For a contemporary architectural design a historical site can be more inspiring than it seems! Monuments have century-long stories to tell, like the 800 year-old church of Zsámbék having all the glory and wounds of the eventful history of Hungary.

Let the old walls tell you the stories, let the memories inspire you and create a contemporary design with exciting encounter of past and present!

The Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation and the Department of Public Building Design supported by the French Institute of Budapest announce international workshop and TDK section for the design of architectural conception for visitor center with cultural function on the site of the church and monastery ruins of Zsámbék.

The workshop will have the honour to be hosted by the Parisian architect of several memorial places, Philippe Prost.
PROGRAM

The aim of the workshop is to design a cultural and visitor center and give advice for the conception of the whole area of the 800 year-old church ruins of Zsámbék. Though it is one of the most important and precious medieval monuments of Hungary, the daily use and visit of the site is dealing with several difficulties, such as the arrival and basic needs of tourists (ticket office, lavatory, café, etc.), or the critical state of the rebuilt monastery part where the medieval stone collection is now closed from public. The picturesque old church hill also used to home an open air theatre, that had to be demolished for the security of the monument, but its place is still a popular meeting point for local people and tourists as well. The program of the workshop is to integrate contemporary design and functional needs in this highly rich memorial atmosphere.

The project is advised to cover the wider area of the church, but the exact place of the design is the Participant’s/group’s decision, as well as the borders of the design area is not limited. Participants/groups are invited to elaborate an approximately 200-300 m² building in 1/200 scale, and a conception for the management of the whole area till the day of the international workshop on 12th October 2018, when the projects will be discussed and prised by Philippe Prost. For the TDK conference of 14th November 2018, Participants/groups can go on working on their projects regarding the opinion of the French architect.

Individual students and groups of max. 2 members are also welcomed to participate. The language of the workshop day is English. For consultation we advice to ask for Supervisors from the Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation and from an other design department at the same time, who are sincerely invited to the international workshop day and the TDK conference section.

For more inspiration Organisers provide a collective visit with discussion on the spot, where any questions can be asked.
The first building on the site was a little church of one nave and rural dimensions, that was found during the archeological excavations of the 1980’s years. Premonstratensian monastery church of three naves and western towers was built in the 13th century by the Aynard family of french origins. This church has been one of the most precious monuments of the Hungarian Middle Ages showing high standard details of the late Romanesque and early Gothic architecture of the Árpád Age. The stone collection which was installed near the church in a reconstructed monastery building, contains beautiful carved pieces from this flourishing era. Since this time the village has surrounded the monastery on the skirt of the hill.

During the long lasting construction the mongol invasion in 1241 caused serious damages and modifications. Written sources mention, that even a master from the construction has died trying to save the cloister and the abbey from the attack.

In the 15th century the new owners, the order of Saint Paul the First Hermit renovated the cloister in late Gothic style. The carves peaces of the cloister vaulting are also saved in the stone collection. In the Ottoman Period the church was a scene of several heavy battles and accomodation of soilders. The owner of the site was by turns Ottoman pashas and Hungarian nobles.

In 1763 another damage destructed the buildings, that was even stronger than war: nature. An m6.3 earthquake caused serious problems in the constructional system, but the church have still survived. Its real and tragic demolition started from the 18th century by people. A significant part of the monastery ensemble has been reused as stone material for new constructions. Local people decided to build a new perish church and leaving the old one to decay. The demolition of medieval vaults and columns became a matter of derring, till the age of monument preservational movements in the 19th century.

The first restauraions started in the early 1880’s years and continued in the 20th century. From the emblematic restauration of István Möller the church ruins of Zsámbék became the most well-known and exclusive example of the history of Hungarian monument perservation.
By the invitation of the French Institute of Budapest the famous French architect, urbanist and professor of l’École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Paris Belleville, specialised in the design of memorial sites, PHILIPPE PROST comes to Budapest in 2018 October for a series of professional programs.

Including his lectures, with the cooperation of the Department of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation and the Department od Public Building Design of Budapest University of Technology and Economics an international workshop is announced to architectural students. On this event Participants will have the opportunity to get inspiration and advices from the Parisian architect of several prestigious memorial sites. On the workshop day the best project will be awarded by an exclusive prize: a 3-month internship in Philippe Prost’s Parisian architectural office. http://www.prost-architectes.com/

The application project of the Participants will also take place on the 2018 TDK conference in the design section of the two departments.
SCHEDULE

Announce of the project 2018. 08. 28.

Organised visit of the site 2018. 09. 15.
(Any interested students are welcomed! In case of interest, please register or write to feher.krisztina@eptort.bme.hu)

Preliminary registration 2018. 09. 01 - 28.
(On http://tdk.bme.hu/ and via email for feher.krisztina@eptort.bme.hu with the name of the Participants and Supervisors)

International workshop hosted by Philippe Prost
Presentation of the projects 2018. 10. 12.

(On http://tdk.bme.hu/)


Questions are welcomed during the whole time of the project via email on feher.krisztina@eptort.bme.hu. Each registered group/participant will be informed all the answers which occurs.
In the workshop and DTK section individual participants or groups of maximum two members can participate.

PRIZES

- PRIZE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP OF 12TH OCTOBER:
  - In case of individual participant: 3 month internship in the Office of Philippe Prost in Paris
  - In case of 2-member group: 2 month internship for both participants in the Office of Philippe Prost in Paris

The travelling expenses and scholarship during the term of the internship is offered by the French Institute of Budapest.

- PRIZES OF THE TDK SECTION ON 14TH NOVEMBER: 1. 2. 3. prize and other prizes

PROJECT SIZE

- Cca. 200-300 m² built surface worked out in 1/200
- Conception for the wider site in 1/1000, 1/500

TO PRESENT ON 12TH OCTOBER AND 14TH NOVEMBER

- Digital presentation of 10-20 slides
- Modell
- A1 portrait format pages (template available) (sent digitally in pdf, and also printed, mounted on foam boards):
  - Short textual description of the conception (cca. one A4 page long)
  - Plans of all stories
  - Sections
  - Elevations
  - Site map (1/1000, 1/500)
  - Min. 4 modell photos (maybe renders)

Site map, template and further information are available on the homepage of the Department of History of Architecture and the Department of Public Building Design!
PHOTOS
CHURCH RUINS AND STONE COLLECTION
HISTORIC PLANS AND DOCUMENTS
ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS
VOUNDS OF THE CHURCH: SIGNS OF OTTOMAN BATTLES, EARTHQUAKE, WORLD WAR II
MODERN RESTAURATIONS