

studioV / 2016-2017 fall

# negotiations



In studio 5, this semester we are working on the military areas which will move out of the city. Our area, the Turkish Land Forces Command is in between İnönü and Akdeniz Avenues.

The area is hidden behind its fenced walls and we cannot see or know what's happening inside. The time is rushing outside the wall for citizens of Ankara. Beyond these walls, there is a different time zone. Citizens are mainly on the 7th street or around the national library located close to the area. Our area and its periphery give no access to citizens, such as, governmental workspaces, military areas and İnönü Avenue, which actually acts as another wall for people due to high speed traffic of cars.

With respect to possible high-yield annuity of these areas, herein lies a big danger. To burden the cost of removing military outside city center, the government might consider new development plans for these areas so as to allocate them to private companies.

We witnessed the destruction of many public spaces for the “sake” of Ankara citizens. We embraced what is given as “public” space, our MALLs. Each neighborhood has its own mall. We are now living as inside species, lacking open public spaces. We all have rights on discharged military areas. Then, the best option is to let them be public spaces.

As the public spaces are insufficient in Ankara, we suggest a folding system to be constructed on this particular military area. Our intestine represents a very particular example: By folding in a narrow space it enlarges its surface. It is 7 meters long but fit into our abdominal cavity. It makes these foldings to absorb monocular nutrition substance. Inside surface area of the intestines is 600m<sup>2</sup>. Let's compare it to our skin surface, which is actually 2 m<sup>2</sup>.

Foldings will increase the area per sq, so the area of public space for all the citizens of Ankara.





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“Heterotopias always presuppose a system of opening and closing that both isolates them and makes them penetrable. In general, the heterotopic site is not freely accessible like a public place. Either the entry is compulsory, as in the case of entering a barracks or a prison, or else the individual has to submit to rites and purifications. To get in one must have a certain permission and make certain gestures.”

Foucault – Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopians, Fifth Heterotopians Principle

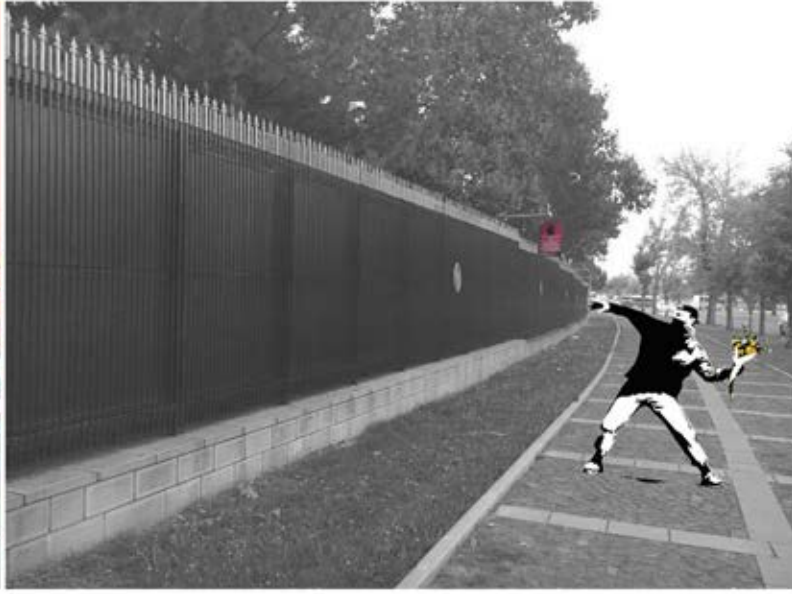
In a land of drought and thirst and endless steppe, the question is not that of spaciousness of the great plain, but of the end of it. That is the revelation of Temenos. In a land of congestion in the districts of a city and friction in the streets, the question is not that of condensation, but of dilution. That is the rediscovery of the Void. In the land of ever-present visible walls and continual invisible boundaries, the question is not of violent destruction of the civilizational heritage, but of creative re-thought. That is Revaluation of Ethos.

It is not an ideological, but of a logical riddle we were bestowed with – how dividing lines connect, how the ambiguity of a wall forms framework for the event, unpredictable and diverse. So we accept the inevitable necessity of the in-between, linear or dimensional, but we do not satisfy ourselves with the inherited preconceptions of impenetrability or of dimensional singularity. Our “in-between” is a space vibrating between spaces, marking not the end, but the beginning. Semipermeable guardian of our complex reality. And as the life itself started in that primordial moment, when biological reactions were integrated behind the cellular membrane, a new

human existence has sparked around the conceptions of our mind work.

