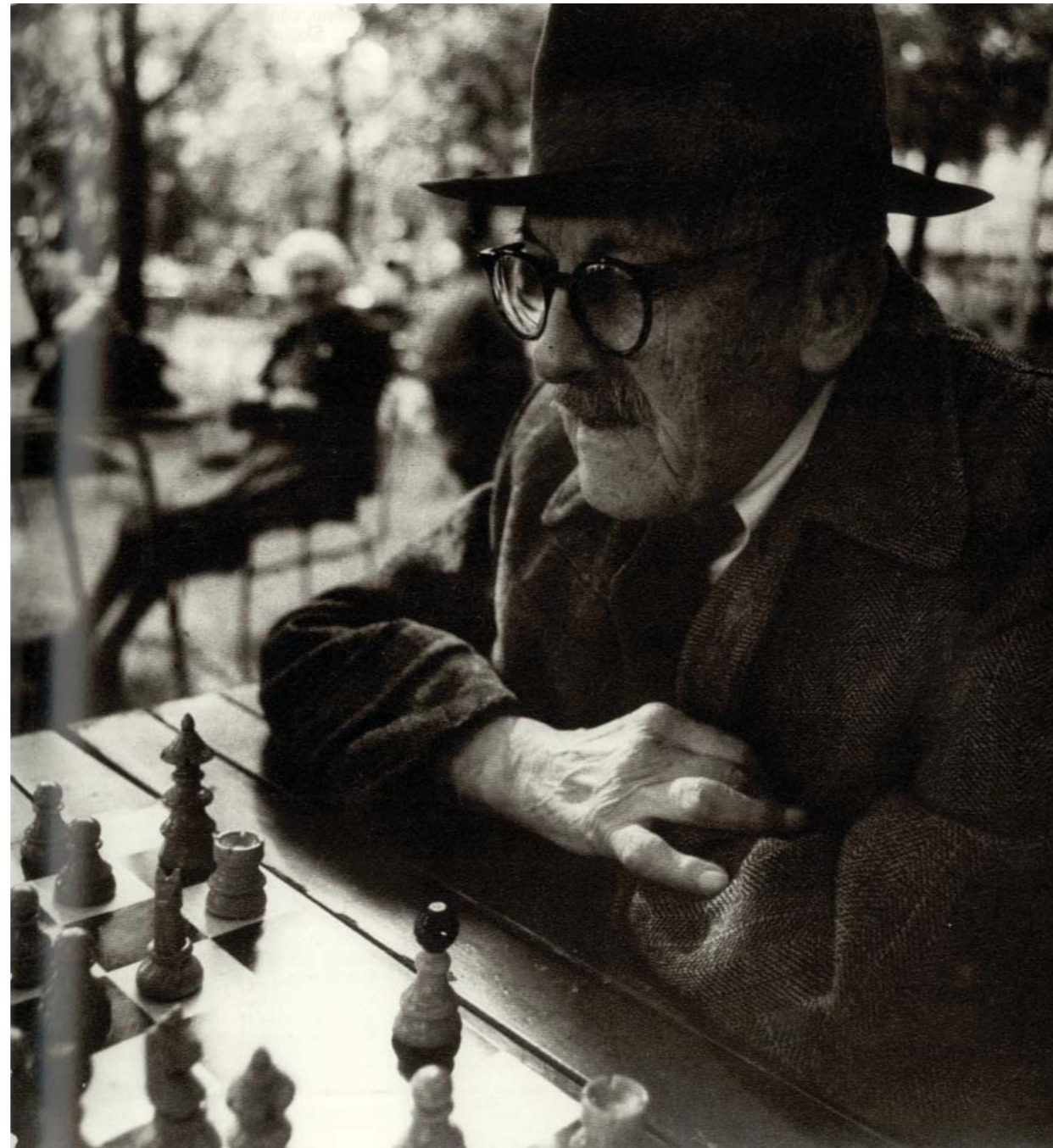


# Properties of high-quality public space

The public space of the city is not simply the fact that it is publicly accessible, nor the fact that it is full of people.



The quality and significance of the public space are fulfilled only when people in the public space stop, stay and experience happenings.



# Places slowdown flow



The city is: masses and flow.

Life and meanings happen when the flow slow down.

That's how places are created.

(Manuel Castells)

# Reading - Book - Library: Place of the biggest slowdown



# Characters of the role of library in the city

All of them Alberto Maguels character could be used as a definition of role of every public space in the city.

Myth

Order

Space

Power

Shadow

Face

Chance

Workshop

Mind

Island

Survival

Forgetting

Imaginative

Identity

Home

# Why I am talking about all these things?

Arguments for good decisions in city planning

On all scales:

Urbanistic decision about the location of the library in the city as a whole

Correct location in selected place correctly

Architecture of the building

Correct location in selected place correctly and architecture of the building

## How?

(Only few possibilities from my own praxis ...)

