

About La Torre de David

Our project started as a research about social issues, architecture and art. At the beginning we studied just the external structure of the tower, trying to understand the changes that had happened.

Initially, the building's façade had the appearance of a grid of mirrors which gradually disappeared with the squatting that brought among other things a new typology or way of building, similar to the shanty towns that are spread all around Venezuela.

It was our first approach to look at the tower, walk around it, think and research its history, its background.

The grid was broken and in one sense, for us, the modern dream was also broken. At the same time the "oil dream" was broken that took us to believe in a false paradise, to think of Venezuela as a rich nation.

We are very critical with the "unfinished" in Venezuela, because there the "unfinished" is not an exception, quite on the contrary, it is a power's strategy: to capitalize the poverty and keep control over the people.

In Venezuela the corruption is structural, it is like a virus in an organism. The tower of David is a very important popular initiative that lacks the minimum sanitary conditions and it includes a dangerous way of living. Then, the tower is like a bomb that could explode at any time. It is a pioneering movement but a troublesome response that is far from the social welfare. The government acts like blind, deaf and dumb with the people's problems. It lets you do but it doesn't resolve. Sometimes the government is pro squatters, sometimes is against them. It depends on political situation, political winds. Unfortunately, the most important goods in Venezuela's State are: power and votes.

People in the tower have electricity, internet and cable TV. It is a weird condition in which TV and network services have a priority but basic utilities don't have.

For us "the tower of David" is the most incredible and strong metaphor of our country.

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