

call for proposals #2

>>> bonsai of monuments

Ministère de l'Architecture proposes to take part in a reflection around a strange human practice consisting in raising monuments. The place granted to monuments is indeed disproportionate. Vehicles of a standardization of collective memory, monuments transform the history of power into cultural heritage. Aiming to free urban space in order to let architectural innovation grow and to minimize the psychogeographical dictatorship that monuments impose on the citizen, Ministère de l'Architecture launches the "Bonsai of monuments" call for projects.

The bonsai is a miniaturization technique to represent nature. Ministère de l'Architecture requires of its contributors to propose new architectural miniaturization techniques to represent contemporary collective memory. Participants, more than proposing new architectural concepts of monuments, can propose a monument commemorating a forgotten event or an individual, non-existent or future event. If necessary, Ministère de l'Architecture enjoins its most aggressive participants to contribute to the project by the miniaturization of already existing monuments.

MONUMENT >>> something set up to keep alive the memoruy of a person or event, as a tablet, statue, pillar, building, etc > a structure surviving from a former period > a writing or the like serving as a memorial > a work, production, etc. of enduring value or significance > lasting or outstanding evidence or example > a stone shaft or other object set in the earth to mark a boundary > a tomb; sepulchre > a statue, effigy. <<< source : Webster's 3rd edition

Conditions of participation are detailed in the presentation of Ministère de l'Architecture.

Deadline: 12-31-2005