BÉLA PAZÁR
PÉTER HAJNÓCZI
ORSOLYA LÁNG
TAMÁS MEZŐS
CHRISTINA EINWÖGERER
KLAUS LÖCKER
MARIO WALLNER
WOLFGANG NEUBAUER
DONATELLA FIORANI
MARTA ACIERNO
TAMÁS FEJÉRDY
GYULA ISTVÁNFI
ANNA MARIA KAISER
BORIS DREYER
MIKLÓS KALMÁR
LÁSZLÓ DARAGÓ
JÁNOS KRÄHLING

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
IN MEMORY OF
GYULA HAJNÓCZI (1920–1996)
12th November 2020

FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE, IT CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT
https://youtu.be/y3t009fym6Y
Gyula Hajnóczi (1920-1996) was an academician of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, a defining creator and pedagogue of the post-war history of the Faculty of Architecture of BME. The majority of today's generations of creating architects were able to learn through his lectures, books and educational methodology about the importance of ancient architecture and the rules of the architectural creative process inseparable from the history of architecture. Gyula Hajnóczi's years of study are characterized by a thematic richness, which established his specific approach to architecture. After completing 3 semesters of theology, then 3 semesters of Italian, Hungarian language and art history, he served in the military during World War II, returning home from captivity, and enrolled in the BME Faculty of Architecture in 1946, where he graduated in 1950. Between 1954-58 he obtained a diploma in archeology from the Faculty of Humanities the Eötvös Loránd University. He was inaugurated as a University Doctor of Humanities in 1961.

His university career emerged in parallel with his scientific work and academic career. Between 1955 and 1967, he obtained the position of assistant, and reached the degree “candidate of sciences” in 1966. Between 1967 and 1978 he was associate professor and obtained the degree of Doctor of Science 1978. He was appointed to university professor also in 1978. He was elected Corresponding Member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1996, in the year of his death.

As a researcher, his oeuvre was accompanied by the problem of the interpretation of architectural space. In his doctoral dissertation in the humanities he examined ancient spatial forms and spatial relations, then in his dissertation for the title candidate of sciences he described the development of the spatial approach in the architecture of antiquity. As the culmination of his research, he created an independent space theory in his academic doctoral dissertation, where he attempted to objectively evaluate architectural creation by creating an analytical theory of architectural space. The dissertation was published in a book published by the Publisher of the Hungarian academy of sciences (Akadémiai) in Hungarian and German. His publication activity encompasses nearly one and a half hundred publications and 8 books, which still preserve his fresh-acting thoughts to this day.

He was an outstanding architect of preservation and reconstruction of the Pannonian archeological legacy. The preservation of Aquincum, Gorsium, the Isis Shrine in Szombathely all reflect his creative imagination. He received the Ybl Prize in 1968 for his textbook of ancient architectural history used to this day. His creative work as an educator, scientist and architect was recognized with the Kossuth Prize in 1990. By organizing the conference, the Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation of BME and the Standing Committee of History and Theory of Architecture and Monument Preservation of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, with the support of the Aquincum Museum and the Living Danube Limes project’s participants wishes to commemorate Gyula Hajnóczki, and the contributors can reflect on the impact of Hajnóczi's research and on his summarising works in today's architectural, architectural and monument researches by presenting their new research results.

Dr. János Krähling
Head of Department
Budapest University of Technology and Economics
Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation
PARTICIPANTS

- **BÉLA PAZÁR**
  Hungarian Academy of Sciences

- **PÉTER HAJNÓCZI**
  Chamber of Hungarian Architects

- **ORSOLYA LÁNG**
  Budapest History Museum - Aquincum Museum

- **TAMÁS MEZŐS**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

- **CHRISTINA EINWOGERER KLAUS LÖCKER MARIO WALLNER WOLFGANG NEUBAUER**
  Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Archaeological Prospection and Virtual Archaeology

- **DONATELLA FIORANI MARTA ACIerno**
  Sapienza University of Rome

- **TAMÁS FEJÉRDY**
  ICOMOS Hungary

- **GYULA ISTVÁNFI**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

- **ANNA MARIA KAISER**
  Danube University Krems

- **BORIS DREYER**
  Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg

- **BÉLA PAZÁR**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

- **MIKLÓS KALMÁR**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

- **LÁSZLÓ DARAGÓ**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

- **JÁNOSS KRÄHLING**
  BME Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation

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