Openness

Linking

Nature (Nature is also a slowdown - just like reading)

Readability

Oasis

Maybe we can go back to Albert Mangelo's words.

How fulfilled it with architecture?

# The Public Library in Dobříš

MCA atelier, Pavla Melkova, Miroslav Cikan



The basis of the concept was precisely the connection of the exterior with the interior, the outer space with the inner, the outer life with the inner. And pulling outdoor nature into the interior of a building, when a person inside the building feels like in the middle of the surrounding park.



# Book like architecture

So - back to the beginning of the key arc - to the detail

Few poetic - imaginative - relationship between architecture  
and book

Poetry as the finest layer of detail of reality

Because I love books

And I love architecture

What do those have a common ?

Book - like an object?

Architecture - as an object?

„When I choose a book to bed, the desk, on the train or as a gift, consider the shape of my hands as well as content.“ (Alberto Manguel)

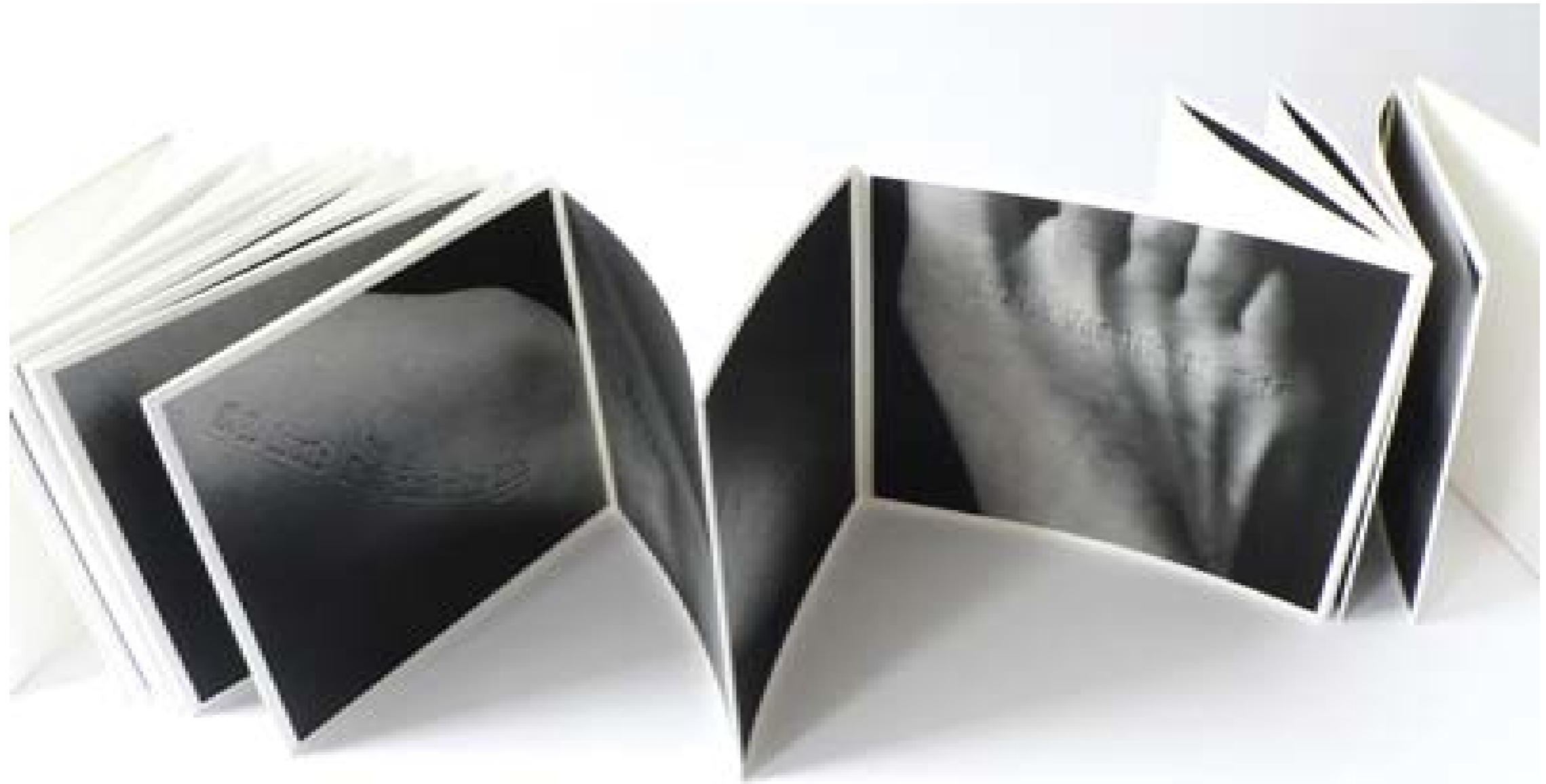


The act of reading (experiencing - using) is „being“ in a book, just like  
„being“ in architecture.

