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Day with Riken Yamamoto

Recipient of the 2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize, Chicago, IL (March 5, 2024)

Meeting of architect Riken Yamamoto and Bojan Koncarevic

Encounter with Assistant Professor Dr. Jelena Mitrović

Guest appearance with Representatives of the Faculty:

Union University Nikola Tesla,

Faculty of Construction Management: Architecture and Urbanism

Professor Dr. Tatjana Košić, Full Professor

Professor Dr. Dragana Vasilski, Full Professor

Dr. Zoran Cekić, Associate Professor

Assistant Professor Dr. Jelena Mitrović

Assistant Professor Dr. Bojan Koncarevic.

Tour Locations:

Hotel Majestic, Knez Mihailova Street, Čika Ljubina Street, Students' Square,

Kej Oslobođenja in Zemun,

New Belgrade: Nikola Tesla Boulevard, Zoran Đinđić Boulevard, Omladinskih Brigada, Nikola

Tesla Airport;

Day with Riken Yamamoto: Sastanak arhitekta Riken Yamamoto i Bojan Koncarevic

World well renowned architect Riken Yamamoto, 2024th Pritzker Prize laureate, held an all-day academic and professional meeting on September 30th during his stay in Belgrade. Moreover, he was a special guest at Faculty of Construction Management, Department of Architecture and Urbanism at "Union Nikola Tesla" University. He met with Assistant Professor Bojan Končarević and university representatives followed with direct exchanges regarding future academic and direct collaboration in architectural practice and education.

Meeting itself represents continuing academic and professional development of Bojan Končarević, specifically oriented and interested in Japanese aesthetics and development of contemporary architectural discourse relying on culture and religion. This continuous striving aims to create opportunities for "Union Nikola Tesla" University academics and students to collaborate meaningfully with Japanese architectural firms and universities. This uninterrupted thread of cooperation in architectural design and the development of contemporary aesthetics is expected to take shape through joint scientific projects, studio assignments, workshops and guest lectures by renowned Japanese architects and representatives.

Architect Riken Yamamoto also experienced a special form of in situ meeting within Belgrade's urban environment structured according to his preferences and led by Assistant Professors Bojan Končarević and Jelena Mitrović. Meeting itself resulted in unique synergy, combining city walk with hands-on oral presentations focused on Belgrade's core urban area, viewing it as a continuous palimpsest of urban plans, spatial volumes and material layers. The discussions

unfolded using visual and tactile methods at several prominent locations, while examining forms of urban communities and threshold spaces that Belgrade's spatial grammar undeniably supports. Lastly it was put forward how these threshold communal spaces in Belgrade have evolved or undergone various kinds of transformations.

Formal academic meeting was held after experiencing informal urban strolls and it was with highest momentum supported by representatives and accordingly held at Ceremonial hall of the Faculty of Construction Management: Architecture and Urbanism,. The occasion included highest occasion demanded exchanges of gifts and thoughtful gestures, enriching dialogue with productive discussions on the core principles of socially sustainable architectural design. The conversation focused on Yamamoto's prize winning projects that align with these principles, particularly those recognized by the 2024 Pritzker medal award.

Participants in these formal and informal exchanges were University representatives: Professor Dr. Tatjana Košić, Professor Dr. Dragana Vasilski, Associate Professor Dr. Zoran Cekić, Assistant Professor Dr. Jelena Mitrović, and Assistant Professor Dr. Bojan Končarević, alongside architect Riken Yamamoto and his associate Ms. Shino Imai. Yamamoto sensei also toured the faculty's halls and exhibition spaces, engaging in conversations about physical model displays of significant projects. One notable moment occurred when he stopped in front of a model of his own Gazebo House, built in 1986 in Yokohama, Japan. It occurred like an unexpected but meaningful coincidence for him to stop just in front of that house model out of many at display shelves.

The meeting was closed and officially concluded in the interspace between Terminal 01 and Terminal 02 at Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport, moment colored with a mutual promise, sealed with a Japanese-style bow in order to meet again soon for further collaboration and knowledge exchange.

ご無事（ぶじ）でご帰国なさるよう祈（いの）っております Yamamoto sensei !