But what happens then to the old prisoners, after centurial fear and subordination under the spatial violence? What happens to the old guardians in the dark tower of panopticon? They will not tremble, they will not fall, and the great disorder under the heavens will not engulf the land afterwards. Space will be unveiled by cognition, thus it will not be liberated by the strength of our arms, but by the shift of our paradigms. As walls of panopticon mirror and towers displace, we seek to see the unseen in front of our eyes.



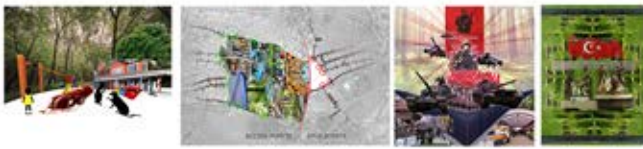


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Group Heterotopians:  
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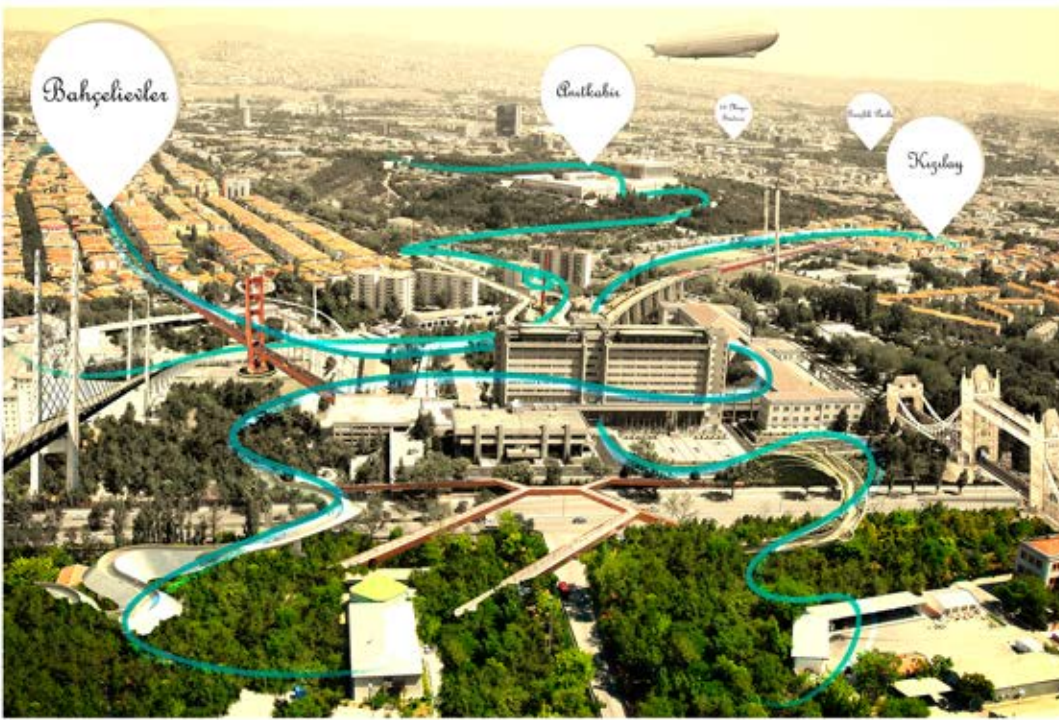


A huge military area that lays inaccessibly in the middle of the city. Completely introverted! Surrounded by people that find it very unpleasant to even walk around it. And for sure it is for those who dare to approach. What a waste of land. On one side – residents; on the other side – even larger military land. In the middle – a land 800 meters in length.

Fenced by impenetrable lines of security guards, armed military personnel, cameras, barb wires, spikes and fences themselves. After the military leaves these lands to the people, the architects will be obliged to make them what they never got a chance to be – integral part of the city, not a foreign body. They only need to tap into the potential that is offered. Since we recognize this military land as being in-between common people and most potential piece of land in their city, we imagine this area as a connector. A mediator, the transition area that bridges the cavity left behind the military.

This vision does not represent just a bridge for people to transit over, it purports an idea of multiple functions and facilities for citizens to utilize. Instead of an obstacle that in space as the area is today, one must be able, not only to cross it, but also to take pleasure in doing so. Provided with multiple new functions in the area, the people should become to re-imbed it in their memory as a place of delight. New approach to planning and designing this area must be implemented in its fabric. This is to show people that huge potential of transforming the whole city that is currently hidden from them.





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Bridging the City: Sümeyye Akın,  
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