„ ... feels she can curl up into the pages of the book like a dog in a shed“.  
(Alberto Manguel)



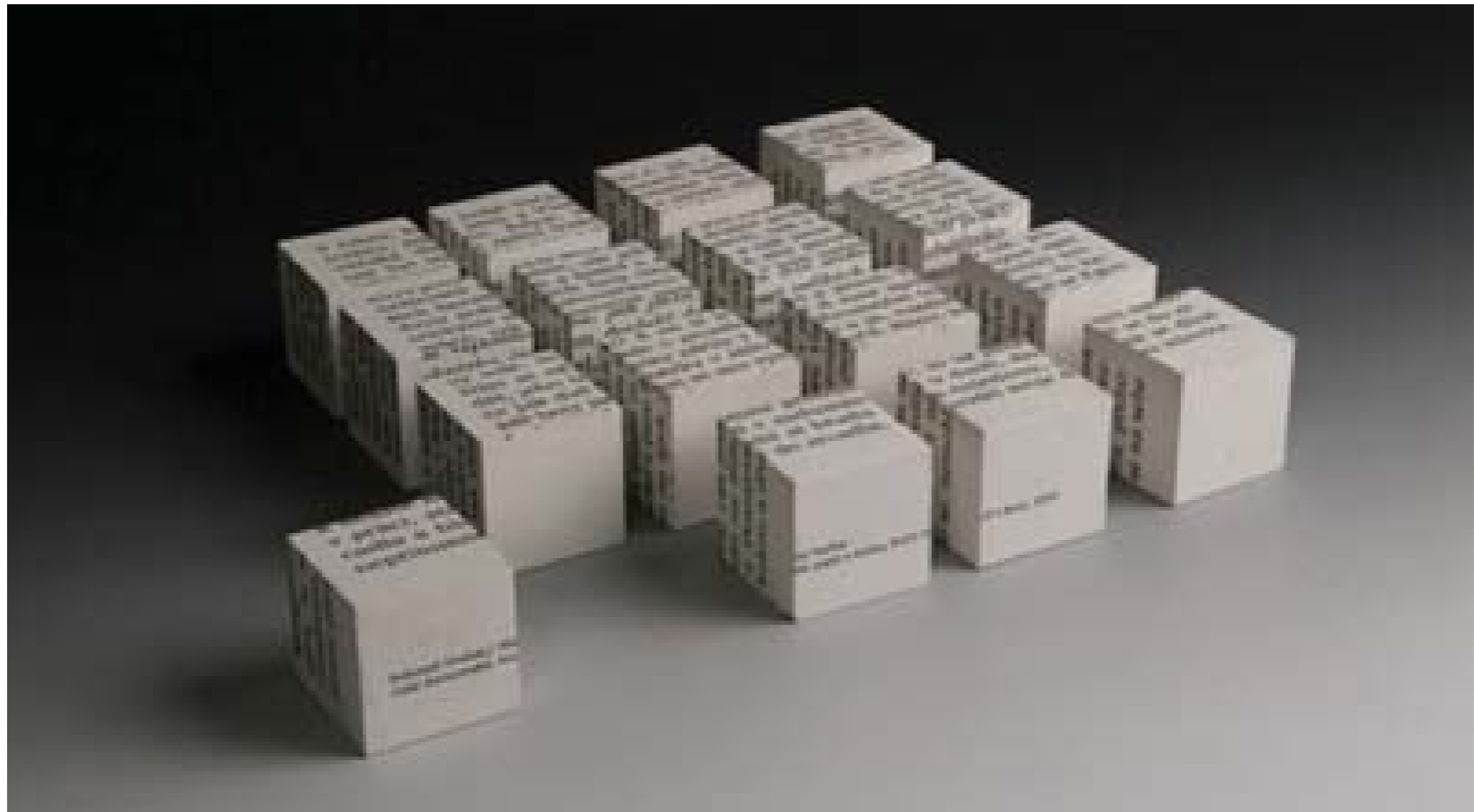
The book can be entered as a house, similarly go through and ends at the end.



The book is - like architecture - a closed object. Completed and definitive.



Rhythm. Chaos x order. It is economical or multi-word in the message.



The book has the characteristics of materiality.  
Contact with it is also- like in architecture - through touch.



The book, just like architecture, is a kind of „material format“  
which purpose is to carry content - just like architecture.





# A Table at the Window, a Book Upon the Table

The exhibition of MCA atelier  
House of Art and Architecture in CB 2014



Thak you for attention